

Never Late, Never Away Chapter 281

Vivian's heart trembled faintly.

She worked in the news industry, so it wasn't uncommon for her to meet all sorts of big shots and celebrities. Despite that, she had never felt an aura as overbearing as his.

Apart from that, his gaze was frigid, as if he didn't care about anything that was happening around him.

Jerking herself out of her little walk down memory lane, Vivian looked at Finnick in adoration with a faint smile.

Finnick asked, "Do you like it?"

Vivian nodded and said in awe, "I love it. I haven't been here in so long. The last time I came here, I was still young and living with the Millers. But I wasn't that happy."

She had mentioned how last time when she came to the theme park, Emma only let her tag along as Ashley's little sidekick and didn't let her play on the rides. That was why she didn't have fond childhood memories of theme parks.

Finnick pushed his wheelchair toward the Ferris wheel and said, "Let's go on the Ferris wheel."

Go on the Ferris wheel? Vivian was surprised. Was he still the cold-hearted and straightforward Finnick she knew? After all, this was the kind of thing that only young couples would get up to.

Finnick turned back and looked at Vivian, who was still in a daze, and asked, "What's wrong?"

"I just think this is kind of unlike you," Vivian couldn't help saying.

Finnick started to blush and lowered his head. "You can laugh if you want to."

Vivian suddenly burst into laughter.

Finnick coughed lightly in an attempt to mask his embarrassment.

How humiliating. If it weren't for the sake of making Vivian happy, he would never have done something so out of habit.

Vivian stepped forward and stared at Finnick. "Have you been overworking yourself these days? Maybe you ate something that went bad? How did someone like you come up with something as romantic as going on a Ferris wheel together? You're scaring me."

It could have been the atmosphere of the theme park or Vivian's words, but Finnick was no longer as standoffish as before, and his face slowly reddened.

Looking at Vivian, he asked quietly, "Don't all girls like sitting on Ferris wheels? Isn't it romantic?"

Vivian let out a sigh before she said, "Still, it's late now, which means no crowd and no cotton candy."

"Why? Do you want cotton candy?" Finnick's mood lightened as well when Vivian began to cheer up.

Immediately, he took out his phone.

"What are you doing?"

"Calling someone who sells cotton candy so that they can come here and make us some. I'll ask them to come over right now."

Vivian quickly stopped Finnick from making the call, a smile finally blossoming on her face.

Hurriedly, she said, "I was just kidding. I don't actually want any, so don't make the call, okay? By now, anyone who sells cotton candy has probably already gotten off work. I can't bear the thought of them still having to work so late, so it's okay."

"Okay, I won't call anyone then."

Vivian was always so considerate.

One of the workers, who was in charge of the Ferris wheel, walked over and told Finnick, "Mr. Norton, we've prepared everything for you. We can start whenever you're ready."

Vivian knew that the Ferris wheel should have been closed by now. Clearly, Finnick had specially asked some workers to help them operate the Ferris wheel since they treated him with such respect.

After the two of them got on the Ferris wheel, Finnick held onto Vivian's hands. "I know you've been in a bad mood for the past few days and you're mad at me. But can you try to hear me out for now?"

Vivian met Finnick's gaze, which was much softer than usual and even contained a hint of desperation. It managed to soften her heart.

"Finnick, you don't have to explain anymore. I still don't understand why you're so nice to Ashley, and I know you must have your own reasons. But I just... Well, I felt jealous. After all, you didn't come back the whole night," Vivian said truthfully.

"You got jealous?" Finnick's eyes lit up. Clearly, he had his heart in the wrong place.

Finnick hadn't imagined that Vivian would get jealous because of himself and Ashley.

Does that mean she's slowly starting to care more about me?

As he watched the woman in front of him blushing, Finnick could feel the ice on his heart start to thaw. He held her chin gently and kissed her.

Never Late, Never Away Chapter 282

The two of them kissed for quite a while before parting. All their previous troubles had already been kissed away by then.

Now Finnick felt like it was the right time to explain himself to Vivian.

Finnick let go of Vivian unwillingly and said in a low voice, "You remember the story I told you about how a little girl once saved my life when I was younger, right?"

"Yeah. You even showed me pictures." Vivian didn't know why he was suddenly bringing it up.

"That little girl was Ashley Miller."

"What?"

Vivian widened her eyes in disbelief.

That's a really huge coincidence!

"How could it be Ashley? Did you guys check properly?" Vivian still couldn't believe her ears.

It wasn't that she didn't want to believe it, but after knowing Ashley for many years, she couldn't understand how Ashley could be kind enough to help a stranger.

Finnick said, "It should be. Based on the picture and the limited edition buyers' name list, Ashley is the most likely candidate. Her age also lines up with the timing."

Vivian remembered the picture Finnick showed her. There was a little girl in the picture with a limited edition Disney princess dress that Ashley also happened to own. At the time, she thought it was merely a coincidence. Who would have known that it was really Ashley?

Finnick said guiltily, "I know Ashley did a lot of nasty things to you, but she did save my life, so I had to repay the favor."

Vivian finally realized that Finnick's strange attitude toward Ashley the last few days was simply him trying to repay the debt and not out of kindness or pity.

Finnick still loved her.

"Finnick, I get it." After a while, she finally spoke. "If I were in your position, I'd have done the same thing."

Finnick's slightly furrowed brows finally relaxed at that.

Suddenly, Vivian thought of something and frowned. "Still, you should have called me at least once. I was so worried that you got into some kind of trouble. How could you just leave me at home alone?"

Vivian was complaining, but under the glow of the gentle lights amongst the dark sky, her pretty face made her words sound almost coquettish. Finnick's heart skipped a beat at the sight.

At the very next second, Vivian was pulled into a tight embrace. Her unspoken words got swallowed up by the kiss that they shared.

As the Ferris wheel slowly got higher, the atmosphere in the booth started to heat up.

Finnick pulled Vivian onto his lap. His eyes were sparkling like stars as he looked at her in adoration. In a low voice, he said, "Next time you're angry or upset, please just tell me. Don't keep it to yourself, okay?"

Vivian felt her face warm up, and her heart started beating uncontrollably fast. She wanted to move away but couldn't as she was trapped in his arms. Before she got the chance to open her mouth, Finnick's warm lips met hers once again.

She only managed to leave his embrace after a long time, feeling as if she had gotten drunk on his kisses alone.

Finnick moved closer to Vivian's ear and whispered softly, letting his warm breath brush against her skin.

"Don't worry, Vivian. I won't let Ashley bully you."

Vivian leaned her head against Finnick's broad shoulders and stayed quiet.

At that moment, she knew she didn't need to say much.

She just knew that anyone who could understand her this well was deserving of her respect, so she did not need to pay attention to those who didn't.

It was enough that he was so considerate of her without her needing to say anything.

Vivian said in a low voice, "Finnick, you did the right thing. You have to thank the one who saved your life after all. If it weren't for Ashley saving you, we wouldn't have met."

Upon hearing that, Finnick didn't say anything. He simply pulled her into another embrace as the two of them looked out at the shimmering lights of Sunshine City.

The hundreds of lights all over the buildings made it seem as though the buildings had dressed up in expensive jewelry and precious gems. Lined with lamp posts and bright neon signs, the streets shone brighter than the Milky Way. The cars drove ceaselessly on the roads, resembling red and yellow lanterns passing back and forth on dark strips of asphalt.

When the Ferris wheel reached its highest point, Finnick suddenly brought Vivian to the window.

Vivian didn't understand and looked at him in suspicion. Then, she heard Finnick mutter, "I have something for you."

Vivian hadn't gotten the chance to react when she spotted a series of lights suddenly glowing outside the window.

Never Late, Never Away Chapter 283

In an instant, the dark night sky lit up with a splash of color.

At the same time, all of the lights in the theme park came on, and the letter 'V' appeared on the LED screen, painting their faces in red.

Whoosh! Bang!

Right then, fireworks went off in the distance that seemed to shake the night sky, stopping faraway passersby in their tracks as they watched in awe.

The colorful flames lit up the starry sky and burnt dazzlingly to the very last second until it finally fizzled out.

After that, another one took its place. The fireworks went off again and again, resembling both bright supernovas and fluttering fireflies.

Vivian was completely stunned.

Never had she imagined that this would be the gift Finnick was speaking of. She was so happy that she didn't know what to say and simply clapped her hands in glee like a child who had gotten her favorite sweets.

Finnick lowered his head and looked at Vivian. His mouth, which usually rested in a nondescript line, was now raised in a gentle smile.

The whole theme park was open just for Vivian. Finnick was willing to spend thousands, even millions on Vivian as long as it made her happy, no questions asked.

The woman's emotions had already become a significant part of his life and affected him every day. As they spent their days together, he started to change too.

Finnick looked at Vivian's reddened face and asked, "Vivian, do you like it?"

"I do! I love it, Finnick!" Vivian exclaimed, looking at Finnick with shining eyes.

She had severely underestimated Finnick. I didn't know he could be this romantic.

She asked, "Did you really come up with all this on your own?"

"It took me forever to plan out everything."

"I love it. Thank you so much, Finnick." Vivian was getting choked up. Her eyes started to glint with tears.

It was already hard enough for him to book the whole theme park on his own. She hadn't imagined that he could come up with even more things to shock her with. From displaying his love for her on the LED screen and a whole firework show, what other tricks did he have up his sleeve?

Finnick thought, Looks like the Internet is much more reliable than a Casanova like Xavier.

It turns out that women really do need to be coddled. Well, that's one thing Xavier got right.

"Yes," Finnick said seriously. "I just want you to be happy."

From her own reflection in Finnick's eyes, she could feel his sincerity and love for her. Finnick was a proud man, but he did so much just to make her happy.

What else could she ask for?

Their love was illuminated by the bright glow of the theme park and the sparks of the fireworks. Even if they had to separate temporarily someday, they would never truly leave each other. Fate and love had intertwined like a padlock in both of their hearts, filling them with longing for one another.

Finnick remained in his wheelchair and Vivian sat on the Ferris wheel seat as both of them watched the fireworks go off outside.

After the glorious firework show, Vivian finally came to the realization that this really wasn't Finnick's style at all. Was there someone else giving him ideas? People could change overnight, but that didn't seem like something that would happen to Finnick.

Vivian couldn't contain her curiosity. "Finnick, how did you know I like riding Ferris wheels and looking at fireworks? This isn't like you."

Finnick didn't expect Vivian to ask him that and fell into an awkward silence, suddenly at a loss for words.

He couldn't just tell her that it was an idea from an online friend. That would be way too lame of him.

"What? Am I not allowed to be romantic once in a while?" he asked in a deep voice.

Vivian laughed and said, "Yes, of course you are."

Finnick chuckled and didn't say anything else.

Vivian smiled as well. She was about to speak when she suddenly sneezed.

Finnick's sharp eyebrows furrowed.

"Are you getting a cold?" He stood up and walked to Vivian.

"I'm fine." Vivian rubbed her nose. "It was just a little windy last night."

Finnick looked at Vivian, who was still in the dress she'd worn for the party. Although she looked gorgeous, the fabric was thin, and there was no way she was warm enough. He frowned and took off his own jacket to lay it over her shoulders.

Vivian felt a trace of Finnick's own body warmth on the jacket, and it reached all the way to her heart.

Her hands were cold too, so she stuffed them into the pockets. Then, she accidentally brushed against Finnick's phone.

Never Late, Never Away Chapter 284

She was surprised and glanced briefly at the screen that lit up in the dark.

Unexpectedly, the app that lit up his phone just happened to be Reddit.

The question that Finnick had searched was: How do you give your girlfriend a romantic surprise?

The top answer of the thread that had come up was the Ferris wheel and fireworks idea.

Vivian started laughing out loud.

So it was an Internet suggestion! No wonder it didn't seem like his usual style.

That was why he had been dodging the question. He didn't want her to know he found the answer on the internet. How cute.

Finnick, who had spotted Vivian holding his phone, immediately looked sheepish as he snatched the phone quickly. "That's just a coincidence."

Vivian started laughing even more at the faint blush that had appeared on Finnick's face.

"Thank you, Finnick," she said in a low voice, reaching out to hug him.

At the same time, the Ferris wheel slowly reached the bottom again.

Finnick returned to his wheelchair. As the door opened, Vivian pushed him out.

Once they stepped outside, Vivian caught sight of a staff member holding out something pink and fluffy.

“What—” Vivian said in surprise.

With an awkward expression, Finnick said quietly, “It’s cotton candy. I noticed that you have a sweet tooth, so...”

Vivian finally returned to her senses.

On the Reddit page, there had been another answer from the best replier in the same thread that said: If your girlfriend likes sweet things, then buy her some cotton candy too. That’s gonna get you a 10/10!

Even though it was just a simple stick of cotton candy, Vivian felt her eyes start to well up.

He is so attentive!

No wonder she had started smelling a sugary scent in the Ferris wheel. He knew she liked it, so he specially got someone to make it and bring it over. He really did care about her.

Tears finally broke free from Vivian’s eyes like a string of broken pearls. This was the first time she had received such an ‘extravagant’ gift.

When she was still a kid, Harvey had bought Ashley and Vivian a stick of cotton candy each at the theme park. It was also pink, the color of princesses.

That was the first time Harvey had bought food for Vivian, so she treasured it with all her heart. However, Ashley was jealous and knocked Vivian’s cotton candy to the ground while Harvey wasn’t looking.

After the cotton candy fell on the dirty floor, Ashley started stepping on it with her shoes, causing the pink cotton candy to turn grey with dirt.

That saddened Vivian deeply. However, Harvey, who didn't know what had actually happened, scolded her and never bought anything for her again.

Thinking about her past always made Vivian's heart wrench in pain. But now, she had Finnick taking care of her, and she was contented with that.

Vivian bent down and hugged Finnick tightly.

She told him, "Finnick, you are the definition of romance for me. You're all I need."

...

Finnick and Vivian finally made up in this romantic atmosphere.

According to elder Mr. Norton's wishes, the two of them would have to spend a night at the Norton family mansion.

By the time they returned to the mansion, the guests had all left. The mansion was back to its usual silence.

By then, elder Mr. Norton, who was exhausted after the party, was already asleep.

Finnick and Vivian went back to their room and fell asleep as well.

While everything was going smoothly for Finnick and Vivian, the scene in another room at the Norton family mansion was an entirely different story.

At that moment, Ashley was sitting in Mark's study.

Mark's personal assistant had already returned to his room before Ashley walked into Mark's study.

Mark was sick of the two sisters. One of them was here at his father's request while the other came to him of her own accord. What sort of tricks were they trying to play?

Ashley, of course, had her reasons for showing up. Otherwise, it wouldn't be very appropriate for a man and his daughter-in-law to chat like this so late at night.

Mark looked at his future daughter-in-law and asked, "It's already late. What do you want? Where's Fabian?"

Fabian lost interest in socializing when he saw Vivian and Finnick disappear from the party, so he had already retired to his room with his phone a long time ago.

Never Late, Never Away Chapter 285

Ashley replied, "I think he's most probably asleep by now."

Although Ashley was Mark's future daughter-in-law, he had always disliked her because of her family background.

As new money, the Miller family was incomparable to old money like the Norton family. However, Mark had a high tolerance for her because she was pregnant with the offspring of the Norton family.

"Then what brings you here?" Mark asked.

Ashley took a deep breath before she cut to the chase. "Mr. Norton, Finnick has always been an obstacle to us. You might need some help if you wish to get rid of him."

Mark turned around to look at her. Obstacle?

Since it was not his style to beat around the bush, he asked directly, "You're talking about Finnick?"

Ashley nodded.

Mark raised his brow. Hmm... Maybe she heard about it from Fabian... But wait a sec! Fabian is not someone with a loose lip. So she figured it out by herself? This young lady is surely a sharp one with a scheming mind. But what is she up to?

He remained silent while his mind was racing. Ashley could take the silence no more, so she spoke up, "Mr. Norton, I believe I can help you to get rid of Finnick."

"Help me?" Mark let out a chuckle, taking her words as a joke. "The Miller family is in trouble, so how could you afford me any help? I suggest you do nothing but rest well and take good care of your baby. As you can see, Grandpa is looking forward to a newborn."

Mark had always paid close attention to Finnick, so he knew about him targeting the Miller family. However, it seemed like he was not well-informed enough since he didn't know that Finnick had now become indebted to Ashley.

One thing for sure was that Ashley had always tried to suck up to Fabian. Now that she was pregnant, unlike her insensible sister, she seemed to have truly regarded herself as a part of the Norton family and was willing to take Mark, her future father-in-law's side.

Ashley gave an indifferent shrug as she tried to convince Mark. "Mr. Norton, although the Miller family still needs some time to recover from the bankruptcy crisis, I can still help you get rid of Vivian and Finnick on my own. After all, they are our common enemy!"

Mark thought she was shooting her mouth off, but he suppressed his impatience and asked, "How are you going to help me? To Finnick, you are a thorn in his flesh. If he could, he would kill you at all cost to avenge his wife. What could you do for me?"

Ashley curled her lips into a faint smile before saying in a low voice, "Mr. Norton, do you know that for all these years, Finnick has been looking for a little girl who saved him ten years ago?"

Of course, Mark knew about it. With his brows knitted, he asked, "But what does this have to do with you?"

A confident smile appeared on Ashley's face. "I am the little girl whom he is looking for."

Mark's expression lightened up at this revelation. He had always known of the little girl's existence and how important she was to Finnick, but he had never expected Ashley to be that little girl.

In an instant, Mark understood why Ashley had the confidence to say that she could be of help to him.

This must be the exact reason why the Miller Group managed to get through the unprecedented crisis overnight!

Finnick is no longer targeting Ashley and the Miller family, but I bet he never expected that the person whom he regards as his savior would scheme against him.

It seems like this time, Finnick has shot himself in the foot!

However, Mark was still doubtful. "You said you want to help me get rid of Finnick? But I believe Finnick will no longer taking revenge on you. Moreover, he will also treat you well since he is indebted to you. So why are you turning against him?"

Ashley sneered. Indebted to me? Just because Finnick wants to return my favor doesn't mean I have to accept it.

She hated both Finnick and Vivian to the core.

Hatred was eating her up as she uttered in a vicious tone, "That's what he owes me! My mom is suffering because he sent her to a shabby country, and she can't even come back. Besides that, he has also caused the Miller Group to suffer millions in losses. I will definitely get back at him for what he has done! I hate Vivian William, and I want all of them to suffer!"