

Never Late, Never Away Chapter 456

After a while, Vivian slowed down and sat on a long bench. Lost in her thought, she was overcome by waves of helplessness.

Since Finnick doesn't believe what I said, I'm sure he will force me to abort the baby by all means. He would never accept the fact that the baby is his own flesh and blood! What can I do to protect this baby?

At the same time, Vivian could not help but ask herself questions. It looks like Finnick insists that I should abort the baby because he suspects that it's not his child.

If so, why does he refuse to accept my explanation? He is not aware of the possibility that I could be really pregnant with his child?

It seems Finnick only trusts Evelyn, so he is never suspicious of her! He emphasized that he knows Evelyn well just now. He obviously still has feelings for her.

Thinking of this, the tears in Vivian's eyes started to well up again. Nonetheless, she managed to take a deep breath and held back her tears this round.

Shaking her head hard, she forced herself not to have any wild thoughts again.

Placing both her palms on her stomach, she swore to herself. I must protect myself and my baby. It doesn't matter that the father doesn't want the baby or even divorces me. I will protect my baby well at all costs. Nobody can stop me from bringing my baby to this world! I'll try my best to raise my baby and shower him with loads of love!

Vivian told herself to think positively and stay motivated. Vivian William, don't you worry! There will surely be a way out for you! Don't give up easily! If it's fated that I will be a single mother one day, I must stay strong and have the courage of a lion. I mustn't cry so easily again. I must pull myself together now for I have to work hard and lead a happy life. If not, how can I take good care of my child?

Vivian managed to cool herself down again. She wiped off her tears and headed toward the hospital to pay Rachel a visit.

I wonder how her condition is now. I must grab the chance to ask her about her biological daughter's whereabouts. I'm really worried that her condition might deteriorate at any time.

However, there was no sign of Rachel when she reached her ward. She sat on the bed and waited for her, thinking that she might have gone to the washroom.

Vivian waited for quite a long time before the door of the ward was opened again. To her surprise, a nurse walked in hastily instead of Rachel.

She asked Vivian nervously, "Are you Rachel William's daughter?"

"Yeah, I'm her daughter. Is there anything?" Vivian stood up and asked instantly.

The nurse replied helplessly, "We've been looking for your mother. We don't know where she is now."

"Huh?" Vivian's expression changed. "You don't know where she is now? What actually happened?"

"When we were making our usual rounds this morning, we discovered that your mother was not in her room. Since then, everyone has been looking for her, but to no avail. We're about to give u a call to inform you about it. Can you try to call her now to see if she is anywhere near the hospital?"

Vivian gave Rachel a call at once.

Mom, please answer the phone. Don't scare me. Where are you now? Vivian started to mumble restlessly when her mother still did not answer the call.

Where can she go? She's not familiar with this area at all. Vivian tried hard to think of the places that her mother would go, yet she did not have any clue.

All of a sudden, something came into Vivian's mind. Ah! I can trace her current location via the GPS of her phone!

Vivian immediately clicked on her phone to search for Rachel's current location. She was dumbfounded the moment she saw the location displayed on the phone.

Rachel was somewhere near the Morrison residence at the moment!

Vivian had been there previously with Finnick in order to hide themselves from the reporters on Evelyn's death anniversary. Therefore, she could still recall the exact location of the residence.

Why did Mom go there?

Without wasting time, Vivian dashed out of the hospital and took a taxi to the Morrison residence.

The moment she reached the Morrison residence, she saw Rachel at the main gate. She was having a conversation with Evelyn. However, Evelyn was obviously feeling displeased as there was a grim look on her face. She was treating Rachel with utter indifference.

"Ms. Rachel, I guess there's no need for you to enter the house. I don't have much time. Can you go straight to the point?" Evelyn said impatiently without having any eye contact with Rachel. Crossing her arms, she knitted her brows and pretended that she was not aware of her affectionate gaze.

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My goodness! Who does she think she is? I was just putting on a show previously to get close to her to give Vivian a blow. Yet, she dares to come here and look for me! She must have thought that I was being sincere with her then!

"Evelyn, how are things going on with you lately?" Rachel still asked Evelyn with great concern despite the profound coldness in her tone.

"Quite good." Evelyn twitched her lips and replied coldly.

Rachel replied smilingly, "I'm glad to hear that you're fine."

Evelyn did not say anything, yet she glanced at her quizzically.

Looking intently at Evelyn, Rachel's smile widened as she complimented her, "Evelyn, you're a sweet girl since young. When you were still a little girl, you looked exactly like a delicate

doll that caught everyone's attention. You've now grown up into a gorgeous young lady. It is really a great blessing for the person who will win your heart and spend the rest of his lifetime with you."

Rachel's eyes were glistening with tears. Looks like I won't live long till my Evelyn gets married then. I can only grab every single moment now that I can be with her.

Almost everyone, especially ladies enjoyed being flattered on their beauty. Evelyn's face softened a bit upon hearing Rachel's compliments.

Nonetheless, her face darkened again when Vivian's face flashed across her mind. She looked at Rachel with disdain in her eyes. Hmph! If it's not because of your daughter, I would have already been married to Finnick!

She didn't feel like seeing anyone related to Vivian anymore and was about to ask Rachel to leave. Out of a sudden, there was a gust of strong wind. The dried leaves on the ground were blown toward Evelyn.

Some of the leaves landed on her blouse, leaving some stains of mud on it. Coincidentally, she was wearing a white blouse today. As a result, the stains were really obvious against the pure white blouse.

Evelyn brushed the leaves away from her blouse in frustration. Her frown deepened into a scowl as she grumbled, "What kind of strange wind this is! My favorite blouse is stained!"

Rachel raised her hand instantly, thinking of helping Evelyn to get rid of the stain on her blouse. However, she turned away swiftly to duck her hand.

At the sight of Rachel's rough palms and dry skin, there were disdain and dismay in her eyes.

"What are you doing! This blouse is made of pure silk. It's a limited edition of my favorite brand. Your palms are too rough and they will surely leave ugly scratches on it!"

Rachel immediately withdrew her hands and apologized to her in embarrassment, "Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't know that this blouse is so expensive. I was just trying to get rid of the dust from it."

“Don’t bother about that. I can just send it to the dry cleaner. They will know how to handle it with care.” Evelyn could not help muttering silently in her heart as she asked impatiently, “Actually, why are you here? Do you want to see me for anything?”

“Actually nothing. I just miss you as it has been quite a long time since I last met you. That’s why I feel like paying you a visit and have a chat with you,” Rachel replied gently and gazed lovingly at her.

Rachel just replied casually, “Oh! If there’s nothing else, can you leave now? I’m running out of time as I need to go out later.”

A sense of disappointment flashed across Rachel’s face. However, she still forced a smile and said, “Just go ahead with your plan. Don’t let me hold you back.”

“Alright, I will go in first.” Evelyn turned and walked toward the house.

“Evelyn, please give me a moment!” Rachel was initially thinking of holding Evelyn’s hand. Nevertheless, she changed her mind as she thought of something and moved hurriedly in front of Evelyn to stop her.

Rolling her eyes, Evelyn asked in great displeasure, “Anything else?”

“Evelyn, actually I just feel like asking if you can take some time to drop by my house for a meal. I’ll prepare your favorite dish for you.” Rachel said warily and looked at Evelyn with her begging eyes.

“I’m quite occupied lately so I can’t make the time,” Rachel replied coldly and continued to walk toward her house.

Rachel stopped her and persuaded her again, “Evelyn, I really hope that you can allocate time to drop by my house. I still remember that you used to like my omelette so much. You haven’t tasted it for quite a long time, right? Let me prepare it for you once again.”

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“Alright, alright, I know,” Evelyn replied in a cursory manner. “I will drop by when I’m free. Can you go now?”

When she heard Evelyn agree, Rachel let out a satisfied smile before stepping aside. “I’ll leave at once. I won’t take up anymore of your time.”

Without looking at Rachel, Evelyn stormed into the house and muttered softly, “She’s so annoying. Who does she think she is?”

After watching Evelyn enter the house, Rachel left the Morrison residence reluctantly.

Meanwhile, Vivian who had seen everything didn’t call out to Rachel. Instead, she watched her silhouette leave with mixed emotions.

The sight of Rachel speaking to Evelyn in an obsequious manner upset Vivian. Furthermore, she was confused by Rachel’s actions.

Rachel seemed to be extremely concerned with Evelyn.

Vivian remembered how Rachel ignored her own health just to attend Evelyn’s death anniversary. In fact, she even slapped Vivian twice over Evelyn.

Before this, she never gave it much thought as she assumed her mom was closer to Evelyn because she had taken care of her since she was young.

However, now that she found out she wasn’t Rachel’s biological daughter, all this no longer made sense to her. The way her mom showed concern for Evelyn had exceeded that of an employer and nanny.

Unless... Vivian was shocked by the idea that flashed across her mind. It’s highly unlikely. However, nothing doesn’t make sense at all.

“What are you doing?” While Vivian was deep in her own thoughts, a voice suddenly rang out behind, jolting her.

Turning around, she realized it was Benedict.

Patting her own chest, she heaved a sigh of relief. "You gave me a fright."

Curious, Benedict looked in the same direction Vivian was looking just now but didn't see anything. Turning his attention back to Vivian's expression, he found it to be adorable. Smiling, he repeated his question, "What are you doing here?"

When she realized Rachel was already gone, Vivian's mind was put at ease. Or else, she wouldn't even know how to explain the matter to Benedict.

"I'm here to see you." Vivian found a random excuse.

Benedict was puzzled by her response, "You are looking for me? What is it about?"

"Nothing in particular. I just happened to pass by." Vivian anxiously beefed up a story. "I wanted to see if you were home so I can go in for a chat with you."

"Is that so?" When he noticed Vivian averting his gaze and shifting her eyes around, he doubted the authenticity of her words.

However, he didn't give it much thought as he believed that there was no malice intended.

For some inexplicable reason, he felt that there was some familial connection between them. Every time he saw her, he would tousle her head and try to cheer her up. Whenever he elicited a smile from her, he would also feel equally joyous.

Nevertheless, Benedict was cognizant that the feelings were not romantic at all. Instead, he felt as if she was like... family. He had the urge to protect her from harm and wished for her to always be happy. Naturally, he enjoyed watching her smile all the time. Also, he never felt any sense of possessiveness that usually came from romantic feelings.

"Mmm-hmm, of course," Vivian replied at once. "I didn't expect to bump into you here as I was wondering if I should go in and look for you. Do you have some time now?"

"Sure, I do." Benedict nodded.

"Why don't we go to a café for some coffee?" Vivian wanted to use the opportunity to ask about Rachel and Evelyn, and what she did at the Morrison residence. Benedict would likely know about it.

"Alright," Benedict readily agreed. "Which one do you want to go to?"

“Anyone is fine. You decide.” Vivian seldom went to cafés, hence she was hardly familiar with them.

Nodding in agreement, Benedict headed to where he parked his car while Vivian followed behind him. After Vivian got into the car, Benedict brought her to a café that he frequented.

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Having each ordered a coffee, they chatted about the latest developments in their lives.

“How is Ms. Rachel’s health?” Just when Vivian didn’t know how to broach the topic about Rachel and Evelyn, Benedict brought it up first.

“My mom is in good shape.” After giving it some thought, Vivian decided not to tell Benedict about Rachel’s leukemia. “It’s just that she has recently complained about not having seen your sister in a long time.”

“Is that so?” Benedict chuckled. “She always has a soft spot for Evelyn since a long time ago. When I have the time, I’ll take Evelyn to the hospital to visit Ms. Rachel.”

“Thank you.” Vivian raised her head and smiled.

Stirring her coffee gently, she pretended to casually ask, “I really feel my mom adores your sister. When she was working at the Morrison residence, was she always especially nice to Evelyn?”

“Mmm-hmm,” Benedict nodded. “Ms. Rachel had always loved and taken great care of Evelyn since she was little. In fact, the reason your mom worked as a nanny in my house was because of Evelyn.”

“How so?” Vivian asked with an anxious expression.

When he noticed the concerned look on Vivian’s face, Benedict couldn’t help but get suspicious. But he assumed that she was just being curious and continued to explain, “When Evelyn was born, she was kidnapped from the maternity ward. At that time, my family was in a panic as we were not able to find her.”

He continued, "Later on, Ms. Rachel brought Evelyn back and my parents were extremely grateful. They wanted to reward her with a large sum of money but she refused. There was nothing my family could do to convince her otherwise."

He added, "A few years later, she suddenly came to our house when we were looking to hire a nanny. My family recognized her and wanted to give her the reward money again now that she had fallen on hard times. However, she still refused it saying that she had rescued Evelyn by accident. If we really wanted to thank her, we should just hire her as the nanny."

Benedict continued, "My family had no choice but to agree. Given that she seemed to be tied to Evelyn by fate, they decided to let Ms. Rachel care for her. In other words, you can say that Evelyn was raised by Ms. Rachel." When he finished, Benedict raised his coffee mug and took a sip.

Having heard the story, Vivian was confused as to how did Rachel manage to save Evelyn.

"Did my mom ever mention how has she saved your sister?" Vivian asked curiously.

"Hmm." Pondering in silence, Benedict tried to recall what happened then. However, nothing came to mind.

"I'm not really sure as I was too young back then. That's why I barely can remember what happened. In fact, my parents told me everything I know. They said that Ms. Rachel is Evelyn's savior and we owe her a debt of gratitude. That's why we must respect her and treat her as a family elder instead of a servant."

"I see." Vivian nodded thoughtfully before asking, "In that case, did your family investigate who abducted your sister?"

"Of course, we did. It was just that the investigations yielded nothing. They weren't able to find out anything about the kidnapper." Benedict frowned. "Later on, we didn't pursue the matter any further as Evelyn had returned safe and sound. And that was all there was to it."

Benedict's words caused Vivian's suspicions to intensify. How did Rachel coincidentally save Evelyn then? It would be unlikely for a woman like her to face the kidnappers alone and save the child. This doesn't make any sense at all.

Furthermore, given how powerful the Morrison family is, how could they not find the kidnappers then? Unless, the kidnapping didn't occur at all.

The more she thought about it the more shocked Vivian was. She was surprised that Benedict's explanation didn't lay her doubts to rest. Instead, they seemed to have confirmed her suspicions.

Taking a sip of coffee, Vivian tried to suppress the shock she felt before casually asking, "Benedict, is Evelyn's birthday around the corner?"

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Benedict shook his head and smiled at Vivian. "Evelyn's birthday is on the twelve of September, so it's still far off. When we throw her a birthday party then, you will definitely be invited."

"Thank you." Vivian forced a smile at Benedict. However, she felt that something was wrong. Why is Evelyn's birthday so close to mine?

Unless... An idea faintly emerged in Vivian's head. She refused to believe her guess earlier. But now, her thoughts were driving her crazy.

No, it can't be. In her mind, Vivian was trying to convince herself that Rachel wouldn't do something like that.

As Vivian stared blankly at her coffee mug, her eyes were filled with disbelief. She mumbled softly to herself, "It can't be. It can't be..."

Puzzled by her reaction, Benedict asked, "Are you alright? What can't be?"

"Huh?" Benedict's words jolted Vivian back to her senses. "No, it's nothing."

Raising her head to look at him, Vivian's eyes were filled with mixed emotions. Is the reason I feel an inexplicable sense of familiarity with Benedict because... She didn't dare think any further as she tried to maintain her presence of mind.

"I just remembered I have something important to deal with. I'm sorry to have invited you out but end up leaving early instead," Vivian remarked in an apologetic manner.

Benedict smiled as he didn't mind. "It's alright. Coincidentally, I have been busy recently and did not have the opportunity to relax. Hence, I have just given myself the day off today."

"Mmm-hmm." Vivian was grateful for how considerate he was. "In that case, I'll take my leave first."

"Do you need me to give you a lift?"

"No, no." Vivian declined his kind offer immediately. "The place I'm going to is close by. So it's fine."

"Alright." Benedict didn't insist. He understood that sometimes good intentions might end up bringing trouble to others.

After saying goodbye to Benedict, Vivian headed for the library in the city center.

Vivian was sure that the kidnapping incident that happened to the Morrison family would definitely have been reported in the papers. And the library was the best place to look for it so that she could find out the truth.

When she arrived at the library, she informed the librarian that she was looking for newspapers from more than twenty years ago.

The librarian who was advanced in age gave Vivian a curious look. "It's not going to be easy. It has already been so long and no one has actually kept proper records of them. What do you want them for?"

"Our magazine is writing an exposé on a particular theme. Therefore, I need to check the old newspapers as part of my research." Vivian cooked up an excuse.

The librarian nodded in acknowledgment and had no further questions. She led Vivian to an underground storage room. "There you go. All the old newspapers are stored here and they are labeled by years. Please be my guest."

"Thank you." Vivian replied with a smile.

"No problem. Just be mindful not to mess them up. It's a pain to reorganize them again," the librarian nagged once more before leaving.

Staring at the piles of newspapers in front of her, Vivian had a headache as she didn't even know where to begin.

After searching for the whole afternoon, she finally found the article regarding the kidnapping. Smiling, Vivian quickly laid out the paper on the floor and read its contents carefully.

The report stated that Evelyn was kidnapped from the maternity ward right after she was born. The Morrison family didn't even get to see her face. After the kidnappers received the ransom, they didn't return her to the Morrison family. Instead, they dumped the baby and fled. After that, Evelyn was found by a good Samaritan who returned her to the hospital.

From what Benedict told her, Vivian gathered that the good Samaritan must be Rachel.

However, the more she read the more she felt something was amiss. Since the Morrison family had not seen Evelyn as a newborn, how did they know the baby Rachel returned to them was theirs? Weren't they worried about getting the wrong baby?