

# Never Late, Never Away Chapter 236 - 240

"Why did you bring me here?" Vivian turned around and confronted Finnick.

Finnick remained silent, simply leading her out of the car and showed her the way into the hotel.

The staff of the hotel seemed to be expecting Finnick's arrival. A few of them ushered Finnick and Vivian to the escalator, making their way upstairs.

Vivian's hand started trembling involuntarily because she couldn't figure out the reason Finnick brought her to the hotel.

I really don't want to be here. In fact, I never wanted to step foot in Century Hotel ever again, and yet here I am...

Feeling her trembling hand, Finnick tightened his grip and held Vivian's hand firmly.

As soon as they walked out of the elevator, Finnick brought Vivian over to a particular room.

When she raised her head and spotted the number of the room, her face turned pale and haggard because she could vividly recall the incident she had gone through in the room.

Two years ago, she had been forced into an intimate session with a man in that particular room.

Looking at the room, Vivian's heart sank to the bottom of her stomach. The tormenting experience she had gone through flashed back in her mind.

She felt as though she would pass out anytime soon, yet Finnick suggested, "Shall we go in?"

"No! Please, Finnick! Let's leave! I never wanted to come here again! I hate this place!" Vivian rejected without a second thought upon hearing her husband's suggestion.

However, Finnick tried his best to persuade Vivian. "You can't keep running away from the traumatizing past forever. Why don't you muster your courage and face your fear? Besides..."

Oddly enough, Finnick couldn't bring himself to finish his sentence.

Truth be told, Vivian was afraid Finnick would figure out the truth behind the traumatizing incident she had gone through.

Two years ago, she was drugged by someone while participating in an event. As a result, her body temperature started rising and she slowly lost control of herself.

She could barely pull herself together anymore, but she was certain she would have to leave the venue as soon as possible.

However, the moment she stepped out of the venue, a man brought her over to Century Hotel and boarded the elevator, making their way upstairs.

She could recall the helplessness she felt back then; she tried to retaliate against the man who had wrapped his arm around her waist, yet she had been rendered incapable of exercising her strength.

As she was barely conscious due to the drug's effect, she couldn't even shout for help. Therefore, no one could rush over to her aid since no one was aware of her actual condition.

Although she felt a strong urge to flee because she was aware of what would be awaiting her in the room, she couldn't move away from the man as she felt increasingly lightheaded.

Eventually, the man brought her into the room and pinned her to the bed with all his might. He started devouring her, behaving as though he was a predator that had gotten its hands on its long-awaited prey. She had completely lost control over her body by then. In the end, she could only lay helplessly as she was violated by the man.

Vivian couldn't bear to recall the aftermath of the incident anymore. It had since started haunting her now and then.

Throughout the years, she would break down into tears every time the traumatizing experience crossed her mind.

She held a strong grudge against the person who had drugged her two years ago. In fact, she couldn't figure out the reason why they would want to bring upon her misery when she had never offended anyone.

Two years ago, Vivian fell into a vicious cycle of despair after the incident. She couldn't bring herself to reciprocate the affection Fabian had for her anymore. Overnight, her world turned upside down as though it would be the end of her life soon. In fact, she once got suicidal.

Back to the present, she felt a strong urge to leave as she stared at the room in front of her. Vivian was in a foul mood and refused to enter the room with Finnick.

However, Finnick dragged her into the room against her will.

Vivian yelled hysterically, "Finnick, what are you doing? I don't want to be here! I don't want the gift!"

To her surprise, Finnick insisted and refused to give in to her request. He looked at her in the eyes with his abysmal pair of eyes and assured her, "Trust me, Vivian."

Despite having her fair share of doubts, Vivian entered the room with Finnick in the end.

Indeed, everything in the room was the same as it was two years ago. She could vividly recall the things that were available in the room.

She had a hard time catching her breath, but Finnick behaved as though he wasn't aware of her haggard look and insisted on sitting on the bed together.

Avoiding Finnick's gaze, Vivian lowered her head in shame because she was afraid her husband would despise her if he figured out the incident she had gone through. What if Finnick figures out the incident that has occurred two years ago? Is he going to deem me a filthy woman and stay away from me?

"Look at me, Vivian." He stroked her hair gently and assured his wife, "It's going to be fine. So please, look at me."

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Vivian raised her head and met the gaze of her husband.

Finnick's eyes gleamed, staring at her in the eyes passionately as though he was up to something. "Alright. Now, I want you to close your eyes."

She did as instructed and closed her eyes because she wasn't in the mood to figure out the things Finnick was up to anymore.

As soon as she closed her eyes, she heard Finnick switching off the lights and laying her on the bed.

He leaned over in a similar manner and started kissing her on the lips.

Vivian got anxious because she was unsure if she would want to engage in another intimate session with the man whom she loved wholeheartedly in the room she hated the most.

She reached out to her husband and asked, "Finnick, are we going to do it here? F-Finnick... N-No..."

"Why? Why can't we do it here?" He kissed her gently and whispered, "I think this is the best place to do it."

Vivian was about to let loose of herself and give in to the temptation she felt.

She twitched involuntarily when he ran his slender and powerful fingers across her chests.

The room was pitch black, yet she could still see the man's dazzling pair of eyes.

Vivian couldn't wait to carry on with the session they had started, but Finnick stopped when they were about to reach the best part.

He whispered in the pitch-black room, "Can you recall anything in this familiar environment?"

As he queried, he continued caressing her porcelain-like skin, fondling the areas that would arouse her, yet refraining himself from giving her the things she wanted the most.

Finnick's question caught Vivian off guard because the only memories she had associated with this particular room were the unpleasant ones. What should I recall? Is he going to forsake me? Is that the reason why he stopped halfway through the session?

Vivian started blurting out the things she had in mind, "What? What am I supposed to recall? I-I have long forgotten the things that had occurred in this room!"

Nevertheless, Finnick continued implying there was a certain something she had forgotten. "Vivian, are you sure you can't recall it? Don't you find my touch familiar?"

Vivian finally realized Finnick seemed to be up to something in his mind. Frowning, she asked in return, "Finnick, what exactly are you talking about?"

As Vivian failed to get the hint, Finnick was certain she must have been traumatized by the incident that had occurred two years ago. Therefore, she had forgotten most of the incident.

Finally, Finnick decided to stop harrowing Vivian. He told her, "Try to recall the presence of the man that was in this particular room two years ago."

Vivian's body stiffened all of a sudden. Finnick added, "I found the man who was behind the entire incident back then."

Trembling in fear, his wife's face had turned deathly pale in the dark.

I can't believe it. Did he seriously manage to locate the man? I'm sure he must be a horrendous old man...

Vivian trembled vigorously because upon hearing Finnick's words, the incident that had occurred two years ago flashed back in her mind once again.

No! I don't want to know! I don't want to figure out the truth! Not now!

Vivian made herself clear in a quivering voice. She pleaded, "F-Finnick! I-I don't want to know the identity of the man! L-Let's stop talking about this!"

"No. I have to tell you."

"F-Finnick, have you gotten tired of me?" Vivian started sniffing as tears streamed down her cheeks.

Taken aback by Vivian's words, Finnick asked, "What brings you to come to such a conclusion?"

"If that isn't the case, why must you bring this topic up in this room? Are you going to cast me aside?"

Finnick chuckled because Vivian had misperceived his intention. He was up to the exact opposite of the things she had in mind.

Vivian, you're such a silly woman. I guess I should stop teasing you. Otherwise, you're going to break down for real.

Immediately after he made up his mind, Finnick leaned over and whispered, "Vivian, I was the man who was in this particular room two years ago. It was me. Together, we had spent a night in bed two years ago."

Vivian couldn't believe her ears, she refused to believe that Finnick was the man who had spent a night in bed with her two years ago as it seemed too much of a coincidence.

Immediately, she brought herself up and sat upright in the dark. "Finnick, you're joking, aren't you? I'm sure you have figured out the actual identity of the man back then! Have you decided to lie to me because you didn't want me to be upset? Are you trying to take the blame on his behalf because you found out that he's actually a horrendous middle-aged man?"

Finnick brought himself out of the bed and switched on the light.

Vivian confessed, "You might be lying for my sake, but I want you to tell me the truth. I-I'm afraid you're going to get sick of me someday in the future. I don't want you to keep me in the dark and bear the burden on my behalf. It's too much of a burden for you."

As soon as Finnick returned to her side, he raised her chin and announced, "You're such a silly girl. I will never get sick of you, okay? Stop overthinking things. Are you displeased by the fact that I was the one who was in bed with you two years ago?"

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Should Finnick be the man involved two years ago, Vivian would be delighted, but she couldn't recall the things related to the man anymore. Thus, she couldn't be certain if he had told her the truth.

Staring at Vivian in the eyes, Finnick repeated himself in a serious tone, "Vivian, listen to me. I'm not lying to you. I was the one who was in bed with you in this particular room two years ago."

Since Finnick seemed to have meant his words, Vivian asked, "Then, can you tell me about the truth behind the entire incident? What happened two years ago? Why were you the one who had shown up in this room?"

Finnick grinned and pinched her nose in return before sharing the truth of the incident that had occurred two years ago with his beloved wife.

Ever since Finnick made his way back from M Nation, Mark had been pretty wary against him because he was afraid their grandfather would grow fond of his brother. In short, Mark felt threatened by Finnick's presence as his brother had proven to be a huge threat to his career and status.

Although Mark was aware Finnick was wheelchair-bound due to him being crippled, he didn't let his guard down. He wanted to figure out if his brother had the capability to produce offspring because their grandfather wanted as many heirs as possible for the Norton family.

Thus, Mark sent a lot of gorgeous women his brother's way, but Finnick had never once fallen for the women the former had sent his way.

In the end, Mark resorted to extreme measures to get the better of his brother.

Two years ago, a party was held at a venue nearby Century Hotel. Mark managed to get the better of Finnick because his brother had a fight with Benedict halfway through the party.

Benedict got into a fight with Finnick due to Evelyn. Finnick had been drugged after he let his guard down as he got overly worked up during the party. By the time he finished the glass of wine, things had gotten to the point of no return and Mark was merely a step away from achieving his wicked plan.

Vivian knitted his eyebrows to express her frustration as she finally figured out the disturbing truth behind the incident that had occurred two years ago.

But Mark is a member of the Norton family. Not to mention he's Finnick's brother! How could he do this to his own brother?

"Are you sure it's Mark? Isn't he's your biological brother?"

Finnick simply sneered in return. "I got someone to get to the bottom of the entire incident after that night. Turns out, I was right. Mark was the one behind it all. Blinded by his desires

and greed, he seemed to have forgotten about the fact that we're siblings. Besides, Ashley's your sister, isn't she? But look at the things she has done for her own sake. What a life, huh? I can't believe the person whom we're supposed to rely on the most has turned their back against us."

Vivian was at a loss for words because she didn't expect the most renowned Norton family, which others deemed a glorious family, to have such complicated internal affairs.

She finally realized her husband had been shouldering more than she could ever imagine as a member of the renowned family. Pretending to be a disabled person must have been tough for Finnick throughout the years. If he isn't a determined person, others would have long seen through his disguise.

"So you were drugged as well, huh? I'm sure you're aware of the awful sensation associated with the tormenting experience. It's unbearable for an ordinary person," Vivian stated after she figured out they shared a similar fate and went through similar experiences.

Finnick acknowledged Vivian's point of view by remaining silent.

"What happened next?" Vivian wondered.

Finnick served each of them a glass of wine and continued, "I knew something was wrong with me. I was aware I might give in to temptation if Mark sent one of her girls my way to seduce me again. There was no way I would allow him to get the better of me. Therefore, I got in touch with Noah and instructed him to bring me to a nearby hotel as soon as possible."

Vivian felt a shiver running down her spine as soon as she figured out the potential consequences that would be in store for Finnick if he hadn't exercised caution.

"Never would I have thought I would run into you, Vivian," Finnick added.

"Me?"

"I saw a drunk woman in an old man's arms as they made their way into the room next door. I got in his way and gave him a small fortune to chase him away. In the end, I brought you into my room. I don't have to continue with the remaining part of the incident, right?"

Vivian was flabbergasted. As she had been rendered unconscious back then, she would never have thought there were so many things going on behind the scene two years ago.

Immediately after she returned to her senses, she wrapped her arm around Finnick's arm firmly because she found it surreal.

"Are you serious, Finnick? You're really the one who had spent a night in bed with me two years ago? Does that mean we have been acquainted with one another for two years? I can't believe it! I can't believe we have gotten married after two years!"

Even though Vivian was shocked by the truth, she was grateful. It seemed as though fate had brought them together.

Finnick chuckled and teased his wife, "I have finally made myself clear, huh?"

Vivian was on cloud nine as she was certain Finnick had told her the truth, no matter how surreal the truth sounded. The man, whom she was afraid of the most throughout the past two years, turned out to be none other than her husband.

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The man who had brought upon her misery was also the one who had given her a strong sense of security. He was none other than Finnick, her beloved husband, who was right in front of her.

Vivian felt lightheaded once she linked the missing pieces of the puzzles together.

Flushing embarrassedly, she avoided her husband's gaze and asked, "D-Does that mean I have only ever been touched by one man?"

"Hmm, what do you think?" Finnick kissed Vivian on the lips once he finished his rhetorical question. Eventually, he moved his lips down her neck. "I guess the incident that occurred two years ago isn't that traumatizing anymore, huh?"

Vivian responded with a sheepish grin in silent.

Kissing her on the lips as he removed the last piece of garment she had put on, Vivian stopped retaliating and gave in to temptation.

It feels great to have everything sorted out! I can't believe I finally get to move on from the incident that has been haunting me for the past two years!

She stopped holding a grudge against God because it turned out fate had brought them together ever since two years ago.

Sorting out the things she had in her mind, Vivian finally let loose of herself and indulged in the raunchy session with her beloved husband.

The next morning, Finnick and Vivian had their breakfast in the hotel.

Vivian was in a joyous mood as she had finally moved on from the distressing incident that had been bothering her for two years.

As they had opted for in-room dining, the waiter had shown up in their room to serve them their breakfast that Finnick had ordered beforehand.

Finnick handed over a glass of orange juice to Vivian and instructed, "Let's enjoy our breakfast. I'm sure you're exhausted after the session last night, right?"

"Hey, can you please lower your volume? There's someone else around!" Vivian couldn't get used to being lovey-dovey with Finnick in front of others. She glanced at the waiter that was still present and flushed embarrassedly.

However, the waiter had been professionally trained. All the while, he kept a straight face and pretended as though he wasn't aware of their conversation's content at all.

Halfway through their meal, Vivian recalled something and asked, "Since you were the man who had spent a night in bed with me two years ago, were you the one who placed the stack of cash worth twenty thousand on the bed after the incident?"

"I-I felt a tad bit guilty after the incident because I noticed I was the one who had your cherry popped..." Finnick nodded and explained the rationale behind his action.

Two years ago, he had misperceived Vivian as a streetwalker since she had shown up with a middle-aged man in the hotel.

After he wrapped up the session he had with her, he finally figured out she had yet to have her cherry popped prior to their intimate session.

Although he didn't have any affection for Vivian two years ago, he did feel guilty. Hence, he left a wad of cash behind to compensate her for her loss.

"You won't mind if I told you that I gave the money away, right? I have donated the sum to a charitable trust."

"I would say you did a great job," Finnick praised his wife.

"I merely wanted to put the cash I deemed to be filthy to good use because I didn't want it anywhere near me," Vivian replied with a sheepish grin.

Finnick finished his meal and wiped his mouth clean. "I'm aware of your concerns, but can you tell me the reason you have never sought after money?"

I guess it makes sense for him to ask me about this. After all, money is the thing everyone in this world desires.

Vivian gave it a thought and orated, "You're wrong. I'm just another human with a strong desire for money. How should I foot my mother's medical bill if I don't have enough money? Without money, I can't even sustain my current lifestyle. I have always desired an increment in my wages and bonuses. Nevertheless, the cash you left behind then was a stack of filthy cash in my mind. I decided to donate the sum because I didn't want it anywhere near me. Hence, I decided to put it to good use for other's sake. Otherwise, I would feel bad if I were to accept the money."

"What about now? Do you still think it's a stack of filthy cash?" Finnick stared at her with his glistering pair of eyes.

"Not anymore, but with that being said, I still have no intention to keep it. Otherwise, it would feel as though our first intimate session was a business deal.

Finnick's heart melted the moment he spotted Vivian's reddened cheeks right after she finished her sentence.

Once they finished their meal, Finnick suggested, "Let's go. I'll drop you off at your workplace."

As soon as Vivian heard her husband's suggestion, she waved vigorously and stated, "No need! That won't be necessary! I'll head over on my own!"

Frowning, Finnick asked, "Since everyone is aware of our relationship, what's bothering you?"

Vivian was taken aback by her husband's words because she had forgotten he had revealed their relationship in front of everyone.

He's right! Why should I be concerned when everyone's aware of our relationship?

In the end, Vivian replied with a bright grin, "Alright then! If that's the case, I'll gladly tag along with you!"

With that, Vivian got into Finnick's Bentley and departed.

As they made their way to Vivian's workplace, Vivian struggled deep down because she was clueless about the situation awaiting her in the office. She was certain they had been anticipating her arrival as well as an explanation since they were aware of their relationship.

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Finnick caught a glimpse of Vivian's troubled look. He asked, "Are you having a hard time because you're afraid of facing your colleagues?"

"Mm. Truth be told, I'm afraid, Finnick."

Her husband held her hand and assured her, "Don't worry. I will always be by your side."

Vivian grumbled in her mind because her husband was the reason she had to go through the problems in the first place.

Finally, the car was brought to a halt in front of the office building of the magazine company.

Vivian took a deep breath and bade farewell to her husband with an odd expression. "I'll be heading off to work now. See you."

What's wrong with that odd expression of hers? Why does she seem as though she's heading over for a battle with no return?

Finnick's lips curved upwards, forming a faint smirk as Vivian made her way out of the car in a perturbed manner.

As soon as Vivian reached the entrance, she took a deep breath before stepping into the building.

The moment she entered the lobby of the building, she noticed everyone had their eyes glued to her.

Staring at her, they started whispering to one another.

"Have you read the news? We have been deceived by her all this while. I can't believe she's the wife of Finnor Group's president. She has done a great job, keeping everyone in the dark."

"She's such an ordinary woman, though! I wonder what about her that managed to charm Finnick!"

"She has such a stunning dress and necklace."

"I heard rumors about her since a long time ago. She has never been known as a gracious woman."

Although Vivian lowered his head as she made her way into the elevator, the gossipmongers managed to recognize her identity.

Finally, she reached the entrance of the office, yet she felt as though she still had a long journey to make before she could reach her seat.

As soon as she entered the office, her colleagues surrounded her as though they had been anticipating her arrival since forever.

All of a sudden, Vivian felt a strong urge to cry because she couldn't figure out their objective of surrounding her.

Sarah's eyes widened in excitement. "Welcome, Mrs. Norton! We're glad to have you back in the office with us!"

Jenny stated, "Congratulations, Vivian! You're finally able to address yourself as Mrs. Norton!"

"T-Thanks, Jenny." Vivian's lips twitched unwittingly.

"Vivian, you're awesome! How did you manage to win the heart of the president of Finner Group over? Can you tell us when did you get into a relationship with him?" Ken poked his nose into Vivian's business without any hesitation.

"He's right, Vivian! How does Mr. Norton behave whenever he's around you? Is he a loving husband? What sort of kink does he have? Is he an indifferent man at home?"

"Vivian, since you have gotten married to such an influential man, when are you going to resign? If I'm in your shoes, I'll definitely quit my job as soon as possible and enjoy my life!"

As she had foreseen, another bunch of gossipmongers surrounded her.

Vivian let out a long sigh of despair. "Guys, please leave me alone. Nothing changed, I'm still your colleague. I am still the Vivian everyone knows."

"Why are you wearing the same dress? Isn't this the dress you have put on for the press conference yesterday? Did you not return home?" Sarah continued asking as though she didn't hear Vivian's request.

The moment Vivian heard Sarah's words, she recalled she didn't get to change into another set of outfits because she failed to wake up in time in the morning. She had to rush her way back to the office from the hotel because she was behind her usual schedule.

Similarly, once Sarah ruled out the possibilities in her mind, she exclaimed, "Oh my! Did you and Mr. Norton not return home last night? Where did you guys go? Don't tell me, you guys spent the night in the hotel?"

"Sarah! For God's sake, can you keep your mouth shut?" Vivian, whose cheeks had reddened, rushed over and covered her colleague's mouth.

Immediately after she rendered her colleague incapable of speech, she returned to her seat and avoided everyone's gaze.

Staring at Vivian, Sarah allowed her imagination to run wild.

Although they have gotten married to one another, they're still having all sorts of fun together! This is so romantic!

In the meantime, Shannon had an awful expression on her face when she thought back to the sarcastic remarks she had uttered against Vivian back in the day.

Unaware of the identity of Vivian's husband, she made fun of him and said she must have been keeping her husband's identity a secret because he was merely a janitor of Finnor Group.

She had been ridiculing Vivian all this while since the possibility of Finnick being Vivian's husband had never crossed her mind. The moment she recalled the vicious remarks she had made against Vivian, a chill ran down her spine.

Shannon made up her mind to behave herself in front of Vivian in the future. Otherwise, Finnick would teach her a lesson if he were aware of the thing she had done behind Vivian's back.

As Vivian evaded the questions that were directed at her by her colleagues, they decided to dismiss themselves because they could understand why Vivian had been keeping them in the dark all along. It must have been tough for Vivian since she had to keep Finnick's identity confidential all this while. Otherwise, she wouldn't have to put on an act in front of her colleagues.

Once they thought about it, they decided to let Vivian off the hook and returned to their respective position.

It had been a few hours since the confrontation occurred. Vivian finally had everything on her plate sorted out.

Vivian stood up and was about to grab herself a cup of coffee when Sarah sprang up from her seat and got in her way as though she had encountered a huge issue.