

# Never Late, Never Away Chapter 421

Benedict's silence made Evelyn anxious. "Ben, please don't tell Finnick about it." Tugging his hand, she whined, "You know how he is like. If he finds out what happened, he will not let me off the hook."

Benedict knew she was right. Although he saved Vivian, he did not think he could tell Finnick that she was the person behind all of it either.

Having learned from Ashley's incident, he knew that if Finnick found out that Evelyn was responsible for Vivian's kidnap, not only would he danger his sister but the whole Morrison family too. He could not take such a big risk.

"Ben, please give me your word. You can't tell Finnick anything. I'm begging you," Evelyn pitifully pleaded.

Benedict gave his sister a complex look. After all, she was the only person he had blood ties with, no matter how shrewd she was. Besides, he promised his parents to take care of her, and he could not put her in such a dangerous position.

Seeing her brother's small nod, Evelyn flashed a small smile. She knew that he still doted on her.

"In return, you must promise never to hurt Vivian again," Benedict sternly warned.

"Okay, I promise," Evelyn casually stated to appease him.

Turning to glance in the direction of Vivian's ward, Benedict's eyes were filled with regret as he inwardly apologised to her.

All this time, Finnick was gripping Vivian's hand, waiting for her to wake up.

When Vivian finally woke up, she opened her eyes to see white walls around her. Realizing she was in the hospital, she let out a sigh of relief, thankful that she had escaped.

"Vivian, you're awake," Finnick exclaimed. He was nervous but glad to see her regain her consciousness.

The moment Vivian heard the man's voice, tears rolled down her cheeks. Her brain recalled the fear and anxiety she felt from before. While she was struggling in the warehouse earlier, she desperately hoped to see Finnick. Now, he was finally in front of her.

"Finnick, I..." She choked out his name but could not continue. With tears in her eyes, she could only look at Finnick.

That sight made Finnick's heart ache for her. Immediately, he wiped her tears and wrapped his arms around her. In a comforting tone, he muttered, "I'm right here. Don't worry. I will stay by your side..."

Unable to hold back her emotions, Vivian cried harder when she heard Finnick consoling her. Burying her head deeper in his arms, she finally let go of the fear and anger she had pent up.

Finnick's eyes teared, hearing the painful sobs from his loved one. After blinking his eyes multiple times, he patted Vivian's back and cooed, "Alright, don't cry anymore. Everything is in the past now."

It took a long time before Vivian stopped crying.

Gently, Finnick pulled himself away from her to get a tissue for her to wipe her tears. After he wiped them dry, he hugged her again, resting his chin on the crown of her head. From time to time, he would whisper words of comfort.

Meanwhile, Vivian snuggled in his embrace, trying to absorb his warmth. Slowly, she managed to regain her composure.

It still took some time before she completely calmed down and raised her head from Finnick's arms again. Instantly, she noticed that Finnick's shirt was soaked with her tears and dirtied by her snort.

Feeling embarrassed, she could not lift her gaze to match Finnick's. She could only take a piece of tissue to try to clean up the mess she made.

"It's alright. I can change into a new shirt later." Finnick stared into Vivian's eyes, taking her hands into his.

As she was very emotional earlier, Vivian did not manage to take a proper look at Finnick. Facing each other now, she could see his features clearly.

She noticed how haggard he looked with the dark circles around his eyes. Furthermore, his eyes did not light up like before and looked quite swollen. Judging from the stubble on his chin, it looked like he had not rested well for a long time.

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“Look at how drained you look. I’m sorry for making you worry,” Vivian uttered, touching his cheek with her hand.

Finnick felt worse hearing Vivian’s words. As compared to what she had been through, this was nothing. Yet, she was apologizing to him. He should be the one to apologize for not being there to protect her when she needed him most.

Pulling her into his arms again, he held back his tears and assured her, “Vivian, everything is okay now. Whatever happened is in the past, and I will not leave you.”

“Hmm?” Vivian gently broke out of the embrace and stared at Finnick in confusion.

Cupping Vivian’s face, Finnick earnestly looked into her eyes and declared, “Vivian, I love you. I love your heart and your soul. Regardless of what happens, I will never abandon you. Therefore, you must promise me that you will never leave me either, and you will stay with me forever.”

It was heart-warming to hear Finnick’s sudden confession, though Vivian did not understand where he was coming from.

She held Finnick’s hands and curiously asked, “Why are you telling me this all of a sudden? Nothing happened to me. Am I not sitting here in front of you?”

Finnick froze when he heard her response but quickly recovered and replied, “Yes, you are fine now. Nothing happened. We can pretend that everything was a thing of the past.”

“What happened in the past?” Vivian looked puzzled.

"Nothing. Nothing happened." Finnick let out a bitter laugh, trying to hide the pain he felt.

Realizing that Finnick was not going to share what he meant, Vivian tried to ignore the burning questions she had. She did not probe any further and changed the topic instead. "Did Benedict tell you that I was here?"

She remembered that Benedict saved her by the bell. Therefore, he probably sent her here.

At that thought, she felt a surge of gratitude towards him. It was fortunate that he rushed there just in time. Otherwise, she would not be lying here and facing Finnick with her head held high.

On the other hand, Finnick was confused by Vivian's question, but he did not overthink it. "No, it wasn't him. It was Mark who told me you were here."

"Mark?" Vivian was bewildered by Finnick's answer.

"Yes." Thinking that Vivian recalled her painful memories, Finnick regretted mentioning Mark's name. He gently tapped her hand and assured her, "Don't be afraid. He can't hurt you anymore."

However, Vivian did not catch what he said as she was busy wondering how Mark knew she landed up here.

She was certain that Benedict sent her here because he was the last person she saw before she fainted. Other than him, only Evelyn knew she was here. Was it Evelyn who told Mark?

Instantly, Vivian asked, "Where is Evelyn then? I remember seeing her."

"Oh, she is with Benedict. She saved you." Finnick thought she had forgotten about it, having been through such a traumatic experience. "When you get better, we can thank her together."

When she heard that Evelyn saved her with Benedict, she finally understood the situation. Evelyn and Mark planned the kidnapping.

Evelyn did this because of Finnick. Why did Mark do it then? Did he want to blackmail Finnick?

“What are you thinking about?” Finnick questioned while ruffling her hair when he saw Vivian in a daze. Then, he sympathetically added, “Don’t overthink, alright?”

Vivian raised her head to look at Finnick and wanted to tell him her speculations. However, she remembered what happened at the café.

He did not believe me at that time, so would he believe me this time? Would he think that I am merely trying to black mouth Evelyn?

Besides, Finnick told me that Evelyn saved me and even suggested to thank her. It means that he believed that it was the truth. If I blindly state that Evelyn was responsible for the kidnapping, how would he think about it? Would he think that I am trying to set Evelyn up?

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“What’s wrong? Do you have something to tell me?” Finnick commented, noticing Vivian’s burning gaze.

After some thought, Vivian decided not to reveal her guess. Instead, she would tell him once she confirmed the truth behind it and had evidence for it.

“Nope. I was thinking about how lucky I was for Benedict to save me in time. Otherwise, I would not be here in one piece,” she made up an excuse.

“Lucky?” This time, Finnick was confused by her choice of words.

“Of course. Wasn’t it fortunate?” Vivian did not understand Finnick’s confusion. “Luckily, Benedict showed up in time to save me. Otherwise...”

She paused. Thinking about the incident in the warehouse, she burst into tears again. She lowered her head, and her tears fell on the blanket. Gritting her teeth, she took a deep breath before she muttered, “Otherwise, those people would have succeeded.”

It made Finnick more baffled. Did she mean that those men did not touch her?

That's odd. Evelyn told me that she saw Vivian being raped by them. The doctor also did a test and confirmed that she was sexually abused. What is going on? Does she not remember anything?

Although many questions filled Finnick's head, he did not want to question her any further. Looking at the crying figure before him, he did not want to upset her.

He tried to push away his thoughts. Using his thumb to wipe away the tears on Vivian's face, he said, "Don't cry anymore. Let's not think about what happened. You should take a good rest instead."

Vivian silently nodded, closing her eyes and holding back her tears.

Cautiously, Finnick lowered Vivian down to a lying position and dried her tears with a tissue. "Get some sleep. When you wake up, everything would be okay."

After crying so much, Vivian was exhausted. It did not take long before she drifted off to sleep while clinging onto Finnick's hand.

Finnick slowly pried his numb hands away from hers and rubbed them together when she finally slept. Looking at the sleeping figure, he supported himself with the bed rails and planted a kiss on her cheek. Then, he whispered, "No matter what happened, I love you."

He lifted his head to stare at her angelic face for a while longer before straightening her blanket and turning to leave the ward.

The moment he stepped out, he saw Noah standing outside.

Noah had been there for a long time. However, when he saw Finnick in Vivian's ward, he did not want to disturb them. Thus, he politely waited outside. When he saw his boss coming out, he rushed over. "Mr. Norton, the board of directors..."

"Before that, let's find the doctor first," Finnick cut Noah off before the latter could finish. With Noah struggling to keep up behind him, Finnick briskly walked towards the doctors' office.

There, Finnick looked for the doctor who came by earlier. After briefly explaining the situation, he anxiously asked, "Doctor, what happened to my wife? Why can't she seem to recall what happened?"

Initially, the doctor was slightly flustered to see Finnick approaching him, thinking that the man saw through his lie. However, after hearing his question, the doctor felt relieved. Finnick still believed his words.

“Maybe the patient is unable to accept the fact and chose to forget that part of her memory. The upsetting experience could be another reason. Perhaps, she is too embarrassed to tell you about it, so she pretended that she has forgotten,” the doctor tried to make up excuses for the situation.

Nonetheless, his words did not sound ridiculous. Generally, these were possible outcomes for women who met such situations. Only this time, Vivian was not one of those women who were sexually abused, so of course, it did not apply to her. Regardless, he could not tell Finnick that.

“In any case, it is best not to ask the patient about what happened. For a female to go through such humiliation must be very pressurising on her. Whether she forgot about it or pretended to do so, it is a coping mechanism for her. If you force her to recall what happened, it may backfire and even cause her to break down,” he added, afraid that Finnick would see through him.

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As long as he doesn't ask and his wife doesn't tell him, everything would turn out fine. I will successfully receive my cash reward for it too.

“I understand.” Finnick nodded and thanked the doctor, “Thank you.”

“No problem. In the meantime, take good care of your wife. When you are free, you can take her out for a walk to lift her spirits. It is not a bad thing for her to forget about it either. After all, remembering it might haunt her instead.”

“That is true.” Finnick thanked the doctor again before he left the office.

Seeing Finnick walk out of the office, the doctor thumped his chest and let out a sigh of relief. He has an abnormally strong aura. No matter how many times I look at him, I still get intimidated by his gaze.

Luckily, he still seems fooled by me since he is out of sorts and worried for his wife.

After they left, Noah still felt uneasy about the doctor's words. He worriedly asked Finnick, "Mr. Norton, is Mrs. Norton's condition normal? Otherwise, should we look for another doctor to check on her? If anything is wrong..."

"No need for that," Finnick stopped him. He did not want another doctor to examine her because of that matter again. On the one hand, he was afraid it might trigger her. On the other hand, he did not want people to gossip about it.

"Don't bring this up again. We will pretend that none of that happened," Finnick ordered.

"Okay." As a man himself, he somewhat understood where Finnick was coming from.

"What were you saying about the board of directors earlier?" Finnick recalled what Noah first said when he left the ward.

"The board of directors are in the meeting room, and they are making a big fuss. They want you to meet them and give them an explanation," his personal assistant explained.

Finnick already saw it coming. After such a big incident, the board of directors would not easily let himself off. Therefore, he quickly headed back to the office with Noah.

Once they entered the building, Finnick could feel the tense aura hanging in the air.

Everyone in the office seemed startled and were not as professional as before. They were forming groups and gossiping. Especially with his arrival, instead of dispersing, they started whispering more animatedly among themselves.

"What's going on?" Frowning, Finnick turned to Noah for an answer.

"Mr. Norton, the leak in Finner Group's customers' information had been exposed online. Now, the internet and newspapers are all reporting about it, and we could not stop it. I guess everyone in the office heard about it. They must be worried about the company's situation and are unable to concentrate on their work," Noah accounted.

At first, he tried to hide the matter from the employees since it was important to put their minds at ease. Unfortunately, the news spread like wildfire on the internet. Before he could take any measures against it, the employees already found out what happened.

“The board of directors merely watched the employees react like so and did nothing about it?” Finnick was annoyed. In such a situation, did no one step up to manage it?

Noah helplessly replied, “Well, all of them were arguing in the meeting room, and they would not listen to me. When the employees saw them arguing, they panicked. Rumors about Finnor Group going bankrupt suddenly began to spread, and some are even preparing to transfer companies now.”

“Nonsense!” Finnick picked up his pace. “These people are tyrants.”

While waiting for the elevator, he noticed that the employees were staring intensely at him. After some thought, he turned to walk towards them.

“Mr. Norton, the directors are waiting for you,” Noah quickly reminded, unsure of what his boss was trying to do.

“Then, let them wait. Meanwhile, can you bring me a microphone?” With that, Finnick headed to the employees’ workspace.

“Okay.” Noah immediately took the hint and acted accordingly.

When they saw Finnick walking towards them, the employees stopped talking and fell silent.

Moving to the centre of the space, Finnick announced, “Everyone, please return to your seats. I want to address the matter.”