

learning in progress

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by Anonymous

Summary

"Okay it says here that we need to try all the major allergens on her before six months. That lessens her chances of being allergic so maybe just maybe she'll not be allergic to everything coming and going." Shane had read up on all this information early on, memorizing it, highlighting and printing Ilya out a copy of it with bullet points.

Or the one where Sofia has a peanut allergy.

Notes

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

"Okay it says here that we need to try all the major allergens on her before six months. That lessens her chances of being allergic so maybe just maybe she'll not be allergic to everything coming and going." Shane had read up on all this information early on, memorizing it, highlighting and printing Ilya out a copy of it with bullet points.

Ilya had read over them front and back with his husband staring straight at him so that he would ensure that the alpha had committed them to memory.

"Shane, she will be fine. I ate everything when I was little and look at me— I lived." Ilya gestured to himself, earning an eye roll in response. "But is it necessary to sit in parking lot of ER?"

It had been a suggestion from one of the parenting videos Shane liked to watch and he took great offense to the question, narrowing his eyes at his husband.

"Yes, yes it is necessary." Shane replied with a huff, taking the tiny spoon with a dab of peanut butter on it just enough that if it made their pup react they would know and be able to run her inside on the off chance.

Shane didn't want to. He *really* didn't want to do this even though he knew it was for the best.

Sofia was cooing and babbling in her seat, clapping her little hands excitedly at the spoon because she was certain it was baby food that her daddy pureed for her in a baby blender. She had been trying solids and was *loving* everything they had tried so far.

"Okay here goes nothing, Sof." Shane grimaced as if feeding this was going to hurt. Almost like if he fed their infant the peanut butter she would explode.

So he did and Sofia loved it too because of course she did. There wasn't a food she had tasted yet that didn't enjoy.

Well, okay maybe peas she didn't really like those and made the cutest little scrunchy face whenever they gave them to her.

"Well?" Ilya was now fully turned around in the front seat facing Shane and Sofia, watching adamantly — much like a hawk to look for a reaction just in case Shane's own eagle eyes didn't catch it.

"Okay 15 minutes, that's when we should know. I set a timer on my phone and my watch just to be sure." Shane let out the breath he had been holding, not even realizing it but he was shaking too.

This was the longest fifteen minutes of Shane's life. He didn't think he had ever felt paralyzed with a feeling akin to fear and an overwhelming sense of dread and—

Ilya had to gently pry his hands from the spoon he was still holding, rubbing soothing circles against his skin with his thumb.

"Relax. You are like a statue, you will make Sofia think she has turned you to stone." Ilya teased, trying to lighten the very dense mood. It was making him nervous now too as the minutes ticked on, it felt like time had decided to drag its feet.

They both had thought they were in the clear when they entered the five minute countdown. Sofia looked fine, her cheeks rosy and she was babbling on and on until she started to scratch at her belly.

Ilya noticed it first, frowning as he watched for a second. "What- what is she scratching for?" He leaned forward, inspecting their daughter's belly, lifting her pajama shirt up to see red spots forming where she was itching the most.

Shane didn't want to believe it, he really didn't but damn it they were so close to the fifteen minute mark and it almost had seemed too good to be true but the little red marks leaving a trail where Sofia was now scratching the most told a different story. She began whining whenever her papa tried to make her stop.

"Oh my god, Ilya. She's having an allergic reaction to it. Those are hives— we have to get her inside." Shane unbuckled their pup lightning quick out of her carseat and ran towards the sliding doors like his life depended on it — because it did.

"Help! My daughter we gave her peanuts in the car, she's six months old and- and we waited but- but we were fourteen minutes in and she started to break out." Shane stammered, swallowing hard.

The receptionist stepped out from behind the desk, her eyes widening when she saw Ilya bounding in behind them hot on their heels with a diaper bag.

"Okay let's take a deep breathe, I'm getting a nurse right now and we're going to get her into triage." The receptionist, Brooke, ran to grab a nurse and quickly because of the way Sofia was starting to scratch harder, her little finger nails leaving marks on her skin.

Shane felt a pang of guilt feeling like he didn't cut her nails short enough and she was bleeding a little where she was making marks—

"Bring her back, let's see her." A nurse burst through the ER double doors, motioning Shane and Ilya over. "What did our little lady eat?" The nurse began looking Sofia over, checking quickly to make sure she was breathing.

"A spoonful of peanut butter. She was fine for most of the time, then she started to scratch." Ilya explained, ready to ban peanut butter for life.

As they were assessing Sofia, she began coughing and proceeded to throw up on her daddy's shirt.

"Okay sweet girl, yeah you are definitely having an allergic reaction. I'm going to give her benadryl right now since she's not showing signs of anaphylaxis we're going to treat her for a mild reaction. Now, if it worsens we're giving her a shot of epinephrine which will help." Leila their nurse explained, giving Sofia the benadryl first so it could get to work.

She disappeared and reappeared with some hydrocortisone cream and began to work it into Sofia's skin covering the rash to help her get some relief so she could stop clawing herself.

Shane felt like he was moving in slow motion, his life had flashed before his eyes during that entire ordeal or at least he felt like it had. He endangered his pup by giving her peanut butter — he was the worst parent ever.

Ilya already sensing this, reached for Shane's hand.

"Is not your fault, things like this happen. We did not know she would react, is better that we know now." Ilya murmured, trying to hold it all together for Shane and Sofia both — he was terrified.

Sofia was their whole world, she was just so little and yet something like a peanut allergy hurt her — it could have taken her away from them. Ilya's gut lurched, he felt like he was going to be sick just thinking about it.

"Sof, look I've got the dancing fruit on my phone." Shane fished his phone out of his pocket, shaky hands searching for the video. He wanted to make it go away, to wave a wand and make Sofia's allergy go away — he felt helpless.

"It's okay, hey peanut allergies are way more common than you think. Is she prone to eczema? Kiddos that have eczema are more likely to have a peanut allergy." Leila finished up putting the cream on Sofia, pulling her little pajama top back down to distract her from scratching the hives.

A pang of guilt hit Shane like a truck full of bricks. It settled like a lead ball in his stomach and now it was his turn to be sick. "Oh my god...yes she does have mild eczema but her pediatrician never said anything about holding off because of it so we assumed it was alright to give it." He blinked back hot tears that swam in his eyes that threatened to fall.

"Hey, is this your first? If you don't mind me asking." Leila smiled softly, listening to Sofia's breathing with her stethoscope now that everything had quieted down a little.

Shane and Ilya both nodded.

"Believe me things will happen but as far as I see, you guys are taking the best care of little miss here. I mean you got help and didn't wait for it to fix itself which believe me you would not guess how many people think it goes away by itself." Leila continued her exam, checking for any other symptoms.

"So now, we wait. I want to monitor her for at least five hours to make sure she's okay and doesn't have any adverse reactions."

Shane was ready to camp out on the floor, despite his shirt being dirty. Ilya ran out quickly to the car later during their waiting period to get him a shirt from his gym bag.

They waited and waited and waited. Shane updated his mom and dad about Sofia. They were so worried about her, Face timing them and that of course had Sofia babbling. She was

excited to see her grandma's face and tried to eat her daddy's phone.

"Oh Shane honey, we're just glad she's okay. I know that had to be so scary for you both." Yuna knew they were beside themselves with worry, she could tell by the look on her son's face and the way Ilya held his jaw barely speaking.

After the waiting period, they were cleared to go home. Shane was more than ready to get away from that place, he had memorized every single tile in the ceiling of that room.

The ride home, Ilya wanted to sit with Sofia in the backseat. Shane let him of course though he had the dash camera facing her. He didn't want to take his eyes off of her for a second afraid something was going to happen. Like their pup would spontaneously combust if they weren't staring directly at her.

"I can't believe I didn't know that fact." Shane spoke up, his voice wavering as he bit the inside of his cheek, hands gripping the steering wheel until his knuckles started going white.

"We both did not know that fact, is okay because we are learning." Ilya wiggled Sofia's little hand clutching his finger while watching their whole world doze off as her eyelids drooped, her head leaning over and of course her papa rolled a tiny blanket to form a cushion so that her neck would not be at an angle.

"Ilya, we could have killed her. I- I can't believe I didn't research it further."

"Moya lyubov, you printed out an entire handbook and colored coded it. You researched it plenty we just did not know that her skin rash would be a reason that she has allergy." Ilya tried to reason, he wasn't going to let Shane beat himself up over this when his husband worked hard to make sure they did the best by Sofia.

Shane was the best father a pup could have and Ilya wouldn't let him believe otherwise.

Soft sniffles could be heard from the front seat and Ilya's chest ached to soothe his omega.

"I-I don't know what I would do if something ever happened to her, Ilya. I just- she's our entire world." Shane whimpered, the road was becoming blurry but thankfully they were close to home, pulling into their driveway as the tears began to fall free.

Ilya carefully got the carseat out without waking Sofia and then made his way to the driver side to help Shane out and into the house.

"We are learning about her still, she's still brand new. We make mistakes sometimes but we learn from them. Is just apart of being a good parent I think." Ilya sat down beside Shane on the couch, holding him in his arms while Sofia slept close to them in her carrier not a care in the world.

They were getting to know Sofia still, sometimes it felt like she had always been apart of them and some days it felt like she had been born just yesterday.

"And if that means we give up peanuts well there is other protein out there." Ilya added, already judging where Shane's mind was headed next. He could see the wheels turning in his husband's pretty little head.

"Yeah...you're right. We can do this, people do this all the time. I can research other forms of protein and we can go through the pantry and look at all the ingredients." Shane was assigned to a new mission now, ensuring they were a peanut free household and he would see to it — Ilya had no doubts about this.

They would make it through this too.

End Notes

💌 hollanov dad's experience sofia's first allergic reaction came to me because I thought about shane overthinking /everything/ and like when something happens out of the plan he's like error 404: can't compute 😭

anywayssss thank you so much as always for reading! hope you enjoy 💕

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