

Her Secret 92

CHAPTER 92 NO.92

When the elevator doors finally opened on their floor, Lana slowly slipped her hand from River's so she could grab her bag and leave. She did not dare look the elderly couple in the eyes. River followed her from behind and when she arrived at her room door, she was surprised that River stopped as well, looking at the room opposite hers.

"What a coincidence, huh?" River called out before turning to look at her over his shoulder. Lana smiled awkwardly. "Who are you rooming with?"

"Carmen." She said as she unlocked the door and tossed her bag inside. She then turned over to him. "You?"

"Got it all to myself," he grinned.

Lana frowned, not even attempting to hide her jealousy. Even without Lana fully entering the room, she noticed how spacious it was inside. The fact that River got to have a double bedroom to himself just seemed unfair. "No fair." She muttered under her breath.

River let out a low laugh as he pushed the door open. "You are welcome to come inside and be more jealous." He teased her as he entered the room. Lana pondered over it for a second before she went into the room after him. The door behind her automatically shut close.

She looked around his room, an exact copy of what she saw in her own room. Two beds were pressed by the wall with its signature white hotel bed sheets and fluffy white pillows. Both beds had a golden bed runner on it, making the overall look of the room rather regal and stylish.

River placed his bag next to the bed and tossed the card key on the bed as he went towards the large sliding window door and peered out. His hand went to push it open and a harsh breeze passed by. He stepped out onto the balcony and stared out at the cityscape.

"What a view." Lana commented as she approached him, standing next to him with her hands on the balcony railing.

River smiled as he reached his hand out to her shoulder and pulled her closer to him. He gave her a sideways hug as he kissed her hair, breathing in her scent and the mild scent of her floral shampoo. He could feel her tense under his hold and couldn't help but to find that adorable, even after everything they had done together she was still a bashful mess around him. "Are you feeling shy?" he muttered against her hair.

"N-No!" she declared, fully leaning against him now. "I was just surprised." She said in a soft voice.

"Hm." He hummed, not really believing her words. He pulled away slightly and with his fingers, he gently

nudged her face to look up at him. they held each other's gazes for a moment until Lana averted her gaze, cheeks tainted in an alluring pink hue.

"W-What?" she asked him. "Stop staring at me like that."

"But you are just so adorable. I can't keep my eyes off of you." He teased her, wanting to see her get more flustered around him.

Lana felt her heart almost give way from just his sweet words but her mind immediately went to how it felt strange to see him treat her like this when she was so used to his snarky and sarcastic side. For a moment, she found herself missing that side of him since she was already so accustomed to such. The River now was nice and sweet, romantic even with every action he made but Lana was confident that he was only acting like this to tease her ruthlessly.

"Can I ask you a question?" he started.

"Sure?"

"Do you really plan on leaving Rosecliff and moving here? If I remember correctly, that was your plan after graduation right?" he asked, his hold on her shoulder tightened slightly.

Lana hesitated to answer as she was still contemplating over that plan. If he had asked her before she found out she was half werewolf then the answer would be a simple yes but things were complicated now when she was slowly realising her attachment to the forest back at Rosecliff. If what they said was true, about how the werewolves were bound to that forest, then it must apply to Lana as well, right? Although she never really talked about it to anyone yet.

"Will you be sad if I did leave Rosecliff?" she asked him instead of answering his question.

"Of course I will, but that doesn't mean I would force you to stay in Rosecliff," he told her. Lana could not help but feel somewhat reassured by his words. She opened her mouth to tease him over his sentimental answer but River cut her off. "Honestly, I will probably drive back and forth just to see you." He said with a charming smile.

Lana laughed, a melodious sound that River would never be tired of hearing. "I'm really not used to this version of you." She uttered.

"Hm? And what version is that?"

"Romantic?" she giggled.

"Are you saying that I'm incapable of being romantic?" he raised an eyebrow at her.

"No!" she chuckled. "I'm just saying that I'm more used to your snarky side."

“Snarky, huh?”

“Yea, like how you would always call me ‘oi’ and ‘hey’ and how you would say mean things to me.” She pouted.

“Then I think it’s time to make you more familiar with this side of me, right?” he cooed as his hand went to cup her cheek and pulled her to look at him.

Lana stayed silent, allowing herself to be enticed by his brilliant blue gaze. River leaned his face closer and caught her lips with his own. A small and brief peak on her lips before pulling away to see her reaction, to give her time to push him away if she wanted too but Lana remained unmoving, watching him carefully to see what he would do next. He took her silence as an okay to continue.

He kissed her again, this time pushing his tongue into her parted lips. A soft moan escaped her lips, sending slight shockwaves through River’s body as he grew more hungry for her taste. His hand slipped to the back of her neck, desperately pulling her closer to deepen their kiss. Her hands went to his chest, where her finger clenched against his shirt. River’s other hand went around her waist, pressing her body up against his own.

Lana broke their kiss apart, turning her head to the side and she gasped aloud—desperately inhaling as she felt that it was difficult to catch her breath from his continuous kisses.

“S-Sorry...” she huffed.

“You don’t have to apologise.” He told her, noting that he might have come on too strong on her.

“I mean...” she started, looking up at him. “I’m sorry that I haven’t given you a proper reply to your confession.” She said softly.

River smiled down at her as he did not think that she would be worrying about such a thing. His hand went to her head where his fingers lightly brushed through her smooth locks. “I would wait for an eternity if I had too, Lana.” He told her, his voice barely a whisper but that was enough to make Lana’s chest flutter painfully.

“...you really are something else.” She told him, finding it hard to even speak by how much her heart was pounding against her chest. But even though the sensation of her heart threatening to give way, she felt at peace in his arms.

“Did that make you fall in love with me?” he asked, a cheeky grin plastered on his lips.

Lana rolled her eyes playfully. “You wish.” She joked, but in actuality—she knew that she was already in love with him for a while now. She just never realised that those feelings she had for him was love. Now that she was aware of it, all she had to do now was set things straight with both Zane and River because

she could fully convey her emotions to him. She wanted to make things right and she knew that the only way to do it was to confront Zane once and for all.

River chuckled at her reply before pulling her into a tight embrace and they stayed like that for a while, with the cold air brushing against them but all they could feel was the warmth their bodies emitted.

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Lana pushed her room door open after the beep and jolted in surprise when she saw Carmen popped her head out from the open bathroom.

"There you are! Where were you?" she asked as she watched Lana enter the room and grabbed her bag that she left near the door.

"I was talking to River. His room is opposite ours." She told her.

Carmen studied Lana's expression but her eyes then fell on her lips where her lipstick was lighter and slightly smudged. She couldn't help but grin. "Talking huh?"

Carmen's words made Lana look up at her friend's grinning face. "Y-Yea...?"

"More like smooching," she teased as she pointed to her own lips. Lana blushed in realisation and ran to the closest mirror. She should've known that this would happen from how intense River was earlier. She wiped the edges of her lips silently. "So does that mean you are going to get together with River?" she heard Carmen call out.

"...I know what I have to do." She replied.

Carmen laughed at her reply. "Why do you sound so vague right now?"

"Shut up..." she sulked.

"But seriously though, I'm surprised by this development. Who would've thought you and River would have mutual feelings for each other. Maybe what they said was true, love and hate really does come hand in hand." Carmen babbled.

"Who said that?" Lana asked as she approached Carmen, actually curious to what she had to say since she had never heard those words before.

Carmen shrugged. "It's just a saying that both love and hatred are just such intense feelings that people tend to mistake them for the other." She nodded at herself.

"You know that you are not making any sense right now, right?"

Carmen then came up to give Lana a tight hug. "It's okay baby, I know that these things don't make sense to your developing mind." She joked.

"You're such an ass!" Lana laughed as she shoved Carmen down on the bed, causing the other girl to laugh as well. There was then a pause followed by Carmen sighing.

"If you and River get together then I'll be the only one in our trio, huh?" she pondered aloud.

"Is this your way of telling me that you want me to set you up with someone?" Lana grinned, already thinking of potential partners for Carmen.

Carmen raised an eyebrow at her. "No offence, Lana. But I don't trust your choice of partners."

Lana stared at her for a moment before slowly reaching for the pillow on the bed and smacking Carmen with it, directly on her grinning face.