Never Late, Never Away Chapter 851

"Yeah, it's nothing much. I just wanted you to check on the company's stock situation and find out what

happened. Also, we could look into our stockholders for more information."

Vivian poured her thoughts onto him.

We have to investigate and find out the truth as quickly as we can. Only then can Finnick return to us sooner.

"That will take guite a while to execute," Noah uttered in concern.

He wasn't entirely sure if Vivian's extensive plan was doable. Now that Vivian was bedridden, Noah was

unable to leave her side. He couldn't risk leaving Vivian in someone else's care.

At the same time, he felt uneasy about letting someone else investigate the stock situation as the whole

thing crucially affected Finnick's outcome in trial.

The pros and cons of these two options crushed down onto a troubled Noah.

Vivian immediately knew what was on Noah's mind. She readied her phone to call Ms. Booker and said

to him, "Don't worry. I'll phone Ms. Booker and have her come over to take care of me."

It wasn't long before Ms. Booker rushed over.

Noah stayed for a bit to examine the housemaid's capabilities until he felt more assured that Vivian was

in good hands.

"Alright. I'll head off to deal with the matter now, Mrs. Norton. Please contact me if anything happens."

Noah looked at her for one final assurance before leaving.

Just as he walked out the door, Ivana approached him and asked,

"Where are you going, Sir?"

Noah helplessly massaged his brows as he eyed the oddly adorable nurse before him.

"I'm off to run some errands. Leave me alone, won't you?" Noah spoke straightforwardly. He brimmed

with anxiety, knowing that Finnick was still detained at the police station; he didn't want to waste his

breath talking to idlers.

"Will you be back?"

"Yeah."

Noah wanted to reject Ivana's pursuit then and there. However, he couldn't quite bring himself to refuse

those bright and optimistically round eyes of hers.

"Alright then, you go ahead." Reassured that he would be back, Ivana nudged him away and hoped that

he would return sooner if he left for his errands now.

Despite being helpless against her, Noah was too pressed for time to continue their chat. So he left

straight for the door.

"Ivana, could you go replace Vivian's saline?" Another nurse suggested playfully.

The nurse originally intended to replace Vivian's saline fluids but changed her mind after seeing Ivana return to the nurses' station.

Ivana rolled her eyes at the nurse's teasing. She grabbed a new saline IV bag and jovially skipped away to

Vivian's ward.

Knock. knock. Ivana knocked thrice before entering.

"Hello, I'm here to replace your saline fluids."

Ivana swiftly carried out her task and hung up a brand new saline IV bag. Once she was done, her eyes

swept across the room. I guess that man wasn't lying about being busy. He must really be swamped with work to have a housemaid watch over Ms. Norton whilst he's away on errands.

"Mrs. Norton? I hope it's alright for me to ask... what's the name of that man you were with?"

Although Ivana knew that her behavior was inappropriate, she couldn't suppress the eagerness that

tightened in her chest.

Vivian eyed the young nurse and instantly saw through the nurse's thoughts.

However, she didn't have the heart to say more than needed, so she succinctly stated Noah's name.

"I see. Thank you," Ivana replied. Now that she got what she came for, she was content and ready to

leave. "If you'll excuse me."

She practically leaped over the threshold with glee, then closed the door to Vivian's room.

Meanwhile, Noah managed to track down some of the stockholders who stirred up the most trouble. He

posed as an unrelated outsider and asked them why they were so upset. At first, he assumed that these stockholders were making trouble out of nothing, but it turns out they

had their reasons.

"Do you even have to ask? Us stockholders were all scammed by Finnor Group. Initially, we saw that

their stock prices kept soaring; but once we invested everything we had, the prices suddenly plummeted,

and we lost all our assets overnight."

The man explained whilst on the brink of tears as Noah patted his back comfortingly. After this, Noah

interrogated a couple of others and found that this man's situation was better than most.

Other stockholders had resorted to loaning their neighbor's money, thinking that it was a golden

opportunity to maximize income from their stock investments.

Unfortunately, none of them expected Finnor Group to lower their stock prices so suddenly. Not

everyone reacted well to this; some couldn't take the hit and ended up losing their minds.

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After listening to their situations, Noah suspected that someone either tampered with the company's

stocks or hacked into the computer systems to create an illusion of rising stock prices, thus scamming

the stockholders.

This meant that the malicious person was one of the company's employees. All the evidence pointed

back to that person, the criminal mastermind of it all— Evelyn.

Noah went back to the company and found the video clip of Evelyn and Peter's conversation from that

day. After duplicating and backing up a copy, he planned to return to the hospital and let Vivian decide

how to go about this matter.

"Mrs. Norton, I've found out what happened to the company's stocks."

Noah raced into the room and

explained the ins and outs of the entire incident.

Vivian was rendered speechless.

It was impossible for the company's stock prices to continuously show an upward trend. Vivian knew

that much because the stock prices were determined based on relevant treaties.

Despite knowing this fact, the stockholders still recklessly invested all their assets into stocks... As cruel

as it may be, it was only in the course of nature that they would lose everything they invested.

"My investigation shows that this was all Evelyn's doing. Look, here's the video clip of Evelyn and Peter's

conversation." Noah placed the laptop before Vivian, allowing her to see what transpired during the

two's conversation.

"How bold of Evelyn to sneak into the company at that time." Vivian shook her head distastefully at the video, then looked at Noah.

"Hand this video clip to the police station. Have them call in an expert lip-reader to produce a transcript

of what was said between Evelyn and Peter," Vivian instructed. She felt certain that if the two were

discussing their plans in the video, a forensic lip-reader would certainly be able to decipher it.

Once the truth reveals itself, Finnick will be proven as an innocent victim!

The thought of this made hope swell in Vivian's chest as she clapped happily. All that's left now is to wait

for the results.

She had a gut feeling that this time, she could definitely save Finnick.

Noah heeded her orders and delivered the video clip evidence to the police station. As he was exiting the station, Noah thought he had seen a familiar figure, but the figure disappeared when he turned around to get a better look.

Noah shook his head rapidly, thinking that he must have overworked himself into seeing things.

He reassured himself that he probably saw wrongly and headed home.

"What's this? Now that your beloved man has been arrested, you're finally gracing me with a visit?"

Mark teased sarcastically. He sat in the visiting room, grinning at the thought of Evelyn's suffering.

Noah did, in fact, catch a glimpse of Evelyn earlier. But he couldn't confirm it was her because she

stormed off too quickly out of anger.

Evelyn snapped at Mark, "Admit it! This is all part of your dirty trick!" All I wanted was to make Finnick's company go bankrupt, then get together with him. But Finnick got arrested instead.

What am I going to do now? Evelyn glared steely-eyed at Mark, who still grinned smugly. White-hot

anger fumed from her as she wanted nothing but to give the man a proper beating.

However, she knew that she couldn't behave so heedlessly at the police station.

"Relax, Ms. Morrison. Have a seat, and let's talk things out." Mark mockingly waved for her to sit and calm down.

"How can I relax at a time like this? And what more do we have to talk about? Huh? Talk about how

you're going to get me arrested too?"

Evelyn had instantly dashed over to confront Mark from the moment she found out about Finnick's

arrest.

But after seeing Mark behave so coyly, she realized that she had been fooled from the very beginning.

"There's still a way to fix things. Don't you want to know how?" Mark asked as his sinister eyes flickered towards her.

"The hell with your rotten solution! I made the mistake of trusting you once, never again." Evelyn knew

that she couldn't harm a single hair on Mark, so all she did was yell at him before leaving the police station.

What's important now is getting Finnick out of jail. But how? I don't have anything to my name...

Evelyn desperately scavenged for plans. She crouched down and fumbled with her annoyingly

troublesome hair, shoving it away from her face.

The only person who's capable of helping me now is Hunter.

"Please, Hunter, you have to help me."

Evelyn spelled out the entire story of why she came to Hunter for help, then she anxiously observed his reaction.

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Unexpectedly, Hunter dumped some money on the table before declaring, "I can help save anyone you ask me to, just not Finnick. So forget it."

Then he walked off, leaving Evelyn stupefied in a daze.

That's right! I asked him to rescue Finnick! Finnick—His romantic rival! Why on earth would he agree to help me? God, I made a mistake...

,

Evelyn snorted, laughing bitterly at her foolish self.

Am I just asking for trouble at this point? She single-handedly brought Finnick's company to the ground,

driving it to bankruptcy and sending Finnick, its president, to jail.

Just as Evelyn sank into the pits of despair, someone approached her and asked, "Miss, are you alright?"

Evelyn's every movement skidded to a halt.

She's...

She was the woman that greatly resembled Rachel. Now, the woman stood before Evelyn and was asking

her if she was alright.

Evelyn blinked at the woman's glamorously classy appearance; she eyed the LV bag that was looped in

on the woman's hand and recognized the signature smell of Chanel's cosmetic line that the woman wore

on her face.

"Mom," Evelyn deliberately slurred her words in a drunken-like manner. Evelyn had hoped that maybe

she could discover more something about the woman.

"Silly child, I'm not your mother." The woman clarified softly as she frowned at Evelyn, pitying her. "Just

call me Ms. Ferguson."

To Ms. Ferguson, Evelyn looked like a frightened child who had lost her mother. This sight was enough to

evoke a sense of motherly love from Ms. Ferguson. So she allowed Evelyn to call her 'Ms. Ferguson'.

"Ms. Ferguson? Can I ask if you have a twin sister?" Evelyn asked curiously, shaking her head to act that she had sobered up.

This bewildered Ms. Ferguson, who stilled whilst her mind thought long and hard about the question.

"Why do you ask...?" Ms. Ferguson finally spoke. Feeling unsettled by Evelyn's question, Ms. Ferguson

stared at her with narrowed, examining eyes.

"Actually, my mom looks a lot like you, so I was curious if the two of you are sisters." Evelyn didn't lie;

she locked eyes with Ms. Ferguson and answered sincerely.

"Oh? Looks a lot like me?" Ms. Ferguson's interest was piqued.

She also finally understood why the young lady kept referring to her as "mom".

"Do you have some time on your hands? Maybe we could pay a visit to my mom? You'll understand what

I mean when you see her," Evelyn invited. She successfully caught Ms. Ferguson's attention.

I'll know whether they're sisters once they meet each other.

If they're not, then at least Ms. Ferguson and I will share a friendly kinship from this experience. But if

they are sisters, then we'll be considered family.

Either way, this will benefit me greatly.

Evelyn mapped out and calculated the plan in her mind. Then she beamed with a mixture of hope and

excitement at Ms. Ferguson.

To her joy, Ms. Ferguson also seemed like she was interested in going. It wasn't long before Ms.

Ferguson agreed, "Alright. It's not like I have anything better to do anyway. I'll go with you then."

Meanwhile, an authoritative policeman stared Finnick down in a matchbox-sized interrogation room.

"Finnick, do you have anything to say about your illegal involvement with stock frauds?" He interrogated.

"Yeah. I'm saying that I didn't do it." Finnick boldly met the policeman's gaze with a stone-cold

expression. There was no way in hell that he would admit to something that he didn't do.

The policeman reacted negatively to Finnick's smug retort. He slammed the table and roared, "Your lips

may be as tight as a clam's, but you're already in jail. Now, what else do you have to say?"

The incident had caused a stir amongst the policeman's superiors. With tension rising, they released

orders for the policeman to figure out the incident's real cause within three days.

However, Finnick pleaded not guilty and had prolonged the course of his trial. So it only made sense that

the policeman was furious at him.

He had hoped to deal with the case as soon as possible so that he could report back to his superiors. Yet,

now the task seemed nothing short of impossible.

"If being in jail makes me automatically guilty, then I suggest you conduct a better investigation before

questioning me. I know my rights, and I don't have to explain anything to you." Finnick's eyes locked

onto the policeman before him. He knew exactly what the policeman planned to do.

But Finnick refused to allow it. He's interrogating me without bothering to investigate the full story; does

he think that he can force me into confessing to the crime?

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Finnick wasn't that kind of person and would never become one.

Other than glaring angrily at him, the police officer couldn't do anything else.

Meanwhile, Vivian was lying in bed when she suddenly sneezed, causing the maid to assume she had

caught a cold. Hence, she helped cover Vivian with a blanket.

However, Vivian waved to indicate that she was fine.

Somehow, she could feel a sense of dread, as if something bad was about to befall Finnick.

However, now that the video has been sent in, what else can it be? After giving it some thought, Vivian figured that if there were still problems, they would have to find

Evelyn and get her to be a witness.

Hence, she wondered where Evelyn could be at that moment. Suddenly, a place flashed in her mind.

It was Rachel's nursing home.

Vivian had visited Rachel at her nursing home before and Rachel's attitude toward her was unusually good.

"Vivian, how have you been?"

"I'm alright."

"In that case, do you have anything unhappy to tell me so that I can share your burden with you?"

"There's no need to, thanks."

"Vivian, please don't hold it against me. I admit I was biased toward Evelyn. However, you have to understand why I behaved that way."

"Mmm-hmm."

She had a strong impression of what happened at the nursing home because of how unusually well

Rachel treated her.

It wasn't because Vivian was paranoid and doubted anyone who treated her well.

Instead, it was because Rachel was always nasty to her ever since she found out it was Vivian that forced

Evelyn to leave.

All this while, she behaved in the same manner except for then... As Vivian continued to recall, the scenes from that time began to emerge in her mind.

"Why is there a bed here?" Vivian asked when she realized a bed had been added to the room.

This is a single room with no one else staying. So who is the bed for? "It's for an old lady that stays with me. I was feeling too lonely so I asked for someone to keep me company."

At that time, there was nothing suspicious about Rachel's answer. It did make sense for her to find a

roommate to keep her from feeling lonely.

However, she missed out one thing.

The sheets on the bed were pink, the kind a young lady would use.

It may not have occurred to Rachel, but it did so to Vivian.

Perhaps the owner of the bed really liked pink and it had nothing to do with age. But come to think of it

now, it was indeed a valid point of suspicion.

Therefore, Evelyn must be living at Rachel's nursing home.

"Noah, come back here." Holding that thought, Vivian instructed Noah to return so that she could ask

him some questions.

Meanwhile, Evelyn had arrived at the nursing home's entrance without encountering any obstacles.

"Is your mom living here?" Fiona was stunned to see that they had arrived at a nursing home.

It wasn't because she looked down upon those that stayed in there, it was just that she was opinionated about them.

"Mmm-hmm. That's right. We're broke, so we have to stay here," Evelyn replied awkwardly.

She hid the fact that she couldn't even afford the expenses for the nursing home from Fiona.

"Alright, let's head inside then." All Fiona wanted to do was to quickly visit Rachel. Other than that, there

wasn't any need for her to be there.

"Mom, look who's here?" Evelyn led Fiona into the room and saw Rachel sitting on the bed.

When Rachel saw the person beside Evelyn, she was stunned.

"This..." Rachel didn't know what to say to show how surprised she was.

"Hello, you must be Evelyn's mom. It appears both of us look very much alike?" Fiona greeted Rachel

cordially.

Both of their actions and demeanor were different but their features were almost the same. However, a

simple action itself was sufficient to differentiate between the two.

"Mmm-hmm, I am." Rachel stared at Fiona in shock.

The next moment, she understood what was going on.

"I'm sure that Evelyn has told you about this? I do not have a twin and neither any sisters." As Rachel

listened to Fiona, she gave Evelyn a remorseful look.

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"Mom..." Before Evelyn could say anything, she was interrupted by Fiona.

"Mmm-hmm. I feel the same way. Pardon me for intruding." After seeing Rachel, Fiona turned to leave.

Actually, Rachel had a good impression of Fiona, it was just that she didn't know what to say.

"Mom, why are you behaving that way?" Evelyn chased after Fiona. But when she realized that Fiona

had gone too far ahead, she returned and glared angrily at Rachel.

"Don't bring this matter up ever again." Rachel didn't compromise despite how angry Evelyn was.

After shooting Evelyn a glance, Rachel took off her shoes and lay back down on her bed.

Unable to do anything, Evelyn had no choice but to leave the room.

Rachel had kept that matter a secret and didn't feel like sharing it. As for Fiona, she shared Rachel's sentiments too.

Meanwhile in prison, when the police officer left Finnick's room, he received the video that Noah sent.

"Sir, this is sent by Finnick's subordinate. He said that once we get it translated, it will prove Finnick's

innocence," a junior officer reported nervously.

He was aware that his superior was in a bad mood. If he wasn't careful, he would be at the receiving end

of his superior's frustration.

"Mmm-hmm. I understand. Go ahead and get it translated." The officer was a captain and initially didn't

intend to send it for translation.

However, when he thought about his chance for promotion and how uncooperative Finnick was, he

realized he had no choice but to prove Finnick's innocence.

Since they had received the evidence, and would potentially be rewarded if the evidence was sufficient,

it was in his best interest to cooperate no matter how much he hated Finnick.

Back at the nursing home, Noah's car arrived the moment Fiona left. As Evelyn was lazing by the window, she spotted the familiar face at once.

It's Noah.

Evelyn began to panic as she didn't know what she was supposed to do. "Mom, Vivian has sent someone to take me back." Evelyn looked at Rachel, hoping that she would have an idea.

"Quick, hide!" Rachel pulled Evelyn toward a small toilet.

Luckily, Vivian was kind enough then to arrange for her to stay in such a nice place. Or else, there really

was nowhere for Evelyn to hide.

Holding that thought, Rachel walked out to see Noah.

As Noah and his entourage were too conspicuous, many of the staff and guests walked out as they were

curious to know who it was, causing a small commotion.

"Hello, who are you here to see?" The nursing home director greeted Noah.

They are all senior citizens who hardly caused any trouble. So what is all this commotion about?

Everyone made a guess on what it was about, but no one really found a good answer.

"Don't you recognize me anymore?" Noah took off his sunglasses and looked at the director.

The last time he came was when Rachel was sent to the nursing home. Hence, it was impossible for the

director not to recognize him.

"Oh, I know you. Are you Rachel's family?" Despite the director's advanced age, he clearly remembered

Noah given how much fanfare there was the first time he came.

was led to Rachel's room.

Meanwhile, Rachel pretended as if she had just gotten up from bed. After sitting upright, she stared at Noah.

"What's going on?" Rachel asked as she turned her attention to the director.

"I'm not really sure. Why don't you guys go ahead and talk." After fulfilling his responsibility of leading

Noah here, there was nothing more for him to do.

"Hello, I'm here to look for someone. Sorry for disturbing you." Noah never had a good impression of

Rachel given how vicious she was as a mother. Hence, he went ahead with his work without asking for

her permission.

He didn't conduct the search by himself. Instead, he let his subordinates do it. All he did was watch

Rachel, just in case she was up to no good.

"Sir, we didn't find anything."

"Sir, nothing here."

"Not here."

As his subordinates returned one by one to report, none of them found anything.

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Furrowing his eyebrows, Noah felt that there must be some tracks left behind. Hence, he decided to

search the room himself.

Noticing a suspicious spot, he felt that a person could hide in there.

Hence, he slowly walked toward...

At that moment, everyone held their breath nervously as Noah walked ahead step by step.

Suddenly, when he opened the door, he saw that it was just a place for dirty laundry. After circling the

surrounding area, he didn't find anything else suspicious. With that, he turned and left.

"Evelyn, come out." After he was gone, Rachel informed Evelyn it was safe to come out.

"Evelyn, where did you hide just now? I was so worried about you." Rachel sympathized with her when

she saw the dust on Evelyn's face.

"I was hiding underneath the wardrobe."

The wardrobe in the nursing home looked similar to the bed. Hence, unless one was to scrutinize closely,

one would not notice that there was a gap in between.

Feeling anxious just now, Evelyn had crawled underneath it.

Luckily, she managed to hide in time. Or else, it would be the end of her if Noah had found her.

Evelyn was not a fool. She was cognizant that once she appeared, Finnick would be released from prison.

"Sigh, I don't understand why Vivian is doing this. Despite how desperate you have become, she still isn't

willing to let you off." When Rachel saw how her daughter was being hunted, she began to resent

Vivian's actions.

"Mom, I'm fine. All I need to do is be more careful and not fall into Vivian's trap." Evelyn pretended to look at Rachel with a caring expression.

When in reality, she figured that Rachel was still of use to her.

If Vivian did something to Rachel, she would then have no place left to go.

Therefore, Rachel was now her strongest asset and it would be great if Fiona was also among them.

Meanwhile, Noah returned to the hospital empty-handed. Before he reached Vivian's ward, he saw Ivana

standing by the door.

He quickly walked away so that he could avoid her. However, in spite of his attempts at hiding from her,

there was just no escape.

"Hey, Noah! Wait for me." Ivana ran after Noah and crashed into him.

"Why did you stop all of a sudden?" Ivana glared at him as she rubbed her painful nose.

"How did you know my name?" Noah remembered that he never told her his name.

How did Ivana find out?

Noah was puzzled.

"I'm so smart to have guessed it." Ivana flicked her head and looked at Noah thinking that she looked

cool doing so.

In reality, she looked no different than a ruffian when she did it.

When Noah didn't get a proper answer from her, he turned and walked away.

He had no time to waste with Ivana as he needed to report back to Vivian. He wanted to know if there

was a change in plans to save Finnick and what he needed to do next.

"Sigh, don't go. Can't you give me a second to speak to you?"

Ivana tried to stop Noah when she saw that he was leaving.

Hindered by Ivana, Noah had no choice but to look at her. She stepped forward, bringing them closer to

each other. All it took was one more step and they would...

That was the plan in Ivana's mind. The next moment, she turned it into action.

Taking one more step, she kissed Noah and turned to leave with her cheeks blushing red.

Noah was left there standing, unsure of how to react.

Stunned, Noah touched where she had just kissed him.

That was the first time he was ever kissed by a girl.

After regaining his senses, he remembered that he still had a lot to do.

He quickly rushed toward Vivian's ward.

After knocking on the door and getting her permission, Noah entered the room.

"Mrs. Norton, I have checked the nursing home but couldn't find Evelyn. Are you sure she's there?"

His men had searched the entire building but there was no sign of Evelyn. Noah couldn't help but doubt

Vivian's analysis and that Evelyn wasn't even there.

To him, Evelyn was someone aloof and would never lower herself to hide in the nursing home.

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However, it was Noah that was wrong. Evelyn wanted to get back with Finnick by hook or by crook.

She not only had a refuge in the nursing home but could also manipulate Rachel to contain Vivian.

Hence, she would be a fool not to take advantage of such a situation.

"Impossible. She has nowhere else to go other than staying by Rachel's side." Vivian was sure that her

judgment was correct. However, she was puzzled as to why Evelyn still couldn't be found.

I must either have been wrong or missed out on something.

As of now, finding Evelyn was the only way left to save Finnick. Or else, he would be done for.

With her eyes darting frantically around, Vivian racked her brains to see where she went wrong.

"Mrs. Norton, calm down. Don't force yourself." Noah was aware of the immense pressure Vivian was

under. Furthermore, she was still recovering from her injury and shouldn't be putting her mind under such stress.

"I'm fine. It's Finnick that I'm more concerned about." Vivian was no longer paying attention to what she

was saying. Her mind was rapidly cycling through the different possibilities.

When he saw how worried she was, Noah didn't even know what to say to reassure her.

All he could do was walk out in search of some snacks and drinks for her.

"Noah." The moment he left the ward, he saw Ivana again.

"Why are you stalking me? Don't you have anything else better to do?" When he saw her smiling

cheerfully, he recalled what had just happened and blushed.

"Hey, where are you going?" Noah wanted to keep some distance between both of them as now wasn't

the time to mess around.

"Going to get Mrs. Norton a drink." Noah was aware that if he ignored Ivana, she would just continue to cling to him.

Therefore, he decided to give her a proper answer.

"Oh, I'll come along with you." Looking at Noah, she threaded her hand around his arm and walked with him.

"L-let go of me." Noah felt that she was brazenly coming onto him.

"No way." Looking at Noah, Ivana stuck her tongue out at him, causing him to be stunned.

Having never been treated this way before, Noah didn't know what to do with the beautiful lady in his arms.

All he wanted to do now was to return quickly after buying what he needed.

Observing his reaction, Ivana was well aware of how shy Noah was. Giggling to herself, she tightened her grip on Noah instead.

Meanwhile, in a café, Evelyn was looking at Hunter.

"Now, shouldn't you be giving me some money so that I can have a better life?"

After all, she had helped Hunter get Finnick out of the way. Hence, she felt that she deserved a reward

from him.

"Here, take this."

Hunter handed her a check for a hundred thousand but she replied in displeasure, "Hunter, don't forget

about how we are connected. How can you give me so little every month? This is inhumane."

Evelyn stared at the check in front of her. Does he think I'm a beggar? The thought alone outraged her.

However, Hunter commented, "This isn't monthly. This is the last one I'm giving you. During the time we

cooperated with each other, you have milked a lot of money from me. It would easily have been five

hundred thousand to one million."

He added, "Furthermore, I am not obliged to take care of you. From now on, you're on your own."

Hunter straightened his sleeves and left a hundred on the table for the drinks.

To him, they were equal partners in their previous cooperation. He used to give her an allowance

because she was in a position to help him.

However, now that she had intentions to harm Vivian, he wanted to nip it in the bud.

No one was allowed to touch Vivian. Even Evelyn had no authority to do so.

Holding that thought, Hunter smiled and planned to head to the hospital.

Evelyn had told him that Vivian was in the hospital as she had injured her head by accident.

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Now that Finnick wasn't around, he would be able to visit her. He even wondered if she would fall for

him if he played the role of knight in shining armor.

Holding that thought, Hunter started to fantasize about Vivian throwing herself into his arms.

Hence, he bought a bouquet of roses before proceeding to the hospital. Noah had just returned with the drinks and wanted to rid himself of Ivana when he saw Hunter.

"Let go of me!" Right after he shook Ivana's hand away, he followed Hunter from behind.

It wasn't until he saw Hunter enter Vivian's ward that he realized he was here to see her.

"Hey, where are you going?" Ivana followed Noah. When she saw that he was about to enter the ward,

she grabbed him and wanted him to explain.

"There's no time now, I'll explain later," Noah told her nicely. Surprised by his cordial attitude, she nodded and let him go.

"Vivian, I'm here to see you." When he entered the ward, he saw Vivian whom he had been fantasizing about all this while.

"There's no reason for you to be here. Please leave." Noah entered and ushered Hunter out with a glare.

Recognizing that Noah was Finnick's bodyguard, Hunter didn't bother to show any respect.

"Hmph! Does the Norton family's dog bite?"

Just as he spoke, he sat down on the sofa, thinking that he looked chivalrous by doing so.

"Mr. Yates, although you are someone influential, it doesn't mean you can walk all over the Norton

family." Vivian snapped at Hunter's words.

She glared at Hunter who was in a confrontational mood. If he hadn't said those words, she would have

been more considerate of his pride.

However, since he started being vulgar, there was no need for her to show him any respect.

"Vivian, how can you say that? Finnick is already in jail. And yet you still see yourself as a Norton?"

Hunter was stung by Vivian's words.

Did she just admit that she is a member of the Norton family? Doesn't the fact that they are on the brink

of bankruptcy change her mind?

"Noah, please wait outside," Vivian instructed Noah who was fuming by the side.

It wasn't because she had anything private to say. Instead, she was going to say something humiliating to Hunter's face.

"But Mrs. Norton..." Noah was worried that Hunter would do something toward Vivian. However, Vivian

shook her head and motioned to him that she would be fine.

"Alright." Given how insistent she was, Noah had no choice but to leave the room.

"Hey, why did you come out?" Ivana asked when coincidentally pass by the ward.

"Mmm-hmm." Noah looked at Ivana as he passed her a drink.

He sympathized with how tired she must be after working the whole day in the hospital alone.

"Thank you." Receiving the drink happily, she let out a wide grin at Noah. Looking at her, he realized that she was actually quite pretty especially when she smiled. Her smile

somehow had the ability to warm his heart.

This was a sensation that he never felt from other girls. Ivana was the only girl who gave him comfort

when she smiled.

"Just now, you promised to tell me about that man. Now would be a good time to keep that promise?"

Ivana asked curiously as she took a sip from the drink he had passed her and sat down beside him.

She wasn't being nosy. All she wanted was to make some small talk to break the ice.

After all, it was normal to find a topic of common interest with one's crush to chat.

Only then can both their relationship proceed to the next level.

This was what Ivana had read about in her romance novels. She figured it was time to test out their

theories and see if they were true.

"Sure." Facing her, Noah slowly related to her the story about Vivian, Hunter, and Finnick and how they

were all interconnected.

Including his own betrayal, he explained everything in detail.

"You're really cool." When he was done with his story, Ivana looked at him in awe.

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Noah looked at Ivana helplessly.

Are women all like that? Do they start swooning over men over something as minor as this?

Wait... swooning...

Can it be...

Staring at her while he had an epiphany, he gasped, "Do... do you have a crush on me?"

Noah was someone forthright. He didn't understand the nuances of what was appropriate to say in a relationship.

He would blurt out whatever that came to his mind. Hence, when Noah threw her the question, Ivana

who was swooning halfway sprang to her feet.

"How do you know?"

Just as she spoke, even she was stunned.

Isn't that the equivalent of admitting that I like him?

Ivana was stumped as it was too late for regrets. Running away as she always did wouldn't do her any good either.

Hence, she had no choice but to bravely admit it.

Meanwhile, Vivian and Hunter's conversation seemed to be heated.

"Vivian, come with me. I can give you a good life," Hunter pleaded sincerely. He was just one step away

from dropping to his knees and begging.

However, love could never be forced. There was no way Vivian would choose to be with someone she

had no feelings for just for the sake of money.

Furthermore, Finnick was still in prison and she would never do something as unprincipled as betraying

him when he was down.

"Hunter, even if Finnick is locked in there forever, I will never be with you."

Vivian felt that she was decisive enough with him the last time. Hence, she was puzzled as to why Hunter

insisted on saying such things to her still.

However, given Hunter's incessant pestering, the gratitude that Vivian previously felt for him had slowly

turned into annoyance.

Even the art of pursuing a lady required some finesse. Relentless pursuit would only end up causing the

lady to feel irritated.

"I really don't understand what you see in Finnick. He is now a convict and not worth your attention at

all!" Hunter sprang to his feet and pointed angrily at Vivian.

Vivian always hated it when someone pointed their fingers at her. Hence, when she saw how Hunter

responded, she lost the mood to even speak to him.

"I'm tired, please leave," Vivian snapped but Hunter refused to go.

"I won't leave until you provide me an explanation."

Hunter dropped his chivalrous act and began to make things difficult.

Vivian gave him the side-eye before taking a sip of water from the cup she was holding.

"Vivian, come with me. Finnick can't give you what you want." When he saw how unrepentant Vivian

was, Hunter had no choice but to plead again.

"Oh? Can't he? What do you think it is that I want?" Vivian couldn't help but feel amused at Hunter's

words.

"Of course I know what you want!" he declared what he truly thought proudly.

"Branded bags, luxury goods, Chanel, vanity." Hunter looked at Vivian as he listed them down, hoping

that she would throw herself into his embrace.

However, Hunter was disconnected from reality. Vivian was interested in none of the things he

mentioned.

"I think you and Evelyn make a good couple." No longer in the mood to say more, all she could do was to

make sarcastic comments.

Everything that he listed out were what Evelyn desired.

In that case, why don't they just get together? Why does he need to cling to me and cause both of us to

be upset?

Vivian was puzzled.

"Vivian, you can't insult me like that." Hunter had always viewed Evelyn with disdain.

If not for the fact that she was of use to him, he wouldn't have cooperated with her for such a long time.

"I'm not. You're overthinking it." Vivian couldn't help but raise her eyebrow as she looked at how

egoistic Hunter was. She didn't say another word after that.

"Yes, I am overthinking things. It is my heart that longs for you and sees you as my soulmate. I am the

one that's deluded."

Having heard Vivian's words, Hunter rambled on in response. When he finally finished and looked at

Vivian, his eyes were a little reddened.

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"Mmm-hmm, that's true." Vivian felt Hunter's words hit the nail on the head. Just when she wanted to

clap in agreement, she heard a familiar voice.

"So why aren't you leaving yet?" Vivian was stunned when she turned to see who it was.

It's...

It was the man of her dreams and he was standing right in front of her. She couldn't believe her eyes at all.

"Finnick?" Vivian stared at him in surprise and in shock.

"You should be saying 'Hubby'." Finnick looked at Vivian and laughed. He hadn't seen her in a long time. Now that he did, he realized that she had lost weight.

When he saw the woman of his dreams in front of him, he couldn't help but dash forward and embrace

her.

However, there was still a third wheel in the room, and Finnick knew he had to do something about it.

"Noah, can you please throw this delusional person out of the hospital!" Finnick wanted Hunter out of

his sight.

How dare he brazenly try and steal Vivian from me?

Does he think nothing of me and that he can walk all over me? Holding that thought, Finnick walked toward Hunter as rage swelled within him.

"Mr. Yates, I hope you can keep your hands to yourself and not covet for things that don't belong to you.

Or else, you will suffer the consequences."

Just as he spoke, he waved his hand for Noah to escort Hunter out.

"Vivian, did you miss me?" When they were finally alone in the room, Finnick got into Vivian's bed.

He finally felt at ease when he hugged the woman he had been pining for.

During his days in prison, he kept thinking back to the day he was arrested.

He regretted not taking a few more looks at Vivian. What if that was the last time I saw her?

In truth, when he was in prison, it did occur to him that he might never be released. Outside of prison,

what mattered to him the most wasn't Finnor Group nor any other stuff. Instead, it was the woman in

his embrace.

"I do." When she hugged Finnick, she too realized he had lost weight.

Despite being thin previously, she felt secure in his embrace. Although the sense of security was still

there, she could feel his bones this time around.

Suddenly, tears streamed out of her eyes.

She had been yearning for the time when he could hug her like this again.

Now that it had become a

reality, she was naturally ecstatic.

"Hey, are you crying because you miss me?" Finnick's heart ached when he saw her crying. However, he

didn't want her to feel upset given that he had just returned.

Hence, he teased her cheekily so that she wouldn't feel sad.

"You're cheeky as usual." Vivian wiped her tears away and looked at Finnick.

"Tell me, how did you get out?" Looking at him, Vivian was glad that they were reunited.

"It's all thanks to you." Finnick started by praising Vivian before explaining what happened in prison.

"After the police translated the video clip you sent, they released me at once."

He was surprised that Vivian had thought of something that he didn't.

He realized then that he hadn't fully known Vivian for who she was. Looking at her, a blissful smile emerged on his face.

"Vivian."

"Hmm?"

Right after she replied, her lips were sealed in the very next moment. As both of them had not seen each other in a long time. Hence, they were overwhelmed by the emotions

of being reunited. The kiss they shared lasted for a long time.

As passion took over them, they began to act upon their desire.

"Mr. Norton."

Just as Noah entered the ward, he walked in on Finnick pinning Vivian underneath him. Covering Larry's

eyes awkwardly, he quickly retreated from the room.

When Vivian realized that Noah had seen them, she pushed Finnick away out of embarrassment.

"What's wrong?" Finnick asked despite knowing the answer to his own question.

Next chapter