

Never Late, Never Away Chapter 695

She didn't know how to refuse after hearing him say that. After all, he was the one working up an awful sweat to get them back. She could only hide her furiously blushing face and continue to hold onto his neck.

Seeing Vivian snug in his arms, Finnick spoke with a voice full of self-blame, "Everything that happened today is my fault, Vivian. It's because I didn't protect you well enough. I promise, this will never happen again. I'll always protect you and keep you out of harm's way."

Vivian's heart sped up erratically again. She felt herself falling for Finnick's eyes that were filled with deep affection.

No. If this keeps up, I might actually fall in love with Finnick again...

She hurriedly turned her gaze away. Vivian lowered her head to avoid seeing Finnick. "Let's head back. Everyone's probably worried sick about us."

After seeing Vivian react so evasively towards his affection, a streak of pain flashed in Finnick's eyes. How long will I have to wait until she accepts me again?

Finnick's lips curved into a soft smile, disguising his sorrow. "Alright, let's head back now."

None of them spoke on their way back. Finnick was worried about the state of Vivian's injury. All he wanted was to send her back safely and quickly. On the other hand, Vivian kept silent because she felt embarrassed.

But he did rescue me... Vivian hesitated before saying, "Finnick. Thanks for saving me this time. I don't know when I would have been found if it weren't for you."

Finnick lowered his head to get a better look at her. "You don't have to be so formal with me. I already said, this whole thing is my fault. It happened because I didn't protect you."

"How are you to be blamed?" Vivian retorted anxiously. "It's all because I'm dumb. I trusted someone that I shouldn't have."

Thinking back to how Shannon mocked her, Vivian's anger burned like wildfire. I'm so stupid. I knew that Shannon had it in for me, yet I still trusted her earlier today.

"Fire Shannon once we get back. You can't keep people like her around you," Finnick warned. Although he spoke softly, his gaze hardened with a coldness.

Thoughts about avenging Vivian swirled in Finnick. I'll have Noah deal with that problematic Shannon. I'll ensure that she will never get within a hair's length near Vivian again. Something like this can never happen a second time.

"You knew that she tricked me?" Vivian asked in surprise.

"I found her before you. She said that you were separated, but I didn't believe her. After I threatened her, she eventually admitted to harming you and told me your location."

So that's what happened. The pieces were finally coming together. Vivian suddenly asked, "Then did Sarah manage to get back to camp? Was she hurt?"

This woman! She's already in great pain, yet she still has the heart to worry about someone else's well-being.

Even though this pissed Finnick off, he chose to suppress his simmering anger and replied, "She's fine. She just got lost on her way back, so it took her a while."

Relief washed over Vivian after hearing Finnick's answer. She was grateful that Sarah made it back safe and sound.

Seeing Vivian so relieved, Finnick couldn't help but wish that she could be a little bit more selfish and take better care of herself. She worries too much about others instead of focusing on her own needs. But then again, isn't that why I fell for her in the first place? Because of her kindness?

Finnick chuckled wryly and shook his head. He felt like a hypocrite for having such contradictory thoughts.

At this, Vivian frowned and asked quizzically, "What are you laughing at?"

"Nothing." After relying this, Finnick kept silent and picked up his pace. What's important now is to get back quickly and send Vivian to the hospital for treatment.

Not long after, they arrived at the campsite.

Everyone secretly sighed as they saw Finnick approaching with Vivian in his arms. Though relieved and pleased, they couldn't help but feel curious at the two's intimate posture.

Didn't Ms. Morrison try to get Charlotte and Finnick together by asking them to fetch some water? But now she's being carried back bridal style by Finnick? Does Ms. Morrison still have feelings for her ex-husband or not? Their relationship is so confusing... Will they rekindle their marriage?

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Sarah caught sight of Vivian's injured foot just as everyone else was contemplating their relationship.

"Vivian!" She hurried over. Her voice cracked when she saw Vivian's injury. "I'm so sorry, Vivian. It's all my fault. You got injured because of me."

"You have nothing to do with this. Stop crying." Vivian comforted Sarah. She tugged at Finnick's arm, hinting at him to put her down. However, Finnick brushed her off and continued to carry her in his arms.

Everyone else quickly came forward to check on Vivian's injury after hearing Sarah's words.

"I asked Shannon about your whereabouts upon her return, but she wouldn't tell. She packed her bags and left in a hurry. We were so worried about you. How did you get hurt?" Caroline's heart ached for her as she stared at her swollen foot.

"It's nothing. I accidentally fell down and sprained my ankle." Vivian didn't want to speak ill of others behind their backs. She figured she would talk to Shannon privately about it.

"Then let's pack up and leave now. Ms. Morrison, you need to see the doctor!"

"That's right. I'll go pack up right away."

Nobody was in the mood to play anymore after seeing Vivian's seriously injured leg.

Vivian felt sorry to see them pack up and leave because of her. After all, it wasn't easy to get everyone together on this trip. How could they just up and leave because of her?

Just as she was about to speak up, Finnick said, "You guys should carry on with your vacation. I will take Ms. Morrison to the hospital. Don't worry, she'll be in good hands."

Nobody commented any further upon hearing Finnick's words. They figured Mr. Norton might want to take this chance to woo Ms. Morrison. Nobody wanted to get in his way.

Since nobody else had anything to say, Finnick bid goodbye and left with Vivian in his arms.

He carried her all the way to the hospital and watched as the doctor bandaged Vivian's leg. Finnick reached out to Vivian when he saw her tightly knitted brows. "Vivian, bite my hand if you're in pain. I heard it helps."

Vivian was amused as she pushed his arm away. "No need. I'm not in that much pain."

She felt touched by Finnick's actions even though she rejected his offer. He was every bit as good to her as he used to be if she didn't take into account everything else.

After bandaging, Finnick insisted that he carry her back, but she felt bad and wouldn't let him.

They finally came to an agreement and Vivian allowed Finnick to piggyback her back to the hotel.

As he trudged down a quiet lane with Vivian on his back, her heart swayed. She could feel the gentle warmth emanating from him. She had imagined this heartwarming scene five years ago.

Five years ago when they were planning for a trip, she had imagined that Finnick would carry her on his back just like that as they walked down a small lane. They would admire the scenery as he strolled through the streets with her on his back, just like every other loving couple.

"Finnick." Vivian couldn't help but said, "Can I ask you something?"

"What is it?" Finnick paid close attention to Vivian's legs as he spoke. He was afraid he would accidentally hurt her.

"Why did you decide to come back for me when you have so many good options around you?" Vivian tilted her head, looked Finnick in the eye, and asked. She had been puzzling over the matter for a long time now.

Finnick stopped in his tracks, turned around, and looked at Vivian affectionately. "Vivian, but they're not you. You are my one and only. Where else can I find someone like you?"

Vivian teared up upon his confession. "What if I'm not as good as you think? I've changed a lot in the past five years. What if I'm no longer the Vivian you once knew?"

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"You are perfect in my eyes." Finnick cut her off. "Vivian, I know who I've fallen in love with. I love you, no matter how much you've changed, no matter if you're still the Vivian I met five years ago. You are the apple of my eyes."

Tears rolled down her cheeks as she looked him in the eye. Something stirred deep inside. Is this true? Could he have spoken from his heart?

It felt as if they were the only ones left on the streets as they stared into each other's eyes.

"Vivian, I love you," Finnick spoke up. "Then, now, and forever. You are my one and only."

Vivian's heart stirred when she saw the sincerity in his eyes during his confession. She suddenly recalled Fabian once told her that there might be more to what happened years ago than meets the eye.

She felt a wave of hope as she contemplated the possibility of it. Could it all have been a misunderstanding?

"Finnick." Vivian's heart drummed as she took a deep breath. "Five years ago, did you..."

Vivian stopped mid-sentence. She was afraid that his answer would crush her. Is this really going to be the end for us if it really is Finnick's doing?

"What?" Finnick turned serious when he heard her earnest tone.

Just do it. I have to get to the bottom of things. Plucking up her courage, Vivian asked shakily, "Did you get Noah to..."

Just as Vivian was about to voice her question, her phone suddenly rang.

She took out her phone and saw that it was from the hospital where Rachel was admitted to. Based on her past experiences, it was always bad news whenever the hospital calls. Is something wrong with Rachel again?

The doctor's anxious voice rang out the moment she picked up the call with shaky hands. "Is this Rachel William's daughter, Vivian?"

"Yes, it's me. Is there something wrong with her?" Vivian grew nervous when she heard the doctor's anxious tone.

"Your mother is having a relapse and needs to undergo surgery immediately. Or else she might die. You and your family should come to the hospital as soon as possible."

What? How could Rachel get so ill all of a sudden? Vivian panicked. "OK, doc. I will head to the hospital immediately. Please take good care of her. Don't worry about the bills. Please make sure she's okay!"

"This is our responsibility as a doctor. We will do our very best. I hope you can get here as soon as possible, or else we're not able to perform surgery on her."

"OK. OK. I will get there as soon as I can." After hanging up the call, Vivian said to Finnick anxiously, "Finnick, let's hurry back to our hotel to get our passports. I want to go home, now!"

As Finnick hurried back to the hotel with Vivian on his back, he asked Vivian why she was in such a hurry to head home. "What happened? Is something wrong with your mother?"

"Yes." Vivian was at a loss of what to do. "The doctor said she has a relapse and needs to undergo surgery immediately. That's why I need to head back now. Nothing must happen to her."

"Vivian, don't panic." Finnick tried his best to calm her down. "I'll get Noah to book the earliest flight back. Your mother will be fine. Don't scare yourself."

“Right. I mustn’t panic.” Vivian forced herself to calm down upon his words. She then picked up her phone and called home.

She had to get Benedict to head to the hospital to take care of Rachel first since it would take some time for her to get there even if she boarded the first flight back.