

# When There Is Nothing Left But Love Chapter 1088-1092

## Chapter 1088

I was stunned and baffled by what she meant. She gestured to me as she stole a glance at the mastiff sleeping soundly in the cage.

It suddenly struck me that she was hinting that the mastiff could strike us at any time. The very thought of the mastiff pounding on me brought me out in a cold sweat. Restraining my fear, I calmed myself down and replied firmly, "Yes, I can!"

She nodded and handed me a knife. "All the best to you! Take care of your own safety!" she warned me and approached the cage to unlock the main door.

Once the main door was unlocked, the mastiffs were still motionless and sleeping soundly.

Standing near the cage, Nora took a deep breath and incapacitated one of the mastiffs with an electric baton.

In a split second, the mastiff howled in pain as the electric baton inflicted electric shock on it. She then moved aside swiftly.

That one mastiff's deafening howl triggered the other mastiffs as well. They woke up one by one and glared at both of us viciously.

Raising the electric baton in her hand, Nora looked at me with chattering teeth. With a quivering voice, she reminded me, "Grab hold of the knife tightly and protect yourself!"

I nodded as my heart pounded tremendously with fear.

All the mastiffs moved out slowly from the cage and fixed their ferocious gazes on us as they snarled at us.

The mastiff which was incapacitated by Nora earlier approached her as if it knew that Nora was the one who had woken it up earlier.

Looking at Nora, I was scared stiff as I asked, "Nora, what are we supposed to do?"

Still holding the electric baton, she gritted out, "Scarlett, I mentioned earlier that your life would be at risk. So... I don't know what we're supposed to do next!"

At the same time, another mastiff was moving toward me, making my whole body tremble with fear. I stuck myself closer to the wall, with the knife tightly clenched in my hand as I stepped back.

The enraged mastiff's intimidating stare sent chills down my spine. Even though Nora mentioned that the mastiffs had just taken their meals and would not eat us, it didn't mean that they wouldn't bite us! For some reason, I felt like we would be easily torn into pieces with just one deadly bite!

The sight of me holding the knife must have provoked the mastiff in a way. That explained why its agitation was triggered at once, and it was ready to pounce on me. Standing rooted to the floor, I could only shut my eyes and screamed at the top of my lungs. At the same time, I could not help mourning for myself at the devastating fate which would befall me soon.

At the eleventh hour, I was taken aback by the ear-piercing sound of gunshots. Thud! The beast, which was still pouncing on me seconds ago, collapsed onto the floor. It writhed in pain and lay motionless on the floor within seconds.

What a close shave! I was still petrified and remained frozen. By then, all the other mastiffs were also lying motionless on the floor, with a syringe poked onto each of their necks. They were apparently injected with some sort of anesthesia.

“Both of you shouldn’t have infuriated them!” Spencer said in an icy-cold tone as he glared at us. He was standing with the other bodyguards at the main entrance of the room.

Nora and I nodded in embarrassment. Meanwhile, Nora looked at Spencer with her teary eyes and asked nervously, “Spencer, how is Armond? Has he woken up? Can I go and see him?”

Spencer frowned slightly as he replied, “Mr. Murphy has just woken up. Ms. Oberick, don’t worry, he’s fine.”

Heaving a sigh of relief, Nora asked Spencer pitifully, “Spencer, can you bring us to see him? I’m really sorry for what I’ve done just now. But it was never my intention to hurt him. I just really love him, so I was blinded by my jealousy. I couldn’t watch him do that to another woman...”

Spencer let out a deep sigh and said, “Let’s go. Just don’t be so impetuous next time!”

After that, he led us out of the room without saying anything. Unexpectedly, the mastiffs were left unattended on the floor.

Once we stepped out of the room, it was locked again. Trailing behind Spencer, Nora gazed at me meaningfully, hinting me to find ways to escape.

I nodded silently at her.

As Armond’s villa was too spacious, I could not guarantee that I would not end up losing my way here. Nevertheless, I could only try my luck as that was the only chance for me to escape at the moment.

Before I could think of a brilliant idea, the siren blared abruptly with a high-pitched sound. I immediately covered my ears.

Spencer furrowed his brows and turned to look at the bodyguards behind him. They left at once after he threw them a glance. I presumed that he had instructed the bodyguards to attend to some urgent matters in the villa.

I exchanged a look with Nora right then. She asked Spencer inquisitively, "Spencer, why is the siren blaring suddenly? What happened?"

There was a momentary weird look on Spencer's face before he squeezed a smile. "Ms. Oberick, you don't have to worry so much. The bodyguards are checking on it now. It's probably caused by the system which malfunctions at times. Here, let me lead you to Mr. Murphy."

Nora nodded constantly and asked deliberately, "Armond is currently in his bedroom, right? I'll go and see him now." After that, she trotted eagerly toward his bedroom. Fearing that she would unintentionally stir up any troubles again, Spencer quickened his pace to catch her up. Meanwhile, I purposely slowed down behind them, trying to grab the golden opportunity to wander around by myself in order to find ways to flee the horrible place.

## **Chapter 1089**

Seeing that, I strode forward, following the route that Nora had told me in advance. Only the fourth floor of Armond's villa was occupied at that moment. Nonetheless, it was exceptionally challenging to locate the stairway leading downstairs because the place was humungous. He might have possibly built it that way on purpose to make it difficult for people to find the staircase.

Remembering what Nora told me, I managed to locate the exit and quickly headed downstairs to the living room.

I was stunned to see several hundred policemen besieging the villa. Right then, I also noticed Ashton in their midst.

It had been a few days since I last saw him. That man stuck out like a sore thumb in the crowd, wearing a dark-colored trench coat, looking as dapper as ever.

I was taken aback for a moment until our gazes were fixated on each other. A fuzzy feeling arose in me, and I ran toward him without the slightest hesitation.

Oh, how I've missed him and longed for his embrace these days. My overwhelming emotions fueled me to dash toward him relentlessly like waves hitting the shore.

Simultaneously, he was darting across the room to me. Nothing else mattered at that moment besides falling into his arms and hugging him tightly with my head buried in his chest.

The reunion made me tear up. "I thought I'll never be able to see you again in this lifetime. I thought I'll have to face everything on my own this time. I thought you'll never come. I..."

"Silly girl!" He assured me in a low voice while hugging me, "How could I let you face this alone? Not now and never will."

Resting in his arms, my body started to warm up as I calmed down. I could feel my heart beating normally again with him beside me, and that felt good. I felt like I owned the whole world only when he's around.

Moments later, he said gently, "Let's get this mess sorted."

I nodded in agreement. After all, the main priority was to settle the matters at hand.

At that moment, the policemen had the entire villa surrounded. The person-in-charge consulted Ashton, "Mr. Fuller, should we barge in?"

Ashton nodded and ordered, "Locate Armond at once while controlling the rest. Try to keep the site as it is and reduce any possible damage to the least."

“Noted!”

Subsequently, the troop entered the villa. I reminded them, “Armond’s pets are on the third floor. Beware, they are mostly venomous snakes and scorpions.”

The leader of the troop acknowledged, “Thanks for the reminder, Mrs. Fuller.”

Meanwhile, I remained outside of the villa with Ashton. His composure piqued my curiosity. “When did you return? It takes at least four hours to get from A City to K City.”

He stared at me and replied, “Before Holden came here with you, he sent me a message. To be honest, Armond wouldn’t call you here for nothing. If he failed to get the sandalwood box, it’s expected of him to detain you. Moreover, the Murphys are anxious to obtain the contract. Hence, it’s a necessary step for him to look for you.”

“So, you came back as soon as you got the message?”

He nodded. “When Holden has gotten full knowledge of the situation in the villa, I brought in the police. With Holden’s help, Armond will definitely go to jail.”

Nodding my head, I continued asking, “How did the investigation go in A City? Did you manage to find some solid evidence? Did they confess?”

“Yes, they’ve confessed. Joseph will follow up with the rest.”

This chapter was finally closed.

Earlier, Armond fell unconscious after getting hit by Nora. Hence, the raid was conducted successfully, where items found included numerous Class 1 protected wildlife species and weapons.

Charged with a crime, Armond was taken away directly. On the other hand, the others at the villa were required to record their affidavits before being released. As for the Murphys, they were all affected because of what Armond did.

The less-than-ideal stock market plunged even further, resulting in a severe crash. In the end, Armond was held in police custody.

After a tiring night, I woke up to a loving Ashton next to me.

He looked me in the eyes and curled his lips. "You're up?"

I nodded as I let out a coquettish smile unknowingly. Snuggling in his embrace, I said with a hoarse voice, "I dreamt of you last night and thought that you've left for a business trip. I was thinking to myself how disappointed I'd be if I couldn't see you when I woke up. Thankfully, you're here with me, and this makes me glad."

He chuckled. "You can come with me on all of my business trips in the future. It's always a real bummer when I don't see you the moment I open my eyes in the morning and when my arms hug nothing at night."

I buried my face against his chest. "Now that Armond's case is settled, isn't Rachel taking care of everything in A City? You can now remain here instead of traveling to A City and Moranta. Oh, by the way, Nick is getting married soon."

## **Chapter 1090**

He nodded and then cast me an intense gaze. "We'll organize our very own wedding as soon as Nick is done with his. How's that?"

He had me flabbergasted. "Our wedding? Didn't we have one already? It's so troublesome to do it all over again. It's better the channel the energy to plan for a trip when the weather gets better soon. It's been ages since I traveled."

He laughed. "We'll surely go traveling, but only after our wedding."

Squinting my eyes, I hugged him. "Let's think about that in the near future. Any ceremony that we hold right now is considered our anniversary celebration."

Chilling with him on the bed made me feel sleepy. At that thought, I checked the time and realized that it was already noon. Lifting my head, I asked, "Are you hungry?"

Arching his brows, he responded with more questions, "What about you? Are you hungry?"

I admitted, "Quite. But, we don't have that many groceries at home, and the helper isn't around. What shall we have for lunch?"

After pondering for a while, I suggested, "Why don't we eat at Aunt Sally's? Apparently, she's bought a new place in the city, and it's quite near to K University. We can visit the university library thereafter and spend some time reading. How does that sound?"

He brushed his finger lightly on my nose and replied affectionately, "Sounds like a plan."

I sat on the bed briefly to clear my mind. After showering and getting dressed, Ashton walked out from the walk-in closet.

He saw me and asked, "Are you still sleepy?"

I shook my head. "Not anymore. Any reason why you're not wearing your black jacket anymore?" I was surprised to see him wearing something that was not black. His first?

He carried me up and lugged me around his waist, then placed me on the bathroom countertop. With a smile, he handed over the toothbrush to me, with the toothpaste squeezed in advance. "Don't you like seeing me wearing other colors?"

In a muffled voice, I explained, "It's not that. It's refreshing to see you in other colors. You look so handsome that I'm falling head over heels for you. I'll doll up just to match you when we go out."

Hugging me, he stared at my reflection in the mirror. "You're dressing up because you're going to the university!"

I giggled. "That's one of the reasons. However, my first priority is to look good for you." After gargling, I struggled to get off him. He obliged and sat me on the toilet seat.

Frowning, I asked, "Hey, I'm not done."

His gaze fell on my feet, then he reminded, "The floor is cold. Don't walk around barefooted. I'll bring you your slippers. Stay here."

After a while, he came back with a pair of slippers and put them on for me. Pecking my cheek, he said, "I'll go make some breakfast. Come down when you're ready."

I nodded and continued washing up.

After I had freshened up, I searched high and low in the walk-in closet and found a lovely pink dress for the occasion. I wondered where Ashton got it from since it had just been newly released by a famous brand early this year. The style was quite ladylike, different from my regular picks. Wearing it to see Sally would be like a breath of fresh air.

After getting dressed, I put on some make-up and blow-dried my hair. It had been a long time since I glammed up, and my hair had grown to reach my waist. Sitting at my dressing table, I simpered as I was quite pleased with my hairdo.

Frankly speaking, I didn't remember losing any hair. It was still as dark and thick as ever. My skin and smile looked brighter, and in fact, I appeared more relaxed than before.

I had heard from some elderly people that when a couple became more charming, it was a sign that they were getting more compatible, and things would only get better.

Now that I thought about it, it did have some truth in it. Ashton and I had been together for years. Hence, we'd seen it all and also endured multiple hardships. Yet, things seemed to have just begun falling into place, and everything was just blissful.

Not only that, but we were also seemingly becoming better versions of ourselves. When I reminisced about the past, there were only sweet memories.

By the time I got downstairs, Ashton had prepared some fish for breakfast. He waved at me excitedly while reaching out for the utensils. "Come over and try this!" Everything seemed so natural.

However, I felt a little surreal when our stories unfolded so well. Although Ashton and I had just started our relationship not too long ago, I felt that we had been through multiple cycles of ups and downs.

As I was staring into space blankly, he smiled at me and asked, "What are you thinking about? Come over."

His words interrupted my thoughts. I took a seat at the dining table and then looked at him in disbelief. "When did you learn how to make fish soup? It looks delicious."

## **Chapter 1091**

He scooped a bowl of soup for me. "I tried it once by chance in A City and liked it. So, I wanted to make some and share it with you."

Accepting the bowl from him, I took a sip and complimented him, "Congratulations, Mr. Fuller, your cooking skills have improved!"

He served me some eggs. “Bon appétit.” Is that a bashful smile?

With a gleeful grin, I lowered my head. Everyone acts differently when they’re in love. Take Ashton and me for example, we’re a couple who enjoys simplicity. Yet, it’s all these trivial things that help us build solid memories.

After breakfast, Ashton drove us out of the villa. Sitting on the passenger seat, I looked out at the landscape through the car window. The gloomy horizon in K City had finally cleared up, revealing a bright sky that was scintillatingly blue.

“It’s so rare to see a sunny day when it’s almost the end of the month. Oh yeah, Christmas is just around the corner. I wonder if it will snow by then.” It usually snowed in K City. I’m sure it’ll make the joyous seasons even merrier.

As I thought further, I started making plans for Christmas. We’d never really celebrated Christmas over the years.

Meanwhile, Ashton continued driving, his eyes fixed serenely on the road. “Do you have any Christmas present in mind?”

Pursing my lips, I looked at him sideways. “Mr. Fuller, have you noticed what has become of us? Our lives are too mundane and dull, just like a couple who have lived together for decades. There’s no longer any excitement.”

Furrowing his brows, he pulled over. His deep eyes stared at me. “So, you’re trying to tell me that we should seek pleasure?”

Seeing that he had pulled over suddenly, I could not help but ask, "Why did you stop the car out of the blue? Aren't we heading to Aunt Sally's?"

He leaned over and quipped, "Let's delve deeper into this business."

"What business?"

"Pleasure-seeking business!"

I was stupefied and then broke out into laughter. "That's not what I meant. I just wanted to tell you that we're doing good. You..."

"Which part is good?" He looked me in the eyes and teased openly. I was taken aback for a moment and glared at him in the next minute. "Can you stop, Ashton?"

He was surprised at my sudden roar. "I'm just saying. Don't overthink things. Aren't we on our way to see Aunt Sally? What if there's bad traffic ahead? With you pulling over now, when will we be able to arrive at her house?"

He was still in a daze. Thus, I pushed him back to his seat and continued, "Focus on the road and stop dreaming!"

Heeding my call, he ignited the engine again. As the car was revved to life, he turned to me with knitted brows. "When did you learn the trick of changing a topic so fast?"

Pretending to be ignorant, I tried to divert his attention, "What about? Did I? I was just reminding you to stay focused on a task and not to run wild with your imagination, okay?"

As I spoke, I gently moved his face to the front, gesturing him to concentrate on his driving. Then, I said sternly, "Anyway, it was just a passing comment. Don't take it to heart. If you continue behaving like this, it's hard for me to chat with you about anything under the sky."

“Okay!” he replied attentively, like a fool.

Sally had since moved back to K City. Thankfully, the journey was quite smooth as the distance was short.

She bought a condominium in a residential area located in the city center. When we arrived, we were greeted by Sally and Jim. They had been waiting for us downstairs. With a faint smile, Sally asked, “Were you stuck in traffic? We’ve been waiting for you for such a long time. Come, let’s go upstairs!”

Holding my hand, Ashton and I greeted Jim with a nod and followed them to their house.

It was a three-bedroom unit. Though not very large in size, it was very cozy. There was a vase of vibrant flowers on the television cabinet. I could not tell if they were real or fake, but the bright colors seemed too good to be true.

“Those are handmade flowers by your Aunt Sally. She gathered some twigs from the neighborhood and then made the flowers out of tissue paper, dyed them in colors, and voila, she turned them into a unique decoration piece,” Jim took the time to share with me.

I was very impressed and approached it for a closer look. From afar, they looked just like real flowers.

Ashton followed suit and smiled lightly. “It’s hard to tell that these are fake if you don’t examine it carefully.”

Sally joined us after serving the dishes. “Jim blended the colors excellently. That’s how they can look identical to the real ones. C’mon, let’s dig in. I have some more of those flowers in my bedroom. I’ll let you bring some home later.”

## **Chapter 1092**

At the table, Sally gazed at us while serving us. “I see that Fuller Corporation has expanded very well. It’s operating at a large scale now and has a very solid foundation. You two should start focusing on building

your own little family. I mean, you need to spice things up. Don't just leave Summer with the Moores. You need to keep her by your side more, educate, and develop her as she grows up. Don't be lazy."

Feeling ashamed of myself, I nodded profusely. "Noted, Aunt Sally."

We should have kept Summer with us more. There're too many things going on earlier, but I guess it's time to bring her home now.

While I was still thinking about this, Sally ran to the bathroom all of a sudden, leaving Ashton and me perplexed. Jim calmly followed her in, and they took a while before returning to the table.

I blurted, "Did you eat something bad and have a tummy upset, Aunt Sally?"

Smiling, Sally explained, "I'm all right. This is just a temporary symptom. Things will get better after a month or two." She took her seat.

Jim served her some dishes and took care of all her needs.

Ashton stayed silent at the side. Meanwhile, I frowned at him. He's such a log, not knowing how to care for his aunt.

After lunch, Jim and Ashton enjoyed a good cuppa while Sally and I watched television after doing the dishes. Suddenly, Sally pulled me aside and asked, "Letty, age is catching up with the both of you. Do you plan to have children?"

I was momentarily stunned by her abrupt question.

Upon hesitating, I answered, "Aunt Sally, I can't conceive."

Gasping, her smile stiffened as she said helplessly, "What a pity! Life must be tough on you two."

I pressed my lips together tightly, unsure of how to reply. Let bygones be bygones.

After some time, Sally appeared to be unwell again. I asked again, "What's wrong, Aunt Sally? How are you feeling?"

She shook her head slightly. "I'm okay. I'm too old for this, that's why... Letty, have you thought about having a child through alternative means?"

I was completely baffled and tried to clarify, "Aunt Sally, we talked about this and..."

She interrupted me, "Test-tube baby, honey! Now that technology is so advanced, giving birth yourself isn't the only way to have a baby. You can consider getting pregnant via in vitro fertilization since the walls of your ovaries are thin."

I stared at her with a blank expression. "Aunt Sally, Ashton may not agree to this. We're not young anymore. Moreover, we already have Summer."

She shook her head and continued to convince me, "This isn't about age. Look at me. If it can happen to me, you can handle it too. The Fullers are a big family, running multiple corporations. It'd be a plus point to have more children around to add cheers to your days, accompany you when you travel, and also to help out in the family business."

I picked up the main point in her speech. "Aunt Sally, are you pregnant?"

She said admittedly, "Yes, I'm three months pregnant. It's not quite stable yet. Jim and I are planning for the wedding, but we dare not break the news to Ashton. Hence, the delay."

I recalled Ashton expressing his disapproval of the union between Sally and Jim. The main reason being Jim related to the Murphy family, and Ashton is wary of them.

I asked Sally earnestly, "Aunt Sally, do you know that Uncle Jim is one of the Murphys?"

Maintaining her composure, she answered, "Yes, I know. I'm also aware of the conflicts between Ashton and Armond. However, these are their battles in the corporate world. Your Uncle Jim hasn't been involved in the business for some time now. He's just an old professor, leading a simple life. He's been a lone wolf all these years. Having known me now, we just want to continue living our days happily. Letty, please find time to talk to Ashton and advise him to consider my situation. I'm no longer young, so it's not easy to have finally met a man I can depend on for the rest of my life."

Putting myself in Sally's shoes, I could empathize with her. I just didn't know how to bring this up to Ashton. With Armond being sentenced to jail, there was a need for a new successor to manage the family matters. Thus, we couldn't guarantee that there would be no further conflict between the Murphys and the Fullers. At this point, the future remained uncertain.

Two hours had passed when Ashton and Jim ended their coffee session. They seemed to have enjoyed themselves.

Jim then suggested, "We'd love to dine out with you this evening if you don't already have a prior engagement."

After some small talks, we bid them goodbye.

As we exited their condominium, I grabbed Ashton by the hand and asked inquisitively, "What did you talk about with Uncle Jim just now?"

He flipped my hand around and squeezed it into his. "We chatted about the Murphys. I passed the contract to him to hand it over to Mr. Muphy. Then, we also concluded his marriage with Aunt Sally."