

# Never Late, Never Away Chapter 296

Their conversations were inaudible to her, but it did not seem like work matters...

Shannon thought of how Ashley had made her keep an eye on Vivian, and also how she had managed to snap the picture of Fabian forcing a kiss on Vivian. Together with the recent news of Vivian's pregnancy, she felt that the matter must be more complicated than that.

Should I inform Ashley? Is there something wrong with Vivian's child?

Shannon thought about it for a long time before deciding to give it up. Never mind if I offend Ashley, it would be worse to offend Mrs. Norton and Finnick!

With this thought, Shannon went back to her work as if nothing happened.

After Shannon left, Fabian continued the conversation with Vivian in the office.

Fabian continued, "Vivian, you should remember when I got you to interview Benedict, it was with the hopes that you will see how fake and heartless Finnick really is! For the sake of his own life, he abandoned Evelyn who was completely infatuated with him. He ran away and left her to lose her life in that fire. Such a man is not worth your sacrifice at all!"

"That's enough, Fabian!" Vivian was extremely angered. "It would have been fine had you not brought it up, but now that you mention it, how could you do that? You knew very well that Benedict was biased against Finnick, and you purposely arranged for me to interview him. Since when have you become so devious?"

Why is everyone against Finnick and they keep saying that it was his fault? What did he do wrong? Vivian felt very wronged on Finnick's behalf as she felt that he had it so tough for so many years. She knew very well how it felt to be misunderstood.

She said, "Fabian, I love Finnick, and I will be with him for the rest of my life. No matter what you say, and no matter how others view Finnick, he is still the best man in the world to me. You can forget about it, Fabian." With that, she opened the door and left.

Fabian could hear his own heart shatter into pieces.

He sat at his seat and watched the scenery outside as it grew bleaker by the minute.

The sight of falling leaves broke Fabian's heart further. She was just like a leaf who had left him on a fall day like this.

He still remembered how when they were in college, Vivian loved to be with children, and would bring him to do volunteer work at the orphanage.

The children in the orphanage were very pitiful, but they were all very sensible and adorable. Vivian played really well with these children. All of them loved this big sister, and said that she was pretty and gentle.

Vivian explained that they were as pitiful as she was, with no one to love nor to pamper them. However, she was more blessed than they were, because she had Fabian and her mother—which was why she wanted to help them.

Fabian still remembered how her smile looked extraordinarily radiant under the sunlight. Just like an angel, her body looked like it was radiating light as she ran happily against the sunshine while playing with the children.

Vivian even told him that her biggest dream was to have her own child and to have her own family so as to give the child a perfect childhood, which was what she never had.

At that moment he thought, since Vivian wanted to have a complete family so much, he will tell her about his real identity upon graduation, and marry her.

However, who would have thought that fate had other plans?

With sad eyes, Fabian put his memories away.

At that moment, everything was perfect. Who would have thought that after all these years, both of them would in fact have children, just not with each other.

On the other hand, Vivian was still feeling frustrated after she left Fabian's office. When the time was up, she immediately packed up to go home.

Lately, because of her pregnancy, Finnick had arranged for a personal car and chauffeur for her. Vivian agreed to the arrangement without hesitation as she too felt that she should not be squeezing through the subway in her pregnant state.

Because she finished work early, Finnick had not returned when she reached home. She sat on the sofa for a while before the doorbell rang.

She immediately skipped to the door excitedly.

“Finnick! You are home...”

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When Vivian opened the door, she could not help but freeze at the sight of the person outside.

The person standing out there was not Finnick, but a completely unexpected person.

It was grandpa—the elder Mr. Norton.

He did not come alone. In fact, he had a rather large entourage with him, all of whom were carrying large and small packages containing lots of tonics.

Mr. Norton looked at Vivian lovingly and said while looking at her stomach. “Vivian, you finally did it! This is great! All these tonics are especially nutritious for pregnant ladies, so just have them. You have the greatest contribution to the Norton family right now.”

Vivian was very happy to have grandpa as a guest in their home. She immediately welcomed him into the house and offered him drinks.

The elder Mr. Norton saw how busy she was and immediately said, “Alright, stop busying yourself. Just let the maids handle it. You have to get more rest. If you can’t handle it anymore, just resign from your job and stay at home.”

Vivian felt that apart from her gastric discomfort, everything was alright and she didn't need to resign from her job yet.

Moreover, it was not easy for her to build up her career at the magazine company. She could not bear to just resign from her job just like that.

Vivian said, "Grandpa, don't worry, I know what I am doing."

"Alright, up to you. As long as you are happy!"

Samuel was incredibly happy when he heard that Vivian was pregnant. Finnick was his favorite grandson, and naturally he would love his child.

Vivian felt that Samuel was becoming much more amiable towards her.

Even though Samuel was old, he was still authoritative. Everyone was respectful yet fearful of him. Even though he did not have Finnick's aura, it was clear that he used to be an influential person in the business arena. However, he was just a friendly old man in front of Vivian right now.

While Vivian was preparing some snacks, Samuel could not help but ask her, "Vivian, they say that a mother's intuition is the strongest. Do you think you are carrying a boy or a girl?"

She really had not thought about this at all. It didn't matter whether it was a boy or girl...

When he saw Vivian's innocent face, Samuel could tell that she didn't know anything as this was her first pregnancy. Without blaming her, he merely said, "If you are craving for sour food, it would be a boy. If you are craving for spicy food, it would be a girl. How's your appetite lately? Have you been craving for sour food? I remember when your grandma was pregnant, she threw up so much and loved eating sour food, the sour the better. She ate up quite a few baskets of lemons!"

Lemon? That mere thought caused Vivian to have acid reflux.

"No, Grandpa, I've just been throwing up a lot. I don't have any special craving for sour nor spicy tastes."

"It's normal to be nauseous. Don't worry and just relax. I see that your complexion is not as good as it used to be, so it is time to focus on your health."

Indeed, Vivian also felt that her complexion was bad lately, and her appetite was really poor as well. Together with her nausea, she had lost more weight.

Samuel said, "Actually, I would love her even if she were a girl. I will train her up to be the heir of the Norton family as well. When she grows up, I will send her abroad to the top schools in the world. Don't worry too much. It is not good for the baby."

Vivian could not help but flinch slightly when she heard him.

She did not expect the elder Mr. Norton to place so much emphasis on their child. He was actually saying that he wanted this child to be the heir of the Norton family?

Moreover, there was more than one branch in the Norton family. At Mark's branch, Fabian and Ashley were about to have their child too.

Even though she knew that the old man was definitely biased, she did not expect him to be that biased. Wouldn't Mark be completely pissed to find out what the elder Mr. Norton was really thinking about?

Vivian frowned and could not help but ask quietly, "Grandpa, if you love Finnick so much, will Mark..."

The old man suddenly sighed at the mention of Norton family's current situation. He said, "Mark... He is too defensive when it comes to Finnick, and behaves as if Finnick were his arch rival instead of his brother. He was like this as a child, but who knew that he would still be like this after he grew up? Sigh... This is such a family tragedy. Even though Finnick is now the glamorous Norton, and also the president of Finnor Group, he does not even hold any company shares. I am indeed guilty as his grandpa."

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Vivian was shocked when she heard that.

Under Finnick's leadership, the Finner Group managed to achieve greater heights every year. Based on his capabilities alone, how could Finnick not hold any company shares to the Finner Group?

Vivian asked grandpa, "How is that possible? Why? Finnick is part of the Norton family too, shouldn't he have it?"

Samuel said, "Of course he should! Actually, I've been meaning to transfer some shares to Finnick. However, Mark has been giving a lot of pressure to the board of directors, causing them to not dare to take any rash actions. They have always acted according to Mark's directions. Sigh, they are all a bunch of useless trash. As long as it is not approved by the board of directors, Finnick's shares would always be up in the air."

"Then wouldn't that mean that Mark singlehandedly owns the Norton family shares?"

Samuel nodded and smirked, "That's right. Luckily, you are pregnant. This time, Finnick will finally have a reason to receive the shares. Vivian, this is the reason why I have been wanting Finnick to get married early, and for you to get pregnant soon! The Norton family can do without Mark but we cannot be without Finnick!"

Vivian's eyes twinkled.

Mark was probably so defensive when it came to Finnick because of the elder Mr. Norton's obvious bias.

She could not say anything else apart from a whisper, "Grandpa, you are so nice to Finnick."

To which he replied, "Finnick resembles me the most and I do love him a little more. Moreover he has a kind heart. Don't judge him by his icy exterior as all these were because of something that had happened ten years ago. He used to be very friendly as a child, and

was extremely talkative. Now that I am old, I can't control everything, so I feel bad for him as well."

His hidden meaning was clear. Not only did he like Finnick, but he also felt bad for this grandson.

When Vivian heard him say all that, she could not help but be curious.

Mark was indeed evil, cunning and extremely greedy. Despite having so many of the Norton family shares in his hand, he was still so fearful of Finnick that he went to the extent of kidnapping and even attempting to take Finnick out. This kind of brother was indeed frightening.

Vivian felt very bad for Finnick. Apart from his grandfather's love, the rest of this family viewed him as their enemy.

Instead of getting the things he was entitled to, he had to support such a huge group by himself.

Not only must he be very hardworking, but he also had to pretend to be disabled in front of others. It was something very painful and tiring.

Samuel continued chatting about everyday matters with Vivian. After a while, he got up and said, "Alright, I should get going. I just wanted to drop by to see you. Now that I see that you are fine, I feel less worried too. Do take care of yourself."

Vivian was about to put on her coat to see him out, but he stopped her and said, "It's fine, I don't need you to send me off."

Shortly after he left, someone pressed the doorbell at Vivian's home again. Vivian thought that the elder Mr. Norton had left something behind, and immediately went to open the door.

However, when she opened the door and saw who was outside, she could not help but freeze again.

It was Ashley!

Ashley looked at Vivian triumphantly and said, "What's up? Am I a monster? Look at how shocked you are! Why aren't you welcoming me into your home yet?"

Vivian could not discern Ashley's intention at all. She was actually bold enough to come to her! For Ashley to turn up uninvited, something bad must be about to happen.

Vivian asked her, "What are you doing here?"

"Why can't I be here? I am here to see my lovely sister!"

Ashley pushed the door on her own and walked into the house herself. She sat on the sofa and noticed the cups and plates on the coffee table, which indicated that someone had just been here.

Behaving like the mistress of the house, Ashley said to Vivian, "Can't you even pour a cup of tea for your guest? Where are your manners, you uncouth peasant?"

Vivian had no choice but to shut the door and asked Ashley, "Just say it. Why are you looking for me?"

Ashley suddenly sniggered, "Who is looking for you? I am looking for Mr. Norton. You better keep your nose out of our business! Pour the tea!"

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Indeed, Ashley was here for Finnick. Otherwise, she would never have this courage to do so.

Vivian replied impatiently, "You better leave. Finnick is not here."

"Not here?" Ashley saw that the house seemed very quiet, and that Finnick should not be there. However, she did not look like she was about to leave. "If he is not here, I'll just wait for him then."



With that, she sat on the sofa, ran her fingers across the leather and said sarcastically, “Oh, your sofa is not bad, isn’t it? Handmade Italian leather? Vivian, you’ve indeed made it for yourself.”

Vivian was about to throw her out, but she was reminded that Ashley was Finnick’s savior. So, it wouldn’t do to just chase her out. Vivian had no choice but to remain quiet.

Ashley walked around their house.

This house may not be as big as the Miller Residence, but it was done up in a luxurious manner. Every single bead of the chandelier in the living room was made out of real crystals. She could tell from one glance based on its shine.

She could barely hide her jealousy by now.

Who did Vivian, the illegitimate daughter think she was to live in such a nice place?

At the same time, Vivian brewed another pot of hot tea and poured a cup for Ashley.

Ashley shot her a glance and held her head high. “Look at the way you are pouring tea. You do look like a housemaid’s child. So professional. Hahaha!”

“Please help yourself.”

Vivian could not be bothered to argue further with her. She continued to host her politely and served Ashley some snacks that were nutritious for pregnant women. Finnick had his people buy that for her.

Actually, Vivian pitied Ashley. Her mother was forced to suffer overseas and she was not able to win over Fabian. Therefore, Ashley could only become crazier and torture Vivian more, because the former was already left with nothing.

Ashley stared at Vivian’s stomach and jeered at her, “I heard that you are pregnant too? Is it really Finnick’s? Or some random guy?”

“Ashley, can’t you just shut it?” Vivian could barely hold it anymore. “You have no reason to talk about the child in my stomach. Go and be concerned about your own child.”

“Who do you think you are to tell me what to do?” Ashley continued sneering. “Yes, you are pregnant—you are really pregnant. Just that I do hope that you are able to keep the pregnancy.”

Vivian’s face completely changed.

Ashley had crossed the line!

The more she retreated, the more Ashley attacked her. Now, she was cursing her unborn child right in front of her!

Vivian lashed out angrily, “Ashley, stop being so proud! How dare you curse my child? Are you not going to let go of a little life?”

“Why are you losing your temper for?” Ashley was not going down easily. “I can say anything I want! Back then, Rachel should never have given birth to you the bastard! In the end, not only did you fight for Dad with me, but you also fought with me for my man as well. I hate you!”

As a fellow pregnant woman, Ashley’s words were really too much! Vivian was very angry but she knew that it was not good to be angered while she was pregnant, hence she decided to ignore her.

Vivian remembered when she was little and first laid eyes on Ashley, she felt that her biological sister looked very beautiful and adorable. In her expensive and exquisite clothing, she looked just like a little princess.

Vivian really liked her sister from the beginning, and was happy that she finally had a little sister.

However, who would have expected that it was this sister that hated her the most. She has done so many cruel things to land her into trouble—she was completely unforgivable!

Seeing that Vivian did not refute her, Ashley’s words fell flat. However, when her eyes landed on Vivian’s stomach, a glint went through her eyes and she laughed sarcastically, “Vivian, don’t assume that you are so important with this pregnancy of yours. Remember that the higher your climb, the harder you will fall. Let me tell you, I am still the final winner! I am Finnick’s savior, and your family’s honored guest. If you mistreat me, I will tell Finnick. He will listen to me.”

Vivian thought of how Finnick obeyed Ashley in every way, and she did not feel good inside.

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Ashley did not stop there. "Vivian, let me advise you to not be too arrogant. Don't think that your status has elevated in the Norton family just because you are carrying a child. Let me tell you, the more you hope, the more disappointed you will be!"

Vivian felt that there was a hidden meaning in Ashley's words, and it unsettled her. She could not help but frown, "Ashley, you are pregnant too. Aren't you worried about retribution when you say things like these? Why should the next generation bear the burden of our grudges?"

"Grudges?" Ashley's voice became shrill instantly. "Vivian William, listen carefully. You and I have grudges from the past life to this, and you can never run away from it. My mother is overseas and can't do anything to you, but I will make you pay back in double and more! Also, did you know how much your mother Rachel made my mother cry? Therefore, I hate you. I hate you so much I want all of you to die, including your child!"

"Ashley!" Vivian just wanted to throw her out of the door. "If you are here just to insult me, please leave immediately. This is my home!"

"Well, I'm not leaving! I'm not leaving!" Ashley shouted angrily with a stubborn and indignant look on her face. "I tell you, I want to see Finnick, not you! I'm not leaving! If I leave, Finnick will ask me to come back and he will blame you for it! I am his savior, you hear that? I am his savior!"

Vivian suddenly felt a bout of dizziness attack her brain. If she continued like this with Ashley, she could affect her pregnancy.

If Ashley wanted to throw a tantrum, she was welcome to do so.

"In that case, you can sit here and wait. I won't be here with you." Vivian left the living room and returned to her bedroom.

"Hey Vivian, what kind of attitude is this? Is this how you treat your savior? Let me tell you, Vivian, I can guarantee worse days are ahead of you!"

Ashley's voice rose behind Vivian. For some reason, Ashley looked a little triumphant, which seemed rather foreboding to Vivian, as if something were about to happen.

However, what could Ashley do now, even with Finnick's repayment?

The sight of Vivian hiding back in her room made Ashley feel triumphant. However, it wasn't the height of victory and she was not completely satisfied yet.

As Finnick's savior, Ashley walked around freely in Vivian's house.

She saw that their furnishings consisted of expensive rare items, and could not help but feel jealous again. A look into the rest of the house also showed the latest designs by the current top designers.

There was every kind of household electrical item in the house. They were all the latest products with many smart household items amongst them as well. It seemed like they were living at the tip of modernity in absolute comfort.

Who did Vivian the illegitimate daughter think she was to enjoy such luxury and to bask in the love from a man like Finnick?

Sadly, she was now in my hands. This will be the end for her! She won't be enjoying this lifestyle for much longer. I will definitely make her lose every single thing!

Ashley purposely feigned thirst and shouted, "Oh no, I'm really thirsty. Vivian, get me some tea."

"Didn't you just have tea?" Vivian replied from her bedroom. "How can you be thirsty again so soon?"

Ashley shouted, "You are pregnant as well. Don't you know that pregnant women are always thirsty?"

Yes, I'd changed the green tea to fruit tea because I knew that she is pregnant. In the end, there is no gratitude from Ashley at all. Vivian was completely disappointed in Ashley.

She walked out of her bedroom and poured tea for Ashley once again.

Ashley picked up her cup. Suddenly, her hand shook and she spilled the hot tea on the floor, nearly splattering the tea on Vivian as well!

"You!" Vivian covered her stomach subconsciously.

Ashley spoke vehemently, "You nearly scalded me! Vivian, how evil of you! You are trying to harm my baby, aren't you? You are jealous that I am carrying Fabian's child, and you are jealous that Finnick had forgiven me and accompanied me for a whole day in the hospital. And for that, you tried to scald me with hot tea? You are such a scheming person! Let me tell you, if anything happens to my baby, you will be the first one to suffer for it!"