

Never Late, Never Away Chapter 226 - 230

In return, Finnick frowned because he couldn't believe Vivian would give in to the Millers and let them off the hook as requested. He gave it some thought and refused to give in just yet because he had never been known as a kind man.

Truth be told, his objective was to destroy the Miller family, giving them a taste of their own medicine. Unless they learned their lesson and had a taste of poverty, they would never learn to be merciful.

He lowered his gaze and stared at Vivian. The moment he noticed that her eyes had brimmed with tears, he could no longer suppress his frustration. "Vivian, are you sure you want to show them mercy? After all, they have been mistreating you throughout the years."

Vivian had her own thoughts and methods to resolve the issue that had been bothering her for years. Instead of being merciful, she decided to take the opportunity and sever ties with the Miller family.

Indeed, she longed for vengeance against the Miller family. However, apart from getting rid of the grudge she had been holding against them, there was nothing else she could stand to gain. She could never move on from the Miller family as long as they were associated with one another. Since she had enough of them, she decided to bring everything to a halt.

Vivian turned around and looked at Emma and Harvey in the eyes as she announced, "Yes, Finnick! I want to let those from the Miller family off the hook!"

"Why?" Finnick asked as he was confused.

"Finnick, I don't feel that I owe the Miller family anything. Instead, it's Harvey that owes us! He was the one who forced himself on my mother against her will and brought upon our miseries! My mother conceived me due to his ignorant behavior, yet he had been neglecting us throughout the years. He has never once thought of us as his family member."

Upon hearing Vivian's statement, Harvey lowered his head in guilt because Vivian was right. He was the one who had been neglecting Rachel and Vivian.

Vivian continued, "All along, the Miller family has mistreated me, but I can't possibly return the favor in a similar manner. Otherwise, I'm not much different from them. Finnick, please let the Miller family go. Instead of seeking vengeance, I want to live a peaceful life; a life without them."

Emma was ecstatic upon hearing Vivian's words. Grinning from ear to ear, she said, "You're right, Vivian! You made the right call as part of the family!" She turned around and told Finnick, "Mr. Norton, I'm sure you will listen to her, right? We shouldn't go against one another since we're a family!"

Finnick cast a stern gaze and warned Emma, "Shut up!"

Intimidated by Finnick's presence, Emma took a step back, moving away from him.

Meanwhile, Vivian chuckled when she heard her so-called stepmother's statement. The woman had never considered Vivian and Rachel to be part of the family, yet she had the audacity to make such a statement in front of Finnick.

As a matter of fact, Emma and Ashley had always considered Vivian a thorn in their flesh. They deemed themselves superior to her and wouldn't stop humiliating Vivian.

Throughout the years, the members of the Miller family, including the housemaids, looked down upon Vivian.

Vivian replied with a poker face, "A family? Have you ever considered me part of the Miller family? Am I supposed to express my gratitude for the so-called kindness the Miller family has shown me over the years? Is that how a family is supposed to treat one another? I don't think so!"

"Vivian, I-I..." Harvey stuttered once again as he felt guilty.

As soon as Vivian finished her sentence, torrents of grief streamed down her cheeks unwittingly.

A typical father would take good care of their daughter as though they were the apple of their eyes, yet her father had never once thought of her as his daughter. Harvey had always been a wimp in front of Emma. He would turn a blind eye whenever Ashley took advantage of Vivian. Never had he shown Vivian some love.

If Dad had dropped by and visited Mom and me back then, perhaps things would turn out differently. Maybe Mom wouldn't have to spend most of her time working several jobs, trying to sustain our lives at the cost of her health.

No one could possibly understand the hardships and tormenting experiences Vivian had gone through over the years.

She wiped her tears and repeated herself, "I'm returning the favor today by getting Finnick to let the Miller family off the hook as requested! From now onwards, I'm not part of the Miller family anymore! I believe all of you have been longing to sever ties with me, right? Since we're no longer related, we should stay away from one another in the future! So please stop bothering Mom and me!"

Harvey had no intention of severing ties with her biological daughter, let alone severing ties with her after she had gotten married to such an influential figure.

It was evident Finnick was head over heels in love with Vivian. Therefore, Harvey was determined to use their relationship as leverage to achieve groundbreaking success.

Harvey informed Vivian, "Now, now, Vivian, aren't you being a bit too rash? Although I might have let you down, you're still my biological daughter—"

Emma cut her husband off and replied, "Fine! Vivian, your mother and you should have never shown up in our life in the first place! Both of you are the ones who have disrupted the peace of the Miller family! If it weren't for you, the Miller family wouldn't have—"

Never Late, Never Away Chapter 227

Emma brought her speech to an abrupt halt the moment she detected Finnick's penetrating gaze. In the end, she murmured to herself to express her frustration, "If it weren't because of you, the Miller family wouldn't have to go through this series of misfortune either! Hmph! How dare you think so highly of yourself?"

Finnick scoffed, "Does that mean the Miller family is unwilling to adhere to the condition Vivian has imposed?"

As soon as Emma and Harvey heard Finnick's rhetorical question, they fell into the vicious cycle of despair yet again.

They stared at Vivian in the eyes, signaling her to beg Finnick for mercy.

On the other hand, Vivian was infuriated because Harvey and Emma had humiliated her in front of Finnick.

Harvey begged, "Mr. Norton, please give us another chance!"

He turned around and reprimanded his wife, "What are you waiting for? Hurry up and apologize to Vivian!"

Albeit reluctantly, Emma brought herself to beg for pardon. "Vivian, I'm sure you're not going to take my words personally, right? Please, pay no heed to my words, I didn't mean it."

Emma could feel a chill down her spine as Finnick remained silent while glaring at her.

Immediately after Emma caught a glimpse of his penetrating gaze, she changed her tone and apologized again. "Vivian, I'm..."

She had a hard time apologizing because she couldn't bring herself to cast her dignity as Vivian's stepmother aside, but she was aware of the consequences of her action since Finnick had made himself clear. In the end, she had no choice but to apologize for the sake of the Miller family's future. Otherwise, the lavish lifestyle she enjoyed the most would perish over the night should she refuse to apologize.

Finally, Emma muttered, "I'm so sorry, Vivian. Please forgive us for the things we have done to you back in the day."

Even though Emma had apologized, Vivian wasn't pleased because she was aware that her stepmother didn't mean it.

Nevertheless, it was a miracle for Emma to admit her wrongdoings over the years.

I guess this is the best possible outcome... From now onwards, we're no longer related to one another.

After Vivian made up her mind, she leaned over and told Finnick, "I'm tired."

She was exhausted for real because she didn't want to be around the bunch of hypocrites anymore.

Finnick's heart wrenched when he noticed Vivian's pair of swollen eyes. He felt a strong urge to teach the Miller family a lesson for offending the woman whom he loved wholeheartedly.

However, he resisted the urge to take things out on the Miller family because Vivian had made herself clear. As long as they stayed away from Vivian, he would honor his promise.

Finnick reached over and held Vivian's frigid hand firmly. With his eyes glued to those from the Miller family, he warned, "I'll let the Miller family off the hook this time for Vivian's sake. However, I won't hesitate to take all of you down if any of you repeat the same silly mistake."

Harvey and Emma's hearts skipped a beat. Standing right where they were, they dared not talk back against Finnick and Vivian.

Emma assured the duo, "Don't worry! We'll definitely stay out of your sight in the future! Ashley will behave herself as well. We won't repeat such a silly mistake again. Haha."

"You'd better remember your words! Otherwise, it's going to cost you more than a fortune if you try anything silly in the future!" Finnick sneered.

Harvey and Emma's legs turned to jelly, feeling as though they would pass out anytime soon, they could barely pull themselves together anymore.

Finnick had enough of the Miller family. He turned around and brought Vivian out of the Miller Residence.

The moment they stepped out of the Miller Residence, Vivian felt lightheaded because the whole situation seemed so surreal.

I guess it's finally over, huh? From now onwards, I'm no longer related to Harvey and the Miller family. The torments that they have put me through don't seem to matter anymore.

Mom is the only family member I have from today onwards... No, wait, there's Finnick too.

Vivian felt warmth surging from deep within her when she recalled the existence of the two people whom she loved the most. She felt as though she had the strength to pick herself up once again.

Once they walked out of the Miller Residence, Finnick brought Vivian back to his car and instructed Noah to send them home.

Along the way, Vivian stared blankly ahead in a daze, she would occasionally lower her gaze and her eyes would well up with tears.

Finnick thought it was nigh time for Vivian to vent her frustrations. It was evident she could barely take it anymore after the series of confrontations she had gone through within a day.

In fact, she would have long broken down if she wasn't a tough woman.

The Miller family is but a bunch of jerks! To think they would treat a fragile woman so cruelly... She must be feeling very sad now.

Finnick pulled Vivian into his arms and asserted, "Everything is over. Feel free to cry if you want to, you'll feel better that way."

Leaning against his chest, Vivian felt a sense of security. She felt as though she had found a safe haven.

Sobbing, she released all her pent-up emotions from all the injustice that she had suffered. For once in her life, she could shed her tough shell and be vulnerable in front of the man she loved.

From the trauma and torment that she went through when she was young to the taunts and jeers that she received when she grew up, Vivian was relieved that it had finally come to an end. She could finally sever ties with those from the Miller family.

Never Late, Never Away Chapter 228

Thankfully, she could finally rid herself of the influence from the Miller family.

Vivian felt as if a boulder had been lifted off her shoulder. She had no idea she had been bearing countless burdens by herself all this while.

Finnick sat by her side, holding her in his arms silently.

Once Vivian finished crying to her heart's content, he lowered his gaze and asked, "Are you feeling better now?"

After Vivian nodded in return, he asked once more, "Are you willing to tell me about your past yet? I'm all ears for you. I believe this will help to take things off your mind as well."

He kissed her on the cheek once he finished his sentence.

Vivian wiped her tears dry and started sharing her miserable past with Finnick.

"When I was young, the trio from the Miller family promised to bring me to the beach for a short getaway. I was thrilled because I had never been to a beach before. All I knew was that the ocean was blue with a horizon that would extend beyond the boundary."

Finnick inched over and placed Vivian's head on his lap, instructing her to lie and relax.

"I enjoy being by the beach because it gives me a sense of security. Back then, we dropped by the beach at Mauritius, which was a romantic place that I had been longing to go to for a long time. Mom wasn't able to accompany me for the trip because of her work so she approved of the idea of me tagging along with the Millers. Initially, we had a great time as a family at the stunning beach, enjoying the gentle breeze. However, things took a drastic turn for the worse as soon as Ashley dropped her doll into the bottom of a pit. She threw a tantrum and insisted on retrieving the doll."

Halfway through her orated statement, Vivian heaved a long sigh of despair because the upcoming part of the trip wasn't as pleasing as the first part.

"Until now, I still have no idea if it was a mere accident or if she had deliberately dropped her doll as a way to get the better of me. I'm not accusing her but I could still vividly recall the vicious grin on her face when Emma instructed me to pick it up on her behalf. Emma said I was a skinny girl. Therefore, I was the best candidate available to retrieve the doll from the narrow pit."

Vivian closed her eyes and recalled the entire incident she had gone through in Mauritius.

Tears started streaming down her cheek once again as she muttered, "I was afraid because I had never approached the ocean before. The boulders were covered with slippery seaweed and sharp seashells. I managed to make my way to the bottom of the pit and retrieved the doll, but as a result, I was wounded by the shells. You can still see the scars that I have gotten from back then..."

In fact, Finnick had noticed the scars that Vivian mentioned a long time ago.

Never would he expect there would be such a heartbreaking incident associated with the scars. All along, he thought she must have accidentally wounded herself when she was young, thinking that perhaps she was a playful girl.

Vivian added, "My wounds hurt because they were exposed to seawater, but Emma and Ashley ignored me and hailed a cab back to the hotel in advance. They said Dad was waiting for them to have their dinner together and left me alone. In the end, I had to make my way back to the hotel on my own."

Vivian could still remember how she was starving and in pain due to the wounds, yet she had to pull herself together and walked a great distance to reach the hotel.

By the time she reached the hotel, they had finished their dinner. They didn't even bother to keep their leftover meal for her. As such, Vivian spent the night starving.

She missed her mother after the series of misfortunate events she went through, but she put on a strong front and told Rachel she had fun when her mother asked if she enjoyed the trip. Vivian decided to lie because she was afraid that Rachel would be infuriated and feel upset should she figure out the truth.

Finnick's eyes flickered. He lowered his gaze and was about to say something to comfort Vivian, but he had always been a man of few words.

In the end, he could only embrace her silently.

Once Vivian finished sharing her miserable past with Finnick, she asked, "Do you regret letting the Miller family off the hook?"

"Do you want to listen to the truth?" Finnick asked rhetorically before sharing his actual point of view with Vivian. It was evident he was displeased as he repeated himself in a callous tone. "I would've never promised you to let them off the hook if I was aware of the things you had to go through because of them. I would've taken them out without a second thought."

Vivian was afraid Finnick would go against his words after he figured out the miseries the Millers had put her through. She warned him, "We have a deal! You can't go back on your words now!"

He stared at her in the eyes before nodding to assure her. "Don't worry. I'm a man of my words."

Heaving a sigh of relief, Vivian lowered her head and leaned on Finnick's sturdy chest once more.

Never Late, Never Away Chapter 229

As she leaned on Finnick's chest, Vivian heard his hoarse voice as he assured her, "As long as I'm by your side, I won't allow anyone to bully you anymore. I'll make up for the things you have never experienced as a child."

Vivian giggled, "I don't think that's necessary because I'm already having a great time with you by my side. You're the only one I need to have a great life."

Thereafter, Finnick simply remained silent while running his fingers through her smooth hair.

Once they returned to the villa, Vivian finished her meal before taking her shower. After which she tucked in and called it a day.

After severing ties with the Miller family, Vivian felt as though she had been reincarnated. For the first time in forever, she slept soundly and peacefully.

Vivian went to bed early in the evening, while Finnick spent the entire night working in his study room.

Noah had everything sorted out and was about to leave when Finnick stopped him and queried, "How's the preparation for the press conference going?"

"Everything is ready," Noah nodded and informed.

"I want everything to be executed perfectly tomorrow," Finnick emphasized.

"Understood." Noah nodded once more and took note of his boss' instruction.

The press conference for the newly established fund that would soon be set up by the Finnor Group was held the next day.

As such, Vivian and Finnick were roused from sleep early in the morning.

Finnick got changed into a set of formal wear. His outfit had a relatively simple yet elegant design. It perfectly complemented his noble and majestic presence as the one superior to others in the upper echelon.

Grinning unwittingly, Vivian had her eyes glued to the dressed-up Finnick.

“What are you grinning for?” Finnick asked when he noticed the bright grin on Vivian’s face through the reflection in the mirror.

“Nothing. It’s just that you look amazing!” Vivian didn’t bother to hold back her compliment at all.

In return, Finnick’s lips curved upwards, forming a smirk as he stated, “You should get yourself dolled up as well.”

Confused, she blinked and asked, “Me? That won’t be necessary since I’m merely a reporter. We’ve received the invitation from the representative of your company. My colleagues will be there as well.”

Ding-dong! Ding-dong!

Someone pressed the doorbell of the villa.

It’s so early. Who could it be?

Vivian rushed over to answer the door. The moment she opened it, a bunch of people with several boxes of equipment entered the villa.

She was surprised because she couldn’t figure out the goal of their visit.

“Good morning, Mr. Norton! Good morning, Mrs. Norton!”

Vivian’s eyes widened in disbelief. She turned around and asked Finnick, “What’s going—”

Sitting on his wheelchair, Finnick told the bunch of people, “Great, you’re here. I’ll leave my beloved wife in your care today then.”

Huh? What's going on? Vivian couldn't grasp the situation, she could only stare blankly as the bunch of people started unpacking the boxes they had brought along.

Items including cosmetic products, essential oils, and tailor equipment could be found. Other than that, Finnick had also prepared a dress and jewelry for Vivian.

Realization dawned on Vivian. they're here to doll me up, similar to the time when I took part in the auction.

Damn! Not again! Vivian was never a fan of dolling herself up because she found the process tormenting.

They carried out their respective tasks, including putting make-up on her, polishing her nails, and styling her hair. After a short while, they finally had Vivian dolled up.

Feeling confused, Vivian asked, "What are you up to? Why did you have me all dolled up?"

"The press conference that will be held is crucial for the Finnor Group. Therefore, I want you to be part of the grand event of the group," Finnick said.

Staring at Vivian in the mirror, he was in a state of reverie as she seemed exceptionally stunning.

However, Vivian thought that she looked comical and queried, "Huh? But I have to keep an eye on the conference as a fellow reporter. Why would I want to dress up ostentatiously?"

Just then, Finnick came up behind her and put on a heart-shaped diamond necklace on Vivian's neck. It was a necklace with high clarity, making it exceptionally dazzling under the well-illuminated environment.

He told his wife, "Here's a present for you. Consider it a gift for your hard work at the press conference. What do you think? Do you like it?"

Vivian nodded and said, "Of course! It's such a stunning piece, but I think this is too expensive of a gift. I don't think it's suitable for me."

"Just keep it, okay? No one other than you deserves to have this necklace." Finnick finished his sentence in a serious manner.

She caressed the necklace over and over again. The fondness she had for the diamond necklace was increasing by the second because it was a gift from Finnick as a souvenir to express his affection.

Suddenly, Vivian recalled the crystal necklace Finnick used to have and wondered if he had moved on from it.

After enduring the tingling sensation on her face for an extended period, Vivian finally had herself dolled up ostentatiously.

She seemed to have changed into an entirely different woman. To match the tulle dress and the dazzling necklace she had put on, the stylist combed her hair into a ponytail, complementing the overall look.

Never Late, Never Away Chapter 230

Vivian couldn't stop checking on her appearance through the mirror as she found herself odd.

She had always preferred dressing up casually as she prioritized comfort over her look. Currently, she had all sorts of designers item on her. She started wobbling due to the pair of high heels she had put on.

In the end, she asked Finnick, "Are you sure it's necessary for me to put on such a showy set of outfits?"

"Of course!" Finnick beamed his reply.

Fine. Since it's what my husband wants, I guess I'll go along with it.

Finnick would never allow his wife to take the public transport to work after he had gone to great lengths to doll her up. Therefore, he instructed Noah to drop her off at her workplace and got another driver to send him to the venue of the press conference.

The moment Vivian walked into the office building, her presence grabbed the attention of the men present. She lowered her gaze immediately and sprinted into the elevator.

The person in charge of the elevator scrutinized Vivian from top to bottom. Feeling uncomfortable, Vivian's palms started sweating as she had never once attracted others' attention before. In fact, it was the first time in a few years after she started working in this particular office building that she had inadvertently become the center of attention.

She regretted adhering to Finnick's instruction because she couldn't possibly get herself changed into another set of outfits. Since there wasn't anything she could do about it, she braced herself and made her way into the magazine company.

Sarah, Jenny, and Ken were as busy as bees because they had to get everything ready before heading over to the venue of the press conference.

The moment Sarah spotted a noble-looking woman making her way into their office, she rushed over and greeted, "Hello, how may I help you?"

"Sarah, it's me! I'm Vivian!" Vivian lowered her head and whispered because she was certain her colleague had mistaken her as a customer."

"Oh. My. God!" Sarah shrieked involuntarily.

Everyone turned around the moment they noticed the commotion. They looked in the direction of Vivian and Sarah and thought Sarah had encountered a thief.

"Vivian? Is it really you?" Sarah gaped at Vivian in awe.

"Oh, my! It is you!"

"Vivian! You are looking absolutely stunning!"

Vivian's colleagues couldn't move their eyes away from her because she seemed different from her usual self. They were impressed by her noble-looking look and thought she must have some great news to share with them.

Some of her colleagues even thought that she had lost her mind and undergone a drastic change in personality over the night.

Sarah ran her fingers across Vivian's dress. The moment she spotted the tag of the dress, she was taken aback yet again because it was a top-notch premium brand. In fact, the dress

Vivian had put on seemed to be a custom-made piece. It would have cost at least hundreds of thousands. She couldn't believe Vivian was dressed in such a mind-blowing piece.

"Wow! Vivian! I have come across this particular dress in the magazine! The dress of this brand cost a fortune! This is a custom-made piece, right?"

Vivian shrugged Sarah's hand off immediately because she felt uneasy.

Just then, Sarah spotted the dazzling diamond necklace on Vivian's neck.

She pointed at the necklace immediately and asked, "Vivian, is your necklace made out of authentic diamonds? If it's an imitated one, I must say it's a job well done!"

"Yes! It's an imitated one! They did a great job, right?" Vivian got anxious and decided to go with the flow.

"Really? Did you get it from the internet?" Sarah probed further.

"Y-Yes, but I can't really recall the name of the store anymore."

Vivian's colleagues were intimidated by her majestic presence. In their eyes, she emanated the presence exclusive to those from the upper echelon. They didn't expect she would turn into an entirely different person after she dolled herself up, in fact, they had always perceived Vivian to be just another pretty woman.

Fabian, who had walked out of his office, was impressed the moment he caught a glimpse of Vivian's ethereal look.

It was the second time he ran into a properly dolled-up Vivian. She seemed to have reincarnated into another woman. I still remember that the last time I saw her in a similar look, it was at the auction.

Suddenly, Fabian recalled the press conference for Finnor Group's latest established fund would be held soon. Oh, so that's why she's all dressed up.

Nevertheless, he couldn't figure out the rationale behind Vivian's decision to dress herself up in such an ostentatious manner because he knew she had never been a fan of such a flamboyant look.

He had his eyes glued to her and thought she had changed drastically after getting into a relationship with Finnick. She had never been known for her beauty, but ever since she became Finnick's wife, she had been stealing the limelight from others frequently.

Fabian felt upset when he realized that the innocent-looking Vivian, whom he was familiar with since their university days, was now nowhere to be seen. She had since moved on from her sprightly self.

Eventually, everyone, including Vivian, started tending to their respective tasks once again because the press conference would be held soon.

Once they had everything sorted out, Vivian, Fabian, Sarah, Jenny, along with a few cameramen departed to the venue of Finnor Group's press conference.