

My One Piece Story:Hidden Treasure

By punkrocker

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They're back, but Ruby has a secret that she's keeping from everyone. How will this affect her relationship with Zolo and her friends?+_+

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1 - On the Sea

Last time we saw the Straw Hat Crew, Ruby and her assistants joined the crew. However there seems to be tension in the air between Ruby and Zolo, not because of their usual argument but because of something else. The ocean air blew through Ruby's curls as she gazed out into the sea. They'd been on the ship for more than two months now, and they seemed to be fitting in well. The boys played with Chopper and listened to Ussop's tall tales. While Hickory stayed near Sanji, she had developed a crush on him when he pulled her out of the ocean a while back. Zolo had been continuing his daily routine of exercise, sleeping in the afternoons, and squabbling with Ruby. Ruby turned to Nami "Hey Nami, where are we going?" "I don't know, to the next port we see." Ruby gave her a half smile. "Why are you so concerned about where we're going?" "Oh, no reason." Nami shrugged her shoulders and returned to the cabin. Doc and Dickory came chasing after each other. "Take it back!" "No way!" "Take it back!!!" This continued until they tripped over Zolo, as he was sleeping. He awoke and glared at the two. "Knock it off you two!" He smacked both of them on the head. The two were silent. "Oh c'mon Zolo, they were just playing." Luffy said cheerfully. He flashed a glare his way. "They're just boys." "Well, your supposed to be watching them instead of daydreaming!" Ruby snapped out of her trance and grabbed Zolo by the arm. "Do you have any idea how hard it is to watch two boys?!" "No, but you should be doing it instead of goofing off!" "Excuse me?!" Luffy, Doc, and Dickory sighed. They left the two to fight. Sanji stepped out of the kitchen with Hickory following. "Hey you two love birds, stop your squabbling. It's almost lunch time." "We're not love birds!" Hickory started giggling. "You're so funny Sanji-san!" "Why thank you my little peach." Her face turned cherry red. Ussop noticed something far off. "Land Ho!!!" Everyone's attention directed to the island far out in the ocean. Large mountains and tropical trees could be seen. "Wow! How pretty!" Chopper said almost falling off the ship. "Head for that island!" Luffy shouted. Sails were hoisted and the rutter was set into position. "How did you see that island Ussop?!" The boys asked eagerly. Ussop, puffing out his chest exclaimed "I am the greatest tracker in the world!! I could spot a hawk flying in the foggiest day!" The boys and Chopper listened in amazement. "Ruby, go scope out the island and find a dock!" Ruby nodded and transformed into large parrot. She flew towards the island. She circled the island until she saw a dock near a small town. "There it is! Finally, were here..." She flew back to the ship. She perched herself on the rail and transformed back into her human form. "There's a dock on the south tip of the island!" "You heard the girl! Head for the docks!" Nami shouted. Sometimes Ruby, got confused about who was in charge, Nami or Luffy? They reached the docks by nightfall. Doc and Dickory had already fallen asleep. Hickory was trying to be an adult by staying up with the others, but her attempts were failing. Luffy was singing a drunken tune, everyone's ears were bleeding. The terrible sound stopped when Zolo threw a bucket at his head. Ruby was watching from the crow's nest. Finally, Hickory fell asleep on Sanji's shoulder. "Oh how sweet." Sanji grabbed Nami's hand. "But, not as sweet as you." Hickory woke up and smacked Sanji's head. "How could you like that old hag?!" "Hey, who are you calling an old hag?!" "Girls please stop, their's enough of my love to go around!" They pushed Sanji out of the way. "This isn't about you!" After they danced and drank themselves drunk (except for Hickory, she fell asleep,) they went down below to rest. Ruby stayed in the crow's nest. "I can't believe it's been so long since we left. It'd be a shame to leave." She sighed. Her body shivered from the cold. She felt something droop over her shoulders. "What are you doing out here so late?" Zolo climbed in and

sat next to her. "No reason, but I could ask you the same question." She turned to him. "Tell me, do you always wake up so early just to stalk people?" Zolo moaned. Ruby chuckled, she leaned on his shoulder. "What are ya doing?" "Oh nothing..." She gave him a peck on the cheek and wrapped her arms around him. "Ya know, I never thanked you for what you did." "Oh really. And how are you going to repay me?" In a instant her lips locked with his. It was warm and welcoming. But the moment broke when a creek could be heard. Doc had walked out into the open, sobbing. His blonde hair looked almost green from the crow's nest. "Ruby... Ruby, where are you?" He called through his quiet sobbing. She sighed and jumped down from the nest. She knelt down to him. "What is it Doc?" He looked at her with snot flowing from his nose and tears dripping from his cheeks. He ran into her arms. "You weren't there when I woke up!" "I'm sorry, now calm down." Doc had always slept near Ruby, he was only nine (along with Dickory) so he was still very attached to her. The tears had sunk into her shirt. "It's okay, go back to sleep. I'll be there in a minute." He nodded while trying to hold back his tears. He ran back inside. Ruby looked up at Zolo, who was watching from the nest. Ruby hopped up to the edge. "I'm sorry, but I have to go now." She kissed his lips gently and followed Doc. Zolo was left leaning against the pole. The next morning the crew set out into the town. People... crowded the streets. The windows of the shop gleamed. Nami had taken Sanji to the boutique, Hickory had to stay behind. She pouted the entire time. Luffy ran for the nearest restaurant, Nami wasn't very happy about that because he always stuffed his face and used up their budget. Chopper tagged along with him to make sure he didn't, Ussop just tagged along because he was bored (and I didn't want to leave him out of the story). Zolo of course set off on his own. Ruby and her little band of sugar explosions wondered around the town. "Where are we going?" Dickory asked bored. "I need to find some information, we'll browse around town after that, okay?" He grunted and started poking Hickory. She stopped him before he could even touch her. Hickory gave him a demonic smile. He backed off and grabbed Ruby's leg. "Hickory..." "I didn't do anything." "He just a scardy cat!" Doc chuckled. Dickory stuck his tongue out at him. Ruby noticed a bar ahead. They entered the bar, Ruby told the kids to wait at a table. Of course, they blurted out that they weren't kids. She just ignored them and went to the counter. A rugged looking man order her a drink. She turned to him "Hey there, do you know a man by the name Otohiko?" The man froze and starred at her for a moment. "Why would such a lovely lady want to know about a scoundrel like him?" She smiled. "He owes me something." "I've heard that he lives at the top of the highest mountain. He has an army of twenty thousand men, and will kill anyone who would dare enter his estate." A chuckled broke the fear. "Seems he's been blowing smoke. So the highest mountain right?" He nodded. The drink was set on the counter. She chugged it until it was completely gone. "Thanks." She walked out of the bar with the kids behind her.+_+

2 - Otohiko

As Ruby makes her way up the road to the hill, that is said to be a threat to all to enter, she seemed to be calm. The three had overheard some of the conversation. Dickory decided to pull on Ruby's pant leg. "Ruby, how do you know this Otohiko?" She turned to him and smiled. "He's an old friend of mine. Plus he owes me something." "What does he owe you?" She didn't respond. Hickory pulled him back towards her. "You shouldn't ask something like that when she's like this. You know that!" She slapped his head. He understood, he continued walking with his hand placed over his bump. Meanwhile back at the restaurant, Luffy was scarfing down almost the entire kitchen as usual. Chopper was watching in disgust, fascination. Chopper tried to look past the boy cramming food down his throat. "Hey Luffy." He stopped his barge of shoving. "Have you noticed that Ruby has been acting weird lately?" Luffy took a gulp. "Nope, why?" "Oh nothing, it just seems that she's been very quiet lately." "Maybe she's homesick?" "I don't know. She seemed happy to get off the island." "Maybe she forgot something?" Chopper shook his head. "We'll ask her when we see her. For now, let's eat!" Luffy continued shoving. Chopper sighed and looked out the window. He caught a glance of Ruby and the kids walking up the hill. "Where is she going?" He quickly slipped away from Luffy and peeked outside to see Ruby. "Oh man, she's not going where I think she's going, at least I hope not." One man said. "Excuse me, what's at the top of the hill?" Chopper asked. "At the top of that hill is the castle of an evil pirate. The Navy can't touch him because he hasn't stepped into their territory. I did hear that he had a partner, though. But the partner was never spoken of. That's all I know little deer dude." The man started to space out. Fear struck Chopper's heart. He ran to Luffy and tried to pull him away from the plates on the table. "Luffy, c'mon! We have to follow Ruby! She maybe in trouble!!" Luffy fell off the chair and rushed to the door. They could both hear the owners yelling, but they might've been happy that he left. They ran past Nami and Sanji who were carrying dozens of bags. "Where are they going?" Sanji asked looking at the trail of dust they left. "Hey wait for me!!" A voice was heard behind him. Ussop ran up the hill to Nami. "Those two... left... me with... the... bill!" He said over trying to catch his breath. "Where are they going?!" Sanji repeated. "I don't know. But, they seemed to be in a hurry." Nami looked up the hill again, just in time to see the two disappear. "Let's follow them!" Nami left them behind in her dust. "Nami my sweet, wait!!" The love struck Sanji followed her. Ussop sighed and followed. "I'm sure of it. It's Ruby, she's been acting so strange lately. What is she up to?!" Nami thought as she plowed through the crowd of people. Finally entering a sword shop, we see Zolo examining a blade when he sees his friends trailing behind each other. Confused he stares at the window for a moment. "What was that?" He shrugged, dropped the sword and followed. Ruby was still walking up the hill, following signs, directions from townsfolk, and her desire to reach her "old friend". "Ruby, are we there yet?" Doc asked. Hickory and Dickory quickly covered his mouth and shh'ed him. Ruby looked up from the pavement and discovered that she was standing in front of a large, iron, gate. Behind it was a monstrous castle. Goons could be seen guarding the doors, from anyone who wanted to get in. "We're here." She said with a grin spreading across her face. She looked to one of the goons. "Hey, let us in!!" The goon shook his head. "Sorry lady, but you got to have a pass to see the boss." "I don't need a pass. I'm Ruby Red! I'm here to see Otohiko!" The goon's face was frozen for a second. "You spoke the boss's name without any fear! You must be her! Hang on, I'll let him know you're here!" The goon took a quick glance back at her and ran off. "Is this guy really that

powerful?"Hickory asked."From what I remember he's not so tough.But,something tells me he was holding back."Ruby heard something off in the distance.She turned just in time to have Luffy plunge head first into her.They both landed on the ground hard."Luffy,you should be more careful!"Chopper shouted."What are you doing here?"Ruby rolled Luffy off of her."We were about to ask you the same thing.Why are you at this castle?"It's a long story."Ruby,are you alright?!"Sanji came completely out of nowhere,and took Ruby's hand.Ruby chuckled"I'm fine Sanji."He help her up and once she got off the ground she was face-to-face with Nami,who had a stern look on her face."Alright!I don't know what's going on,but I want answers!!Why have you been so strange lately and why are you at this castle?!!"She's here to collect her dues."A low voice said from behind.The gate opened and the figure put a hand on Ruby's shoulder."Welcome,my old friend."Ruby turned.She grabbed the figure's long blonde hair."It's been a long time,Oto."Otohiko took her hand and crushed it.Popping bones could be heard."Hey!Let go of her!"Zolo's hand pushed Otohiko to the ground.Once Otohiko recovered,he started to chuckle."I see.Well then,I shouldn't be rude to my guests.Come!"He stepped into the courtyard.They followed him with caution.He lead them into the castle.The walls were cold and gray.Goons guarded every door.Otohiko stopped at a large wooden door.He pushed them both open with great force.Behind them,a well lit room with a banquet laid out on the table."Please,enjoy."It didn't take a second for Luffy to do so.The others sat down.Otohiko sat on one side Ruby,while Zolo sat on the other side."So you seem to be making a good living,Oto."Yes indeed.You seem to be doing well for yourself as well."He looked at Hickory,Dickory,and Doc."Are those your children?"I adopted them."He looked past her at Zolo,who was glaring at him."Is that your lover?"Zolo and Ruby spat out their food in shock.They looked at each other in disgust."No way!"The rest of the table sighed.Ruby wipe the food off her face."He's way too stubborn!"Zolo glared at her."And she's way too much of a chatterbox!"They both growl at each other."So Oto,how do you know Ruby?"Nami asked.He flipped back his hair."She was a captian of her own pirate crew,and I was her first mate."So why did she leave?"Ussop asked.Ruby over-heard the conversation and stood up from the table."Excuse me."Ruby stomped out the room.Luffy watched as the door slammed behind her.With his mouth full,he asked"What's her problem?"Otohiko shook his head."Nothing,I just brought some history.That's all.Please finish your meal.I'll arrange for you to stay for the night."He left the room as well.+_+

3 - The Lust Of It All

Later that night, Luffy found Ruby, standing on the balcony outside. She was looking out into the ocean. The town below was lit up with a rainbow of lights. She released a large sigh. "What's wrong Ruby?" She turned her head to look. "Oh, hi Luffy. Nothing, just thinking about the past again." She returned her gaze to the ocean. "Okay, just don't stay up too late." He said cheerfully and walked back into the castle. She stood there for what seemed like hours, before she heard the door creak again. "I'm okay Luffy. You don't have to look after me." "Luffy? Oh, you mean that fellow with the appetite." Ruby's eyes sprung open. A hand rested on her shoulder. "Captain, it's been so long. Ya know, this reminds me of the night." She closed her eyes and stayed quiet. Otohiko brushed back her curly hair and leaned in. Ruby could hear him breathing so loudly, that she couldn't hear herself think. "Do you remember? It was a cold night just like this. We were standing on the poopdeck of the ship, just watching the stars." "Stop it..." Ruby snarled. "I put my hand on your cheek and held you. You felt warm against my chest." "Stop it, Otohiko!" She said a little louder. "Then I kissed your lips softly. Tell me, how did the fruit taste when you took that bite?" Ruby pushed him away. She stood up straight and glared at Otohiko. He leaned on the railing and looked at her with aroused eyes. "Captain, how did you ever get to dry land?" Ruby losted it. She grabbed Otohiko's collar and pulled him close. She raised her fist to his face. "Wait! You didn't answer my question." "Fine, I'll give you your last wish. After you threw me into the ocean, I realized that my end was near. Until, I felt my body morph into a dolphin form. I swam to the nearest island and started my life there. But, I never forgot what you did you bastard!" She thrust her fist with full force. She hit Oto's jaw and left a large, red, bruise. Ruby prepared for another punch, but Otohiko caught her fist in his hand. He squeezed her jaw until it was pryed open. Ruby saw another hand appear from behind his back. It reached into Oto's pocket and revealed a little, purple, bottle. "Here's a little something I made especially for you." Ruby struggled. His hand quickly put the bottle to her lips. "Stop squirming!" The hand tilted the bottle. The liquid tasted vile as it slid down her throat. The struggling stopped. Her eyes drooped. "Damn you Oto..." She fell into his arms. He lifted her, he made his way to the door. Little did he know a pair of eyes were watching him. A blue nose peeked out of the curtains. "I have to warn the others." Chopper thought to himself. He watched as Otohiko carried Ruby down the hall. The hand that grew from his back tapped him on the shoulder. Oto looked at the hand, it pointed to where Chopper was standing. When Oto looked back, he had disappeared. "You stupid fool, it was probably the curtain." The hand hung lamely, expressing disappointment. Chopper had quickly hid behind the curtain. He was quietly panting. When he heard a door shut, he quickly looked and ran for the nearest room. He ran into Ussop's room. Chopper jumped onto the bed. "Ussop! Get up! Ruby's in trouble!!" Ussop's eyes slowly opened. "Go to sleep Chopper." He rolled over and pulled the covers over his head. Chopper transformed into his heavy boost, he grabbed Ussop and shook him. "Wake up and help me!" He shouted in his husky voice. Ussop's eyes popped open. They both ran out of the room and stormed into every room, until everyone was awake. They all filed out into the hallway. "What's going on?" Sanji asked with a yawn. Ussop and Chopper quickly looked around and shoved everyone into a room. They all were piled on each other. Ussop slammed the door. "What's going on?! Why are we in here?!" Zolo shouted. Chopper covered his mouth. "Ussop what's this all about? It's the middle of the night!" Nami demanded. "Nami you look so cute when you're angry." Hickory over-heard and

punched Sanji's arm."Where's Ruby?"Doc asked."Why you gonna cry?"Dickory teased."Quiet everyone!I'll explain everything,just calm down."Everyone stood up and starred at Ussop and Chopper."Okay,Chopper saw Otohiko poison Ruby and run off with her!And now she's somewhere in the castle!And we have to find her!!"Ussop explained quickly.Everyone blinked a few times before reacting."Well,what are we waiting for?Let's go find her."Zolo walked towards the door.He opened it slightly,only to close it quickly."What's the matter Zolo?"Nami asked."There are guards everywhere outside.We can't get through without being seen.""Great so how do we get out?"Sanji asked.At that moment,they all heard a snore from the back of the room.Luffy,was asleep on the floor.This gave them an idea.Zolo and Sanji grabbed Luffy's ankles.Nami opened the door,they charged outside and swung their sleeping captain around,knocking all the guards out the window.Luffy's eyes popped open."Hey what happened?!Who woke me up?!"He looked out the window.He could hear groans from the guards below."Ussop,Chopper,you keep an eye on squirts.We'll find Ruby!"Zolo ordered.They both nodded.Hickory stormed past them."Hey wait a minute!I'm coming too!"No!You'll just get in the way!"Like you won't!"Alright,fine if that's how you want to play!"After persuading Hickory to stay,Zolo,Sanji,Luffy,and Nami set out into the castle to find Ruby."Ha ha!You got beat!"Dickory chuckled.Hickory was tied to the bed post by Zolo."Shut up you!"She started kicking and sqirming trying to get free."Ussop,is Ruby going to be okay?"Doc asked."I'm sure she'll be fine."+_+

4 - True Intentions

The group of pirates ran down the hall and came to a fork-in-the-road. "Where do we go?" Zolo looked left and right. "Sanji and I will go down this." Nami pointed to the right. "Zolo, you and Luffy go that way." They nodded their heads and ran down the separate paths. Zolo stayed ahead of Luffy, opening every door and calling out Ruby's name. "Zolo what are you doing?" He stopped and looked at his captian. "Ya mean you don't know what we're searching for?" "Nope!" He said with a smile. Zolo frustrated, whacked his captian on the head. Leaving a huge lump on his head. "Oww! Why'd you hit me?!" "Shut up! We need to find Ruby!" He continued down the hallway. They ran until Zolo stopped again. His body was tense. "What is it now Zolo?" "Didn't you hear that?" "Hear what?" Luffy finally heard a bag come from both ends of the hallway. "Surrender yourselves and leave the palace!" A voice said from the darkness. Zolo's head shot up. He threw one of his katanas up to the ceiling. They heard a shriek follow the clang of the blade. A girl fell down holding the katana in her hand. "You bastard! How dare you throw that at me!" She threw the sword back at him. He sheathed the sword and grabbed the girl by the collar. "Who are you? And where's Ruby?!" A smirked appeared on the girl's face. "I'm Crya Valencia, one of many pirates. I was sent here to-" (requested by Kouni46892742) "You're a pirate?" Luffy interrupted. She glared at him, clenching her fist. "Yes I'm a pirate!" "But, you're just a girl." "What's wrong with a girl being a pirate?!" Zolo jerked her collar. "Answer me! Where is Ruby?!" She snorted. "I'll never tell." She slipped through Zolo's grip and disappeared into the darkness. Her face appeared on the wall. "I was given a deal to keep my life, and I intend to keep my end!" Her face disappeared again. "Dammit! Come out here and fight!" Zolo shouted. And a barage of daggers came falling from the ceiling toward them. Both Zolo and Luffy jumped out of the way. The blades hit the floor, they forced splinters out of the floor. A chuckle came from the darkness. "Don't want to underestimate me now, do ya?" Zolo unsheathed all of his swords. He looked up at the ceiling, holding two of his katanas above his face. "Luffy! I need you to shot me up through the ceiling!" Luffy nodded. Luffy stretched his arms to Zolo, when he grabbed his arms he began to spin rapidly. The dizzying speeds increased with every turn. Finally, Luffy let go of Zolo and sent him crashing through the ceiling. As he expected Crya, was sitting on the attic floor. "No way!" She stood up and ran to the shadows. Zolo charged after her, leaving his blade dragging on the floor. He followed her. She wasn't paying attention and hit the wall. She fell to the ground. Zolo snuck up behind her and held a blade to her neck. "I caught you! Now tell me, where is Ruby?" Crya backed away from the blade. "Okay, okay, I'll tell you" She screamed waving her arms. "She's in Otohiko's chamber! Just please don't kill me! I've already been threatened with death, just let me go!" He lowered the blade. "That's all I needed to know." He stomped his foot on the floor. "Luffy! We're up here! Punch the ceiling and get us out!" "Okay!" Luffy winded up his arm and punched the ceiling. The floor of the attic fell to the floor below, sending Zolo and Crya down with it. It crashed down onto the floor, scattering shards of wood everywhere. The two emerged from the rubble, surprisingly unharmed. Zolo grabbed Crya from the back of her shirt and held her to his face. "Leave now! Before I change my mind." Crya hesitated, then nodded. He dropped her, she jumped out of the castle window. They saw her hit the ground outside and run to town. Zolo sheathed his three swords. He turned to Luffy "We better find the chamber." Luffy nodded. Their journey continued down the hallway. Mean while in the opposite hallway, another battle was about to accure. But this wasn't going to be as easy. "Nami where are we going?" Sanji asked through his

panting."Anywhere,we need to find a clue about where Ruby is!" "You're so caring Nami-san."Nami stopped.Sanji looked back at her."Why'd you stop?"Her eyes were wide and fearfull."Don't step another step Sanji!"Sanji stood frozen in the spot he was standing in.The lights flashed on."Very good.Not many can sense my landmines.Pitty,we lose many guests that way."Footsteps head towards them.A large man in a white tuxedo stood infront of Sanji.His green hair dangled infront of his souless eyes as he starred at Sanji."Don't trip.There's a set of landmines around you.I'm surprised you haven't stepped on one,being so careless."He scoffs."Stupid bastard..."Sanji thinks.The man slaps Sanji's left cheek."Don't say such things to me!"Sanji starred shocked."How did I hear you ask?I ate the cursed Mimi Mimi fruit.I've been granted the gift of great hearing."He runs a finger up Sanji's throat and flicks his chin."That includes telepathy."Sanji's body shivers.The man walks to Nami."Tell me,how did know about my bombs?"She smiled."I don't know.You tell me."The man's lip twiched."Shrewed..." "Hang on!No one insults Nami!"Sanji stepped forward,he set off a small explosion.He fell forward."Sanji!"Nami looked past the man.He jumped into the air and landed across the room."Tell you what.I'll let you know where your friend is.If you can reach me,without being killed that is."He chuckled.Nami pulled Sanji to his feet.The man flipped his hair"Before you die,I'll tell you my name.Just to be a good sport.My name is Hit-"Before he could finish Nami's staff had lunged itself into his stomach.He scurried away from her.Hold his stomach he started coughing."You wrech!"He reachs for his left pocket.He swiftly moves his arm.Small explosions surround Nami's feet.She falls to the ground.She closes her eyes and waits until they stop.The man grabs her collar and lifts her above his head."Die!"He tosses her to the wall.She lands hard on the wall and slips to the floor.He grins.Before he could finish her,something kicks him in the back,sending him to the other side of the hall."How dare you hurt Nami!Don't you have any respect?!"The man comes running towards Sanji,fist high in the air.Sanji dodges the punch and sends another kick to the back of his neck.He sends him to the ground.He spits up blood,he slowly gets up only to fall again.Sanji grabs his neck"Where's the girl?" "I won't tell you.Captain Oto...would kill me if I told you where his treasure is."Sanji shook him hard."I want to know where Ruby is!Now where is the girl?!"The man's eyes widen."You mean,you're not looking for the treasure?"Nami rushed toward the scene."What treasure?!"She asked with money symbols in her eyes.The man faints,Sanji drops him on the floor."We need to find Ruby,and fast!" "Yeah right Ruby,then the treasure!"Nami ran ahead of Sanji.+_+