

Learning How to Deal With It

By albinobunxbun

Submitted: February 2, 2010

Updated: February 2, 2010

It hadd all been so perfect...until Maka found out...

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1 - -Hour 01-

-Hour 01-

Chrona hadn't slept a wink since she had lain down to bed. It was currently one in the morning and she wasn't sure if she was even going to get to sleep. It had been an eventful day. Well, yesterday had been an eventful day. She supposed it was now technically the next day, a Saturday if she was thinking right. Ragnarock had long ago fallen asleep, leaving her to try to sort through her tangled emotions and thoughts alone.

For the past year or so, she had held a crush that she was for sure was going to go no where. She hadn't been upset by this, oddly. In fact, she had felt so unaffected by that thought she hadn't felt the need to tell anyone about it. It wasn't that important. She had figured that it would pass in time. All the other girls seemed to get over theirs within a few weeks at the least. She thought maybe it was just a normal teenage girl thing.

What she hadn't expected was for him to actually start to talk to her. At first, she hadn't known how to deal with it. She had almost passed out during their first conversation, if it could be called that. It had consisted of only a few words, though she could no longer remember then. She couldn't even remember them after the conversation. She did remember, however, that Ragnarock had been the one to break the conversation. He had realized she was going to pass out if he didn't so he had made his appearance. After that, she had put it off as a one time thing. She had felt her heart flutter and her stomach flip when he had talked to her, but she had thought that would be her sole moment in the sun with. But it hadn't been. A few weeks later, he had tried talking to her again. She still wasn't sure how to deal with it, but it seemed that he had known he had tried moving things a little fast and had started with a simple hello. It had gone admittedly better that time around. Soon after, it became an almost regular occurrence for them to talk.

It had taken her awhile to become comfortable around him, knowing his reputation and all. She had not known his intentions and honestly didn't know how to deal with his kindness. It was something she had to learn to get used to. Plus, he had a certain charm around him that made her unable to resist him. Soon, they found themselves a couple.

It had been a well kept secret. The scandal that would revolve around them would be more than she could deal with. She couldn't deal with drama, especially when it might turn her best friend against her. That had been her biggest worry. She had come to love all her friends and thought she might die if they turned against her. So they went on their ways, never disrupting their schedules. He still went out to the clubs and such and she still shied away from going anywhere. It had taken quiet a bit of bribing to keep Ragnarock quiet, but it seemed he was willing to let Chrona be happy.

On special days they would spend time together in secret, meeting at his house late at night and simply talking to each other and enjoy each others company. Those days were days she looked forward to more than any. She was for sure that the others noticed that she was happier, but they never said a word. They had both gotten used to waking up early so they could get back to where she lived with little interference. They where always careful.

It had all been working out great until just yesterday. They had been slipping lately, occasionally taking a few more risks and sneaking a kiss in here and there. They had thought that they had been safe though. They where for sure that there was no one around. Apparently, they had been wrong.

It hadn't been the way she had wanted Maka to find out. She hadn't wanted for her to walk by and see her father kissing one of her best friends. She had hoped it would be better. Maka hadn't said a word

and Chrona was frozen, eyes wide, her arms still wrapped around her red headed lover's neck. Spirit wasn't much better, his arms still wrapped around Chrona's waist. In hind sight, it was probably not the best idea to make out in a hall. But, of course, now was too late to think of that.

Now she lay in bed with Spirit, trying to think of a way to explain to Maka about the situation. Nothing was coming to mind of course. She groaned quietly and turned at face Spirit. She snuggled her face against his chest and closed her eyes. She smiled slightly when she felt him wrap his arms around her, though it was probably unconsciously. She opened her eyes and looked up at his sleeping face. He always looked so peaceful when he slept. She supposed everyone did though.

She felt slightly better looking at him though. The fact that he was here with her meant a lot. It meant that he was going to stick with her through this. She closed her eyes again and snuggled back against his chest. Even if the whole world was against this, she knew that he would be here for her and that was all she needed.

2 - -Hour 2-

It seemed that right as she had fallen asleep, Chrona had been forced to wake up. She couldn't have slept for more than twenty minutes, she was sure of that. She often found, though, that once on a schedule, she could not find it in herself to break it. She would always wake up at around two in the morning thanks to having to get up early so they could sneak back to Chrona's home in privacy. She normally didn't mind, they would always get a decent amount of sleep, but today was different. She wished she could just close her eyes and go back to sleep, but she knew better than that. Plus, Spirit, it seemed had gotten up already so she supposed it would only be right to go see what he was up to. She slowly got out of the bed, searching for her extra set of clothes she had brought with her. They had decided it was best for her to stay the night after the incident with Maka so they could try to figure out what to do about it. Originally, she wasn't going to get to stay with him this weekend due to a previous scheduled appointment with Maka. Unfortunately, they hadn't ended up coming up with anything to tell Maka to possibly calm her down. In fact, for half the night they seemed to downright ignore the fact that anything had happened. She doubted they would find anything to help the situation today, but she just wanted to be near him again.

Unable to locate her extra cloths in her exhausted state, she prompted to instead go out in her pajamas. She would just find it later. She walked out to the living room, dragging her feet, shoulders slumped. The lack of sleep was getting to her more than she was moving. She spotted Spirit on the couch, eating a bowl of cereal and watching TV. This wasn't much different from any other day, but for some reason, it seemed to upset her today. Maybe it was the lack of sleep getting to her or maybe she was just having a wild mood swing, but she didn't know how to deal with her feelings.

She tried to ignore it as she sat down next to him, leaning her head against his shoulder, closing her eyes. She felt his arm wrap around her shoulders and she opened her eyes to look up at him. "Rough night?" he asked looking down at her. She nodded wordlessly. He gave her a sympathetic smile and rubbed her shoulder. "Just try to rest for a little bit." He said. She nodded again and closed her eyes again.

She tried to gather her thoughts to figure out what was bothering her. The first thing that came to mind was the thing with Maka, thought that didn't seem to be the big thing weighing on her mind at the moment. It was still there, it just seemed small in comparison to the question that she couldn't seem to find words for. It was starting to get frustrating. "What are you thinking about?" Spirit asked, causing her to jump in surprise.

He was good at telling when she wasn't feeling her best mentally. She thought, though, that she could have passed off for simple being sleepy. She looked at him and opened her mouth to speak, but in all honesty, she wasn't sure herself what she wanted to ask. She opened her eyes and looked around the room, trying to find something to jog her mind into giving her an idea of what was on her mind. Finding nothing, she simply closed her eyes and sighed. "You...you really do want to be with me right?" she asked, almost unconsciously. She had surprised herself with the sound of her own voice, but what she had said did ring true in her mind. She had been thinking of this.

She opened her eyes to look up at Spirit who was giving her an odd look. "I-I mean...you...you really want to be with me because...well...because I'm me, right? Not because...because I'm friends with Maka..." she asked, blushing and looking down. As much as she didn't want to believe it, she sometimes thought that he was only with her so he could get in good with his estranged daughter. She knew that because of the secrecy of their relationship, the notion that he was using her to get in good with Maka

was absurd (especially now when it had been made so clear that Maka hadn't known), but she couldn't help but think it.

Spirit hugged her closer to him, gently rubbing her shoulder. "First, no I would never do something like that." He said smiling at her. "And second, why would you think that I would do that?" he asked, his smile turning sad. Chrona shyed away from his touch, looking down at her knees. She felt guilty when she saw that smile. She didn't like upsetting anyone, let alone her lover.

"I-I don't know..." Chrona mumbled, still looking down at her lap. "I'm sorry." She said closing her eyes and shaking her head. "Don't worry about it, it was a stupid question." She said looking back up at him, opening her eyes and smiling nervously. Honestly, it hadn't left her mind. It stayed at the front now, screaming at her to talk it out. It would be that easy and her mind could rest. She, however, could not force herself to say anything more to him.

"If you asked, than it was bothering you." Spirit said shaking his head. "So tell me why you would think that."

Chrona looked down again, frowning. "I j-just don't want...I don't want for the on-only r-reason for y-you b-b-being with me to be f-for you t-t-to get in g-g-good with Maka." she said clenching her hands into fists nervously. She was stuttering again, something she had learned slowly but surely not to do with him. "I want you to be with me...because I want you to like me." She said taking a deep breath, controlling her voice.

"And I do. I love you." Spirit said. She looked at him, brows furrowed in confusion.

"But why?" she asked. "Why me? Why not someone pretty or more feminine? Why not someone older with more experience? Why me?" she asked, shaking her head. The words she had spoken had run across her mind for a long time, causing her some grief that she often just pushed it to the edge, forcing herself to think of something else instead. Now, however, she needed an answer. She needed reassurance. Maybe if he told her, she could feel at ease.

Spirit stared at her in shock for a minute. He had never heard her say such things before and he had never known they were on her mind. "Chrona, I love you because your you...I can't really explain it."

"Please try." Chrona practically begged, slowly reaching over to hold one of his hands tightly within her own. "I just&I just need you to try. Even if its just nonsense."

Spirit sighed but smiled at her. "Alright, if it will make you happy." He said. "I love you because, no matter what, your there. You make me happy. You aren't perfect; I'm not going to lie and say you are. But than again, neither am I. I think I might be farther from it than you. But I think maybe within all out imperfections there is that speck of perfectness that makes it so that when I see you, I know that you can look past all that and that means more to me than anything else. I love you because we are perfect together." He said gently holding her face in his free hand.

"But...but what about Maka? She is your daughter and she might hate you now!" she said looking away and squeezing his hand gently.

Spirit cringed but his smile never left his face. 'As much as I hate saying it, I don't think she ever much cared for me before this." He laughed sadly. "She had nothing to do with my decision to ask you out."

"I want to believe you...I really do...so I will." She said looking back at him and smiling softly. "Don't let me down please..." she said and leaned up and kissed him. As he kissed her back, she felt better about the whole situation suddenly. Her heart felt lighter and her mind was clear. He loved her, he honestly did. Now if only they could make Maka understand that.