

Never Late, Never Away Chapter 656 - 660

"Anyway, we are colleagues from now on. I'm looking forward to working with you." That girl smiled brightly.

Vivian plastered a smile on her face and replied, "I'm excited to be working with you too."

It's Finnick! What is he trying to do? When Vivian recalled what Finnick said yesterday, a fresh swell of rage rose in her. Finnick, you scumbag! How dare you treat my work as a joke!

Just as Vivian was still simmering with rage, she heard Finnick's voice, "The last one is our new staff, Vivian Morrison, the Chief Editor of the magazine company. Ms. Morrison, please tell me about the work progress of the magazine company."

She had no courage to question Finnick in front of everyone, so she suppressed her wrath and followed Finnick's order.

After listening to Vivian's report, Finnick didn't respond to that. Instead, he said, "Ms. Morrison, since it is part of the job, you have to drop by Century Media every week to report the work progress of the magazine company to me in person. That's all for today. We'll end the meeting here."

With that, Finnick got up and was ready to leave the meeting room.

Vivian called out his name in a panic when she saw the former walked past her. "Mr. Norton, I have to ask you something."

Without looking at Vivian, Finnick continued walking and replied formulaically, "Follow me to my office."

At that, Vivian clenched her hands into fists and followed him closely.

The minute both of them left the meeting room, the staff in the room exploded into a discussion.

"What's wrong with Mr. Norton? Report work progress every week? I think he meddles too much."

"Ms. Morrison looks quite pretty. Could it be that Mr. Norton fancies her, so he asked her to report the work progress to him that frequently?"

"Hmm... Your words make sense. If not, why did Mr. Norton buy the magazine company in a hurry and even keep their current staff?"

At that moment, a male colleague couldn't bear listening to their speculations anymore and said, "Hey, guys. Are you serious? Don't tell me that you don't know anything about the relationship between Mr. Norton and Ms. Morrison."

"Do you have any insider information? Quick, tell us!" Hearing his words, everyone got excited and urged him.

"Guys, after all, we are in the media industry. How can you know nothing about our boss' gossips? The Chief Editor, Ms. Morrison is our boss' ex-wife!" said the male colleague with a proud expression on his face.

"What? Are you sure the information is credible?" A look of shock flashed across everyone's faces upon hearing that.

"Yes. I'm completely certain of it." That man answered firmly.

After an astonishing moment, the staff's incredulity transformed into comprehension.

"So, why did Mr. Norton do all these things? Is he trying to get his ex-wife back?"

"I think so. If not, is there a need for Mr. Norton to go through so much trouble?"

"Then, do you think his ex-wife will agree to get back together with him? Do we need to greet her more politely when we see her next time?"

Meanwhile, Vivian was questioning Finnick angrily in the latter's office. She didn't know that her relationship with Finnick had already spread like wildfire in the new company at that time.

"Finnick! What exactly are you trying to do? Why did you acquire the magazine company?"

at him hot-temperedly. When he heard her words, he replied with a gentle tone, "Vivian, I already told you yesterday. I want to get back together with you."

“So you treat my work as a joke?” Vivian felt that the former had gone off the rails.

“I didn’t treat your work as a joke. I have thought of it thoroughly before making the decision. Century Media can help in the development of the magazine company. It can provide your company with better media and financial support. Moreover, I’ve retained all current staff.”

“Do you think I will feel grateful to you for doing that?” Vivian’s words came out in a mocking tone. Is he trying to take credit for what he had done?

Upon hearing that, Finnick approached Vivian and replied, “Vivian, I’m not asking for your gratitude. I just want to get closer to you. We can work together from now on. Isn’t this a good thing?”

“No! I don’t think so!” Vivian stepped two steps back and pulled away from Finnick. Then, she continued, “I can’t work with you! I want to resign!”

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Is she willing to forsake her job to run away from me? Finnick’s heart ached because he could vividly recall the passion she had for her job.

He kept his emotions to himself and provoked her. “Are you sure? The Vivian I used to know would never give up easily!”

“Vivian William had passed on five years ago! Currently, you’re talking to Vivian Morrison! I will never allow you to get the better of me again!”

After Vivian yelled at Finnick, she stomped her steps away. Does he really think he’s able to threaten me? No way!

Staring at Vivian’s departing figure, Finnick sank into his chair. His hands unwittingly balled into fists when he recalled the words she had enunciated.

She’s still the one and only Vivian I know! He was certain she was the one and only he had in mind. Therefore, he refused to give up just yet.

On her way back to the magazine company, Vivian couldn't make up her mind if she should tender her resignation. Truth be told, she couldn't bear to leave her job and her fellow colleagues.

After their collective effort over the past two months, the sales of the company had drastically increased. She might regret her action should she leave when the best was about to come.

On top of that, she had a great time working alongside her colleagues. They had formed a dynamic working relationship. Should she quit, she would have to start all over again.

However, if she refused to quit, she would have to encounter Finnick at least once a week. She was particularly against that. What should I do? Isn't there a win-win situation?

She returned to the magazine company with the issue unsolved. The moment she walked into the office, she heard her colleagues cheering.

Caroline was the first to drag Vivian over to the computer. "Look! The result for the total copies of the latest issue sold is out! We're still the champion! I can't believe it!"

"Are you serious?" Vivian was equally thrilled. She moved the mouse and perused the data on the screen.

"Vivian, it's all thanks to your interview with Hunter! You're awesome! I can already foresee the future of our company under your guidance!" Sarah rushed over and wrapped her arms around Vivian.

"She's right, Vivian!" Ken, who was aside, played along and asserted, "I can't believe we're the champion twice in a row! We're no longer the same in the industry!"

"Do you have any idea how proud I am? One of my friends from the industry asked me if there's any vacant slot! He said he wanted to join the company because of the bright future awaiting him!"

"Our Chief Editor is the best! Hip hip hooray!" Someone initiated the cheers and started expressing their admiration. It was evident they really appreciated Vivian's effort.

"Wait!" Sarah stopped her colleagues and said, "We should get her to treat us to a meal!"

Applauding, the rest of the crowd started cheering, "Please buy us a meal, our beloved Chief Editor!"

Vivian was overwhelmed with a sense of achievement when she caught a glimpse of her colleagues' expressions. They were serious when they said they truly appreciated her effort.

Thus, she gave up on the thought of tendering her resignation because she couldn't bear to leave her team after the series of events they had gone through. She wasn't the one at fault back in the days. In other words, she wouldn't have to run away from him.

When she made up her mind, she felt as though a heavy boulder had been lifted off her shoulders. I need to stop overthinking things! It doesn't really matter if I'm going to run into Finnick at least once every week! It's nothing but part of my job!

Vivian shrugged her concerns off her mind once she made up her mind. She decided to devote herself to the series of challenges in store for her.

Instead of overthinking things that had yet to occur, she decided to live in the moment and enjoy doing things she was passionate about.

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Since they managed to top the chart twice in a role, everyone felt motivated for the challenges in the future. They secretly hoped they could top the chart for three consecutive months, but it would be easier said than done.

In order to achieve the ambitious goal, they took various factors into consideration before deciding the appropriate candidate for the upcoming interview.

It was the third meeting of the week, but the meeting was dismissed without a clear goal to act upon because they couldn't decide on a suitable candidate.

"As the most renowned architect in Sunshine City, Norman is relatively famous as compared to the last two candidates, but I don't think he's the best candidate because the audience tends to judge a book by its cover."

In spite of being a rookie, Charlotte was known for her capability and gorgeous look. Therefore, others found her words reasonable.

Soon, someone added, "I agree because the reason the last issue managed to garner the attention of the audience was Hunter's exceptional look. Although it has been quite a few weeks, we still receive comments from his fans. Therefore, I'm afraid Norman doesn't have what it takes to top the chart."

Another attendee of the meeting said, "With that being said, we don't have a better candidate in mind. We need to make up our minds as soon as possible because we're running out of time. Otherwise, we can't possibly produce quality content."

Everyone went dead silent at that score. They were afraid things would head south if they made a reckless decision, but they were running out of time as well.

"Why don't we conduct a follow-up interview with Hunter?" Sarah broke the silence and suggested, "Since the launching of the last issue, the reader has gained an increasing interest in Hunter. Shall we ride the wave of success and try our luck?"

Her fellow colleagues felt a sense of revelation when they heard her. "She's right! Since Hunter is the most famous bachelor in Sunshine City, I think it's fine to conduct another interview with him!"

"If Hunter is portrayed on the cover again, I won't mind buying another issue!"

"I agree!"

"Me too!"

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Sarah's colleagues were keen to proceed with her suggestion. Vivian was the only one who had yet to make her stand clear.

"Since everyone agrees, I'll consult the higher-ups soon. I'll revert back to the team before the end of the day. With that, let's dismiss," Vivian announced.

She was of the same opinion as well, but since Finnick had become her supervisor, she would have to get his consent before proceeding.

Coincidentally, it was the time of the week again—she would have to report the summary she had gathered.

After the rest walked out of the meeting room, Vivian got anxious all of a sudden. Although it was part of her job to meet Finnick, she had a hard time carrying herself in a calm and collected manner. She took a deep breath in an attempt to collect her thoughts that were all over the place.

In the afternoon, Vivian initiated a call and confirmed Finnick was in his office in Century Media before making her way over.

Immediately after he hung up the call, Finnick rushed all the way to the parking lot of Finner Group and made his way to Century Media. He was all smiles when he was on his way there.

She was still the woman he used to know—never would she give up without putting on a fight. He knew he made the right choice because it was the first time she initiated a call ever since she was back.

By the time she reached the company, Vivian noticed the odd expressions of the onlookers. Perhaps they had gotten their hands on her relationship with Finnick.

Sighing in her mind, Vivian knew she didn't have the time for the gossipmongers. She made her way to Finnick's office right away. She knocked on the door and made her way in when she heard his voice.

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"Mr. Norton." Vivian bowed at Finnick's presence, indicating she was there as his subordinate.

"Have a seat." He beckoned her over to join him.

Vivian cut the small talk and took a seat as instructed, showing him the summary of the progress over the past week.

Finnick felt awful because Vivian had made herself clear; the sole reason she was there was for work. He couldn't do anything about it because he ran out of better ideas to reach her.

“Mr. Norton, Hunter is the candidate for our upcoming issue because we wish to ride the wave of the last issue’s success.” After she finished reporting the summary, Vivian brought up the proposal to acquire Finnick’s consent.

“No!”

When Finnick turned her down without a second thought, Vivian got worked up. “Why? The decision has been collectively made after much consideration. Hunter is the best candidate. Can you please reconsider your decision, Mr. Norton?”

“Do I need a reason to turn down the proposal? Is there anything else?” Finnick’s expression darkened out of the blue.

He couldn’t be bothered if Hunter was the best candidate or not because he would never allow her anywhere his rival.

At the end of the day, Finnick was her supervisor. Therefore, she couldn’t possibly defy him during work. Albeit reluctantly, Vivian had no choice but to listen to Finnick.

After he turned down the proposal, Finnick directed a few simple questions at Vivian, including the composition of text, the areas to be focused on, and the corresponding market research.

Vivian was infuriated because she had included those in the summary a few minutes ago. Is he trying to waste my time? Has he not paid attention? If he doesn’t really care, why has he summoned me here?

Although she was fed up, she managed to keep her composure and put on a calm front.

She knew she was there as Finnick’s subordinate. Therefore, she had no right to throw a tantrum in front of him. In the end, she repeated herself and answered his questions.

“Do you prefer Pillere Island or Moranta?” Finnick asked a completely irrelevant question out of the blue.

“Pillere Island.” Subconsciously, Vivian answered the question before she could grasp the situation. “May I know what this is about, Mr. Norton?”

Smiling, instead of answering her queries, Finnick instructed Noah, who happened to be in the office, "We'll throw a party to celebrate the magazine company's success on Pillere Island. Can you please get everything ready?"

Noah took note of Finnick's instruction and bowed at Vivian before making his way out of the office.

When Vivian heard Finnick's instructions, she got increasingly confused. "Why are you throwing a party abroad out of the blue?"

"Consider this an effort to appreciate the staff's hard work since the last two issues topped the chart! We need to motivate them and nurture their passion with appropriate compensation," Finnick explained the rationale behind his action.

"Don't worry. The holding company has the expenses for the trip covered. You just have to bring your staff with you and enjoy yourselves. I'm sure they're going to have a great time."

Vivian found Finnick's words reasonable. In fact, they would have to work harder than ever before to ensure the consistency of quality. Thus, it would be necessary for them to break every now and then.

"If that's the case, on behalf of my colleagues, allow me to express our utmost gratitude." Vivian's expression finally eased up.

He felt awful because she had been addressing him as Mr. Norton since she stepped into his office. Nonetheless, the fact she was willing to talk to him indicated things had improved.

He had no choice but to play along and beat around the bush in a similar manner. "They totally deserve it. The tentative date for the trip is next Friday. Once you're back, tell them the great news and get them to get ready."

Vivian nodded and wrapped up their conversation. She couldn't get used to the overly formal conversation they had either.

"Mr. Norton, is there anything else you need? If there isn't, allow me to excuse myself. There are quite a few things that require my attention back in the office. The team is still waiting for my instructions."

"There's nothing else. You're free to go." Finnick was afraid his action would be over the top and irritate her. Therefore, he stopped getting in her way.

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"See you again, Mr. Norton." Vivian nodded and walked out of the office.

Staring at her departing figure, Finnick's eyes flickered in misery.

Whenever she walked away from him, he would feel as if she was about to leave him forever. He was determined to brace himself until the day she returned to him. Someday, he would keep her by his side forever.

Meanwhile, the moment Vivian returned to her office, her pumped-up colleagues surrounded her again. "Vivian, have we acquired the consent from our higher-ups to conduct an interview with Hunter?"

Vivian shook her head with a serious expression and said, "Unfortunately, we need to come up with another candidate."

"Huh? Why?"

"Hunter is the only one I have in mind! What's going on with those from the headquarter?"

"Duh? How are we supposed to get someone else for the interview? I guess Norman is our only choice."

"Are we able to top the chart for three consecutive months? I'm still waiting for a pay raise after achieving a seemingly impossible feat!"

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When the rest of the staff heard the bad news, they started complaining. They were equally dejected with despair written all over their faces.

"Let's forget about the bad news for the time being because I have another great news for everyone!" Vivian announced with a bright grin, interrupting the sulking bunch.

“What is it?” Sarah asked in a hushed voice because she was overwhelmed by the bad news.

Initially, she had the draft and the composition of Hunter’s upcoming interview ready. To her surprise, things turned out the other way. I need to do everything from scratch again! I guess there goes my weekend, huh?

“Since the last two issues had topped the chart of Sunshine City, the company has decided to conduct a trip to Pillere Island over the next weekend! All the expenses will be covered by the company!”

Vivian was surrounded by her colleagues once again when they heard the great news.

“Are you serious? We’re going abroad for a trip over the next weekend?”

“Oh, God! The higher-ups are such a generous bunch! I love my boss!”

“That’s wonderful! I can’t believe I finally get to take a breather! I’m on the verge of losing my mind after all the things we have been through!”

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The sulking bunch cheered and felt as though they had taken a trip from hell to heaven within a few minutes.

“Calm down, everyone! We’ll depart on the upcoming Friday! Please get everything ready by then, but for the time being, let’s return to work because we’re still in the middle of working hours!” Vivian beckoned her colleagues back to their seats.

They returned to their respective seats with a bright grin. Happiness was in the air throughout the rest of the day.

After Vivian returned to her office, she gave Finnick’s instructions another thought and found them contradicting. It felt as though it was compensation for the misery he had caused.

Soon, it was Friday. Vivian made her way to the airport right away because she had told everyone to gather at the airport at ten o’clock in the morning.

To her surprise, the moment she reached the airport, she saw someone whose name wasn't on the list—Finnick.

Can anyone tell me the reason he's here? Why haven't I heard of anything about him tagging along? If I'm aware he's tagging along, there's no way I'm making the trip! However, I can't possibly call off the trip when I have reached the airport, can I?

"Vivian!" Sarah and Vivian's colleagues rushed over and showed her the way in immediately. "Is Finnick the mysterious man who has acquired the company? He showed up out of nowhere and said he would be tagging along with us!"

Vivian nodded and announced, "As of now, Century Media is a subsidiary of Finnor Group."

Sarah was dumbfounded. She probed further, "Why? Does that mean you have returned to the headquarter for a meeting with Finnick? Has he acquired the company because of you?"

"You need to stop overthinking things because he has acquired our company for financial gains and opportunities in the market." Vivian denied it, yet she knew that wasn't the case.

"Oh..." Sarah had her doubts but decided to play along with Vivian. Seconds later, she asked, "Vivian, are you still coming along? When others figured out he was the mysterious man behind the acquisition, they had been wondering the sort of relationship you had with him."

If I don't make the trip, isn't it obvious something fishy is going on between us?

"Of course! It's not a big deal, isn't it? Why can't I make the trip when we're merely colleagues?" Vivian responded with a smile and approached Finnick.