Never Late, Never Away Chapter 1253

"Cheers!"

The hall rumbled with excitement.

When the wedding was about to begin, there was thunderous applause from the audience. Everyone cheered, as though they were the ones who were getting married. For so long, Fabian had led a low-key life, but he was very efficient in his work. Coupled with the fact that he came from an industrious family with a large business, his network of friends and acquaintances stretched far and wide, with a few bootlickers among them.

In the reception hall, Leo could not be prouder. He told everybody who would listen that Hannah was his daughter and that soon she would take Fabian's last name. On top of that, Fabian also had some business to negotiate with him.

Not far away, Winson glanced at the couple with a silly smile on his face. Among those in the Blackwood family, he might possibly be the only one to wish the couple a happy marriage with all sincerity.

At that point, Helen turned to Jason, her brows beetled. "Aren't you supposed to be good at this? Why aren't you doing anything? How useless. And you call yourself a man?"

"What do you mean 'useless'? How am I not a man? Fabian said we're to put everything on hold for now, at least until after the wedding," Jason replied confidently.

"Hmph! They're the ones getting married, not you! You should hurry up and get to the bottom of this. We don't want any trouble at the reception," Helen added.

"I... You..." Annoyed, Jason's lips trembled as he stuttered, unable to formulate a proper sentence. He turned his head in the other direction, ignoring Helen. It was then that he inadvertently noticed someone eyeing viciously at the couple on the stage.

"Look! I knew that woman was suspicious! I suspect she's the one behind all this," Jason told Helen in all seriousness.

But Helen would not have it. She did not even glance at him. Her eyes were glued to the stage.

Tsk! Ignoring me, are you? Fine! I don't want to be bothered with your tomboyish ways anyway!

The pastor was standing between the couple, holding a thick Bible in his hand. "Do you, Fabian Norton, take Hannah Young to be your lawfully wedded wife?"

Fabian gazed deeply into Hannah's eyes, and replied to the pastor, "I do!"

The pastor asked Fabian again, "Do you promise to love her, comfort her, honor her family as your own, to live together in matrimony, to keep her for better or worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and health, and forsaking all others, to be faithful only to her, for as long as you both shall live? Are you willing to make this promise in front of all eyes present?"

Fabian took a deep breath and stepped forward. "I do."

Next, after a pause, he addressed the audience below. "I, Fabian Norton, in the eyes of God and everyone present here as my witnesses, take Hannah Young to be my lawfully wedded wife, to live together in matrimony, to love her, comfort her, honor her, cherish her, be faithful only to her, for as long as I shall live."

Hannah was slightly shaking as she listened to Fabian say his vows. She could clearly feel the true love he had for her wrapped up in his every word. Tears began to well up in her eyes.

The guests that day were also touched by Fabian's vows. Although he was not particularly loud, no one doubted the credibility of his speech. The promises laid bare, spoken by a man of his stature, were wonderful indeed!

"Way to go, Fabian!"

Helen sighed as she unconsciously waved her fist at the couple. Then, she looked at the man next to her and said, "See that, Jason? Learn from him, can you? That's what I call a good man."

Aggrieved, Jason wondered, why is someone else's good fortune somehow my fault too? No compare, no despair! Besides, I'm not so bad myself!

The pastor then turned towards Hannah with the same set of questions. "Do you, Hannah Young, take Fabian Norton to be your lawfully wedded husband?"

Tears ran down Hannah's cheeks, but she managed a sweet smile and replied loud and clear, "I do!"

The pastor continued, "Are you willing to marry him, as you come of age, to be his gentle and dignified wife, to love him, to respect him, to help him, to live together in matrimony, to honor his family as your own, to perform your duty as his wife, for as long as you both shall live? Are you willing to make this promise in front of all eyes present?"

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Holding the microphone in her hands, Hannah knew she was choking up. She parted her bright red lips to say something but stopped. Then she took some time to gather her thoughts. When she was ready, she looked at the crowd and proclaimed affectionately, "I do. I, Hannah Young, am willing to marry Fabian Norton as I come of age, and live together in matrimony with him as my husband."

She did not stop there. In fact, she had more to say, "Whatever happens, we'll face it together, till death do us part."

Phew!

Hannah let out a long sigh. She knew that many people present that day would think she had hit the jackpot by marrying into the Norton family, and that that meant she had successfully sought connections with the rich and affluent. What they did not know was how long she had waited and how much she had sacrificed for that day to become a reality.

Perhaps there would be many more obstacles waiting for her in the future, but she had little to fear, because she had Fabian by her side, and that was enough for her!

Helen felt her eyes water when she heard her sister's serious and romantic speech. In fact, she knew deep down that Hannah was actually talking to the many naysayers out there who frowned upon their relationship.

"You may exchange the wedding rings."

As soon as the pastor announced the next step, the ring bearer and the flower girl walked towards the aisle, holding the rings.

Fabian bent down to take the ring from the children. Then he held Hannah's hand in his, before slowly slipping the wedding ring onto her ring finger.

Next, it was Hannah's turn. She took the second ring and put it on Fabian's ring finger as well. After that, they embraced each other, and a thunderous applause erupted among the audience.

However, there was one person in the crowd who did not conform to the majority. She did not put her hands together, but instead muttered sinisterly to herself, "What's this? Lovers and their happily ever after? What a joke! Fabian! Hannah! Just you wait. I'll make sure nothing ends well for you."

She was none other than Lyna. Not only had she failed to marry into the Norton family as she wished, but witnessing the newlyweds showing their love for each other on stage left a bad taste in her mouth. She felt nothing but hatred towards them.

"Fabian, why didn't you choose me? Why have you chosen this woman? She has neither charm nor a good background. Why? Tell me why! How am I not comparable to her? How am I inferior to her?"

As Lyna stormed away from the ceremony, she mumbled to herself, "Fabian, since you have sealed your fate, then don't blame me for being cruel. I want your Phoenix Group to fall. Mark my words, you forced me to do this. It's all on you!"

"And you, Hannah! I'll never forgive you! Isn't beauty what every woman wants? Do you think you're so smug now? Wait till I ruin that pretty face of yours! We'll see if Fabian still wants you!"

Fabian approached his bride and gently wiped the tears away from her face. He whispered to Hannah, "Silly girl, why are you crying. Does marrying me make you so unhappy?"

In a sweet, romantic gesture, Fabian gently stroked the tip of Hannah's nose as he spoke.

Blushing, Hannah chided him, "Oh my gosh, why have you become so shameless?"

After that, the wedding proceeded in an orderly manner. No other accidents occurred.

Fabian and Hannah went from table to table to greet their guests and performed toast after toast. Soon, Hannah, who was a lightweight, to begin with, got a little drunk.

Fabian got someone to send Hannah to their marital home. Helen volunteered.

"Hannah, who do you think attacked you on the way here?"

Helen accompanied her sister back to her marital home. She popped the question after she got Hannah to sit down.

Hannah might be a little dazed but her mind was still clear. She gave it some thought, then shook her head and asked Helen in return, "What? Do you know who did it?"

Helen had something to say on the tip of her tongue, but she held back. Instead, she merely shook her head.

"Oh, that's what I thought. How could you possibly know? If you do know, you would have told me sooner, wouldn't you?" Hannah fell back on her seat and shut her eyes.

"I... Jason... he..."

Helen kept stammering, and for a long time, she could not produce a complete sentence. Finally, she gritted her teeth and belted out, "Argh! Jason says he suspects Lyna."

"Lyna? Of the Blackwoods? How can it possibly be her? She's so nice to me. She took such good care of me when I was in the hospital. It most certainly can't be her," Hannah replied with a smile.