

Love All by Liza Malloy

EXCERPT

God, she was enchanting. Even up close, even in this dim lighting, even after playing tennis... Olivia was pure perfection. Olivia licked her lips casually, drawing my eyes to her mouth. I needed to know if her lips were as soft as they looked, couldn't help but wonder if she tasted as good as she smelled. But I didn't dare try.

So instead, I just stared.

Olivia stared back at me with the same intensity. I hoped maybe she would make the first move and breach the six inches between us. Instead, she spoke.

"I'd love to know what you're thinking right now."

My heart beat faster. "I'm trying to guess if you'd slap me if I kissed you right now."

Her perfect lips curved upwards into a grin she tried to hide. "What did you decide?"

I considered my next words, then spoke slowly. "I decided that you've had plenty of time to turn away." I leaned forward, placed my hand on her cheek, and when she still didn't move, I pressed my mouth to hers.

Before I could even panic that I'd done the wrong thing, she kissed me back. Her lips were velvety smooth against my own, and they parted willingly, welcoming my tongue into her warm mouth. She tasted sweet, like oranges and cinnamon.

Her hand brushed against my bicep, startling me at first, then egging me on as she pressed her fingers against me, practically squeezing the muscle. I reached to place my other hand around her arm, missing and inadvertently grazing the side of her breast before landing on her arm. Still, she didn't slap me.

The kiss went on and on. Olivia sure didn't kiss like the innocent girl she claimed to be, but I wasn't about to complain, either. Her lips fit perfectly against mine, and I was positive that the rest of our bodies would fit just as well.

All of a sudden, all the court lights flashed on, flooding us in full light. We broke apart in an instant, leaving only our fingers entangled. We both gazed down, as though neither of us had realized we were holding hands, and then we each winced from the light.