

Reassurances

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Summary

Conversations between Yuna, Ilya and Shane.
Set during series 1, episode 6.

Notes

See the end of the work for [notes](#)

Shane and Yuna came back inside and Yuna started preparing pasta for dinner. Shane stuck around to help her while Ilya and David got to know each other at the table.

She paused and turned to Shane.

“I have to ask Shane. You’re gay. So what was the thing with Rose Landry? Was it just for show?”

Shane shook his head.

“No, it was real. Kinda”.

Yuna quirked a brow, indicating that she wanted Shane to elaborate.

“It was me running away from who I really am. It was a difficult time in my...relationship... with Ilya. It was me meeting someone who has become my best friend and being confused as to what it was. What it was expected to be”.

“I hope you didn’t hurt her Shane. She seems like a lovely woman”.

“She’s the best. And no, I didn’t hurt her. She actually helped me figure out who I was”.

Yuna nodded. She looked like she had more to say.

“What Mom. Out with it!”

“I just...what your father said about Ilya being a ladies man. I just...want you to be sure that you can trust him Shane. That party lifestyle with a different woman every night can be tempting. I don’t want you to get hurt”.

Shane sighed.

“Look, I get it. You and Dad have had 10 years of Rozanov my rival, Rozanov the asshole, Rozanov the party guy. But I need you both to get to know Ilya now. He’s very different. Ilya wouldn’t cheat on me. Ilya wouldn’t betray me. I know him”.

Yuna had been forced to walk around Shane as she prepared the food. Her son deciding to have this conversation right by where she needed to cook.

“Ok, I trust you know what you’re doing”, she sounded like she was trying to convince herself.

Acknowledging that he was probably being more of a hindrance than a help, Shane left the kitchen.

He sat back at the table.

David got up, muttering something about a job in the garden. Giving Shane and Ilya a moment alone for the first time since they had arrived.

Shane was agitated. His conversation with his mother still playing on his mind.

Ilya rubbed his arm.

“You ok?”, he asked.

“Yeah, just Mom”.

“Everything ok?”

“Yeah. She was great about me coming out. But then she started asking about you. She still sees you as my great rival Rozanov”.

“Go easy on her Shane. A couple of hours ago, that’s what I was to her!”

“I know. But she was talking about your party lifestyle and if I can trust you”.

“Probably very good questions for someone who has had to totally change their idea of me very quickly”.

“You’re being very understanding”.

“She loves you Shane. I know what that’s like. She wants the best for you”.

Shane smiled at Ilya’s words.

“Let me go talk to her”, Ilya was in the kitchen before Shane could stop him.

“Hi”, Ilya said softly.

“Hi”, Yuna’s voice pretended at casual but Ilya could see she was wary.

“Shane told me what you said. About being able to trust me”.

Yuna blushed.

“I-“.

Ilya raised his hand.

“No, it’s ok. I get it. You’ve only ever known me as this other guy. But I would like you to get to know the real me now”.

“And who is that?”

“Someone who is crazy in love with your son. Someone who will never hurt him”.

Yuna noted the use of will over would.

“It can be hard to break a habit”, she countered.

“It was a habit that formed because of him”.

Yuna’s brow creased in confusion.

“You asked if we have been in love since rookie season and we said no. But I think, probably, I have been. But I couldn’t accept it. I convinced myself it was casual. The truth was too scary. Two men being together is illegal in my country. My family would not have approved. And our careers could be ended if our relationship became public”.

He had Yuna’s full attention now.

“So I hid from my feelings for him. I hid behind women and parties. I became an acceptable version of myself. Acceptable to my family. To hockey. So yes, I was with other people at the same time as I was with Shane”.

Yuna knew there was more to the story with his family than he was saying. She hoped over time, he would feel comfortable enough with her to let her in.

“But then, things started changing around the time of the All Star game. I realised I couldn’t hide from my feelings for Shane any longer. I didn’t want to. Also my Father died. I have no need to return to Russia. My life is here now. And I began to see, it could be a life with Shane. Scott Hunter helped with that. And I have not been with anybody else since then. I have not wanted to. I mean, I never fully wanted to. I always just wanted to be with Shane. But I no longer forced myself to. Since then, Shane has been my one and only. And he will continue to be. I love him. He is my everything. I will not hurt him. I promise”.

Ilya could see that Yuna was overcome by the love for Shane in his words.

She wiped at her eyes.

“Thank you for saying all of that. I’m just protective of him. He’s my only child”.

“I understand. I love him too”.

Yuna looked at him. She felt the sincerity of what he was saying.

“Thank you. The food will be ready in a few minutes”.

He started opening drawers.

“I will lay the table”.

“It’s ok. There’s no need”.

“I would like to”.

She smiled at him. A genuine smile.

“Ok, thank you. Ilya”.

As he returned to the dining room she reflected. They both loved Shane with all of their hearts. And Shane loved Ilya. That was clear. She could see it in Shane's eyes, his smile, how he acted.

In that moment, for Yuna, Rozanov died and Ilya was born. She vowed to get to know him, to learn to trust him.

End Notes

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