BELOVED: *Never Late*

'Why don't you ever let me do anything for you?! I don't know! It's like...it's like...you don't ...trust me...' the boy stammered, frustrated. Throwing his hands in the air, he slunk to the doorway, then turned back to the girl, shaking his head as he pivoted. She had buried her face in her arms, slumping into the table where she sat. She winced with what her fiancé demanded; it was true. She didn't *need* him; there was nothing (almost) she couldn't handle on her own. 'It's not that I don't *trust* you, Ned. I do! *I do!* I just...' Her words trailed away as a thousand memories played through her mind like a an old-fashioned movie on a reel.

When she had dressed up in that princess gown, mummy even allowing a splash of perfume and a hint of blush, for her daddy-daughter dance, and he never showed. All the times she waited by the door for him to collect her for their weekends together, which never materialized. The hours after school she sat on the steps believing he was just running late, and in the end, having to call her mum to come retrieve her. How she stood in the shadows behind the auditorium curtain, peeking out to see if he'd show for her lead in the play, to which he never came. She knew he would never miss her graduation. From high school. He did. Her college walk. He did. And lastly, the final time she allowed him to let her down, sitting on that hot dusty road in her broken down car, waiting for him to show to help her. He never came. And she finally, after almost a quarter of a century of her life, she finally got the message. She made her own silent agreement with herself: never again would she put herself in a place where someone could let her down. Ever. Again.

'I'm sorry, Ned,' sighing, slowly, she raised her head so she could look at her fiancé directly. 'I never had a man I could trust, so this is new territory for me. The man in my life before you never showed up, so i am used to doing it on my own. I can try to learn, however. In fact, I want to learn. Please help me. Please be patient with me.'

Because He is the God of impeccable timing and incredible compassion, we can be assured, He is the God Who always shows up, and Who is never early or late, but always right on time. Unlike humanity, who is fickle at the words they use and the promises they make, God's most important appointments are those with His children. Even if you have never been able to count on another individual, you can count on the Lord, because He cares about what matters most to you.

Lamentations 3:22-23, 'Yahweh's tender mercies have no end, and the kindness of His endless love is never exhausted. New, fresh mercies greet me with every sunrise. So wonderfully great is Your faithfulness!' (TPT)