

When There Is Nothing Left But Love Chapter 1093-1097

Chapter 1093

The news was a bolt from the blue. Rejoicing, I held on to his arms tightly. “Really? You’re amazing, Ashton. In this case, Fuller Corporation won’t be implicated in Armond’s crime, and neither will this affect Aunt Sally and Uncle Jim.

“Oh, by the way, Aunt Sally is three months pregnant. Help them out wherever you can. She also suggested for all of us to return to J City along with Uncle Charlie and Aunt Helen during the new year.”

He nodded and planted a kiss on my forehead. “Why are you beaming with joy when Aunt Sally and Jim are the ones getting married? Silly girl!”

I chuckled loudly. “I don’t know why, either. I just feel over the moon. Aunt Sally has been living all by herself over the years. Now that she’s met her Mr. Right, it’s something worth celebrating. In addition, she’s got a baby. These are all wonderful news.”

Ashton let out a thin smile and looked at me. “Do you want another child?”

His question startled me, then I parroted him, “Can we have another child?”

He smirked. “As long as you want one, we’ll have it at all cost, regardless of the method. Scarlett, it’s been a roller coaster ride for us to be where we are now with each other. Have no regrets. Whatever you want to do, just tell me, and I’ll do my very best to make it happen, okay?”

A warm, fuzzy feeling evoked in me as soon as he said that.

I thought about what Sally said and elicited his response, "Ashton, Aunt Sally suggests for us to try in vitro fertilization. You..."

He nodded and agreed immediately as if he was expecting this. "I'll contact a well-known expert in the country and consult him about this. Just leave this to me."

I thought he would turn down the idea, but he agreed right away, which made me quite astounded.

My phone rang that instant; it was Nora. Her voice was low, and she sounded dejected. After a long pause, she said, "Scarlett, I'm leaving for A City today. I wanted to leave quietly but decided to give you a call in the end. I'm still wearing the bracelet. About the child, I regret it so much, but there's nothing I can do about it. I once felt that as long as I kept deceiving myself with positive thoughts, you wouldn't be mad at me. However, I realized that I was wrong. I'm defeated by my guilty conscience. I don't have that peace within me. So, I called to apologize. I'm sorry, and I know that my words mean nothing to you, but I must do it in order to get through this ordeal. I also want to plead on Armond's behalf, so please have mercy on him, if possible."

Clenching on my phone, I could not help but feel miserable for her. I was lost for words. Moments later, I asked, "Where are you right now?"

"Airport."

I glanced over at Ashton, who simultaneously switched directions and headed to the airport.

Then, I said over the phone, "Nora, it's all in the past. We'll all be fine. I know what to do about Armond. Please wait for us at the airport. We're on our way to send you off."

I hung up while Ashton sped off.

When we arrived, I saw Nora with her suitcase. Only those who were very familiar with her could recognize her at one glance since she had a mask on.

I approached her and gave her a bear hug. “Do think of me when you’re back in A City. Take care!”

Burying her head in my neck, she nodded. “You arrived in a flash! Initially, I just wanted to bid farewell over the phone. I didn’t mean for you to come all the way to the airport.”

“I know, but we’re just nearby. So, we came. Do you have any future plans in mind?”

Her first experience in love cuts her the deepest. It will probably take a long time for her wounds to heal properly.

She shrugged her shoulders and said casually, “Not really, but I intend to go to Lightspring. My Grandpa has given me a large sum of money, so I want to open an inn over there. I’ll bring my Grandpa along, make a big yard for him to cultivate plants and crops, and accompany him every day.”

I was a bit green with envy of the life she described. “Hmm... That sounds like an ideal life. Ashton and I will visit you when we’re free.”

We chatted for a while more before it was time for her to board the flight. Before she left, I took a deep breath when I hugged her for the last time.

Life was, indeed, full of ups and downs.

It was already quite late in the evening when we stepped foot into K University. Since Ashton and I did not have a specific itinerary, we headed straight to the library.

Though it was not very crowded, our appearance seemed to have caught everyone’s attention. Ashton was a man of few words, so he quickly found a place and sat down quietly.

Meanwhile, I was searching high and low for some books on the shelves but to no avail. It was my first time here, and I was not very familiar with how the resources were arranged.

Chapter 1094

Right then, a handsome young man who looked around twenty years old approached me.

He smiled brightly at me, and I subconsciously responded with a gentle grin.

“Are you looking for something?” he asked.

I nodded. “I was looking for some materials for legal research, but my effort was in vain.” It’s probably because I’m not familiar with this library.

He looked at me and explained gently, “Most of the books here are scattered. There are more professional resources in the reading room next door. You don’t seem to know this place well. If you don’t mind, may I show you around? Maybe I can help you find the books that you’re looking for.”

I thanked him with a nod and a smile, “That would be wonderful!”

Just as he had described, I found the books I wanted in the reading room next door. When we were exiting, he asked, “You don’t look like you’re from this university. Are you here for an exam or a Ph.D. student?”

I chuckled. “I’m just here to borrow some books. You look really young. A junior?”

He nodded. "I'm going to be a senior soon. Can I have your phone number, please? You remind me of someone."

Amused, I asked, "Is this a pick-up line used by young boys nowadays?"

He denied, "No, you really looked like the celebrity I had always liked a few years ago. You two are so alike. She's seemingly quitted the entertainment world. I liked her very much, so when I first saw you, I thought you were her."

As soon as he said that, I knew that he must have mistaken me for Nancy. Hence, I told him, "I'm sorry, but I don't think I can give you my contact number."

Confused, he asked, "Why?"

I pointed at Ashton, who was walking toward me, and laughed. "My husband doesn't allow me to chat with strangers, let alone exchanging contacts. Hence, I'm sorry, but I can't give you my number."

Looking at Ashton from afar, the young man looked somewhat disappointed. He then nodded reluctantly. "It's okay then."

Without saying another word, he left.

Looking at Ashton, I ran toward him and fell in his arms, smiling. "Mr. Fuller, do you know what I was up to?"

He arched his brow, "What were you doing?"

"There's a junior asking me for my number!" I bragged, "But I told him that I'm married, and my hubby is irreplaceable."

He took a glance at the young man who had left. Then, he gazed at me. "It seems like I shouldn't let you wander around in the future. You might get kidnapped when I'm not being watchful."

Holding onto the handrail, I climbed upstairs. He hugged me all the way, and we found a seat together.

It felt good to be in a vibrant place as if we were young again.

Nick's wedding was carried out smoothly, but I did not see Jackson there. I called him multiple times and even tried contacting him through other means but to no avail.

At the wedding, Nick said to his bride, "Meeting you has been the best thing that's ever happened to me. Thank you for giving me a home." It was a simple yet powerful statement.

I think that people have a bias toward simplicity as they grow older. When we're young, we often assume that the ending will be sweet, regardless of how the love story goes. Then, we became oblivious of the fact that not everyone who's in love is tolerant.

Many years later, I met Jackson in M Country during a business trip. With a faint smile, he said calmly, "It's been a while." That was the end of our conversation.

As we grew older, our days became simpler. John married Emma. Although he did not do it out of love, he enjoyed leading a simple life and spending ordinary moments with her.

Cherish the person you love in your memory. I believed Emma would understand this very well. John deliberately treated Emma better as if he was compensating for another person. However, Emma took it as a consolation and considered herself blessed. In a way, she was lucky to have a man like John who made attempts to pamper her. The only less-than-ideal part was that she had never truly fallen in love with him. He was way better than he appeared to be.

For me, that was the best ending. At least, John didn't need to face any challenges and bear the pain that life threw at him all by himself.

During Christmas season, Ashton wanted to bring me along to Joe's wedding. I was surprised at the news, but I was happy for Joe, nonetheless. No matter who he chooses to spend the rest of his life with, I'm certain that as a responsible adult, Joe is more than ready to lead a life of purpose.

It was also during Christmas when I received news from the rehabilitation center that Rebecca was found dead from a suicidal drug overdose. Ashton was the first one who got the news. He fell silent for a long time before squeezing out a few words through his lips, "Give her a beautiful funeral service."

And, that was it.

After years of entanglement, the last thing he heard was her death. I was shocked to the core. Indeed, I was really shaken.

Everyone had their own fate. Perhaps, Rebecca made the wrong decision since the very beginning.

Ashton and Sally were planning to spend the new year in J City. Before the year ended, Ashton cleared his schedule and brought me to the Moore residence to pick Summer up. Having spent a few months recuperating there, Summer's health seemed to have improved a lot.

Somehow, she became quiet after recovering from the illness. Upon knowing that we were going to J City, Summer asked in anticipation, "Mommy, are we going to the cemetery to see Grandma and Aunt Macy?"

I froze for a moment and instantly nodded. This is great! Summer remembers Macy.

In the meantime, Hannah heard that we were leaving for J City, so she called to say goodbye. I was overjoyed when I discovered that she was pregnant and shared a lot with her.

As soon as I hung up, Ashton held me in his arms. "We'll pay a visit to the hospital right after the new year. We, too, will have our own child very soon."

I nodded, feeling really contented and peaceful. To me, it doesn't matter anymore whether I have a child or otherwise. The best is yet to come, and I look forward to it.

Then, it was the new year.

It did not snow in J City on new year's eve.

But instead, what greeted us were bewitching lights, incredible decorations, lively streets filled with bustling crowds, and a thick festive atmosphere.

Apparently, it was the first time that the Fullers had gathered as a big family. Charlie's head had turned white. He said to me, "Scarlett, it's not easy for you two to get together. The luckiest thing in life is to reunite with the one that you love. It's a tremendous blessing to be able to watch the fireworks while hugging your one true love."

I nodded in agreement. Suddenly, I noticed the wrinkles creeping up at the corner of Ashton's eyes. It finally dawned on me that he had aged.

It had been a long and winding road throughout this journey we called life. We had walked it slowly and arduously. Looking at him silently, I only hoped that we could carry on peacefully in our remaining days.

Seeing the winter skies lit up by the colorful fireworks, Summer let out a gleeful, festive cry. I lay my head on Ashton's chest. "Ashton, what's your new year wish?"

Looking handsome as ever, he stared at me in the eyes and exclaimed, "To have you with me, day after day, year after year."

I could not contain my joy. We locked eyes as I repeated after him, "To have you with me, day after day, year after year."

What an ideal ending to a perfect night!

Chapter 1095

It was the first new year that I actually felt so blissful for the first time in my life. Ashton, Summer, and I spent another week in J City before returning to K City.

When we were about to depart, Charlie walked out with Summer in his arms. They were still frolicking around.

Summer had put on some weight during the festive seasons. Thus, it was quite a challenge for Charlie to carry her all the way. Although he was panting and looking slightly exhausted, he did not admit to it. He was playing a fool with Summer and making her laugh boisterously.

“Let me carry her, Uncle Charlie.” Ashton stepped forward, wanting to take over and relieve his uncle.

The latter did not hand Summer over immediately. He fixed her scarf, gazed at Ashton and me, and sighed as he finally passed Summer over to Ashton.

“Summer, do call me more frequently once you’re home. Will you remember this?” Charlie grinned from ear to ear.

“Yes, I will, Grandpa Charlie!” Summer was very well-behaved, adorable, and likeable by all. Saying goodbye to her made Helen and Sally teared up.

Macy would be so relieved and delighted to know that Summer is loved by all her elders.

Heaving a sigh, Charlie looked at both Ashton and me and reminded us, “I won’t nag you further, but do look after Summer and be careful on the road. Ashton, do remember to bring Scarlett and Summer to visit the Moores. Uphold the good virtues and proper mannerism as you should. Don’t let others criticize the Fullers for displaying bad etiquettes.”

I laughed at his comments, knowing that Cameron and Zachary were not so petty about these things. Then I assured him, “We don’t live very far from them, so it’s not a big deal to travel to and fro. They can see Summer whenever they like.”

That was also the reason why Ashton and I wanted to spend new year’s in J City.

Compared to the other relatives, Charlie was quite lonely. Since we stayed quite a distance from them, I often felt bad for not being able to be around them. This new year, it was inevitable for us to bring on the merry and keep them company during the festive seasons.

Drooping his head, Charlie continued to lecture us, “Visiting the elders during festivity has got nothing to do with how far or close you’re from them. Don’t mix the two up. Good manners begin at home. These are the unsaid rules that you should be mindful of, so don’t take these things lightly. You two are still too young!”

“Rest assured that I’ll bring them over and pay a visit soon,” Ashton eased the situation while I leaned on him and obliged like a good wife.

Over thousands of years, families in Chanaea continued teaching the next generations how to preserve traditions of rich culture and practice customs of good social etiquettes. There were especially evident in the area of developing harmonious relationships. Courtesy was deemed as a precious element in enhancing human bonds and bridging generational gaps. These concepts might not be easily understood by the younger generations, but they were definitely valued by heart amongst the seniors.

With that, Uncle Charlie nodded satisfactorily while lowering his head. Time stood still as everyone remained in silence. A somber atmosphere enveloped the place when it was time to bid each other goodbye.

Just then, Helen broke the silence unexpectedly, “All right, all right, it’s time to go. Otherwise, you’ll be late for your flight. Go now.”

Everyone became alert once again and hurriedly ushered us into the car.

The chauffeur started the engine and drove us to the airport as we parted ways in a hurry.

I stared at the rearview mirror and saw Charlie and the rest waving at us under a towering tree. Their actions gradually slowed down, and moments later, their silhouettes vanished from my sight. We left with an extremely heavy heart.

I can't remember which poet has said this before, that life is a constant replay of farewells. It's made up of countless collections of moments when you send your beloved off so that the reunion becomes invaluable. The only thing is that no one knows when the next reunion will be.

Ashton noticed that I was feeling glum, so he passed Summer over to me.

The intelligent Summer stretched out her arms to me and requested, "Mommy, carry me!"

Chapter 1096

How could I still feel downcast when the little angel is around? I sat her on my lap and gave her a hug. "Summer, shall we spend each new year with Grandpa Charlie and his family?"

"Yes! I'll get lots and lots of presents!" Giggling, she clapped her hands happily. Her crescent-shaped eyes looked very adorable.

"Little miss greedy!" I pinched her nose gently and then joked with Ashton, "I wonder who she takes after."

Macy was a strong iron lady who owned a bar and bought her own house. She was also very outstanding in managing her finance, but she wasn't an avaricious woman. That woman knew how to control her income and expenditures in order to have a more comfortable life.

As for Jared, he's highly unlikely to be a money-grubber. The Crest family once monopolized the entire daily essentials industry. It definitely wasn't exaggerating to say that they regarded money as manure. Besides her facial features, there wasn't an area that Summer takes after him.

Ashton chuckled while turning to look at us.

I observed how gentle and loving he was as he stroked Summer's head. An image flashed up in my head while I visualized Ashton holding our baby affectionately. The more I thought about having a test-tube baby as Sally had mentioned, my desire for it grew even stronger.

When we arrived in K City that evening, we had dinner with Cameron and Zachary to make up for the New Year's Eve celebration.

Summer had already fallen asleep on Ashton's shoulders when we finally got home. After tucking her into bed, we went back to our room to wash up and retire for the night.

It had been quite an exhausting day. Yet, I still spent some time researching on my computer about in vitro fertilization when Ashton was taking a shower.

"What are you reading?"

I was so focused that I did not hear Ashton's footsteps approaching. His voice startled me.

Immediately, I switched off the computer and pretended as if nothing happened. "Nothing, really. Are you done?"

I was not sure if he saw my screen. One of the research journals that I read says that the success rate for women in an ideal health condition to become pregnant via in vitro fertilization is up to sixty percent. That's the average result achieved by a healthy adult woman. Unfortunately, I'm not able to contribute to that statistics.

“Hmm,” Ashton gave me a quick reply. Subsequently, he placed a glass of warm water on the table as well as some pills that he had put inside a bottle cap.

Sally was very concerned about us. On the second day of the new year, she took me to see a doctor, who concluded that I was weak. I was told that it would take a while for me to be in the pink of health, and the only shortcut was to consume some prescribed pills daily. With that, the chances of me getting pregnant again before reaching thirty years old would be higher. Since then, I had been taking the medication, and it was about a week now.

I swallowed the pills as usual and drank some water. Then, Ashton carried me to bed.

The week after the new year was a public holiday. Since we had a day off, we planned some visitations for Summer.

First, we went to the Stovall residence, where Summer received a big present from Louis. She was on cloud nine and brought so much joy to everyone at home.

Emma looked rather matured as she donned a new look and had her hair tied up. I caught a few sweet interactions between her and John when she was standing next to him. I doubt they got married just because they found each other compatible. John caught me observing him in secret like a paparazzi and rolled his eyes at me.

At the same time, Summer was spoiled rotten by the Stovalls in J City. After opening her present, she made Louis play snowball fights with her. The strong and tough man obliged as she already had him wrapped around her little finger.

Chapter 1097

We sat around the sofa, in a circle. Looking out the French windows, we could see how gleeful Louis was, having some good fun with Summer. He was just like a playful big kid.

Moments later, as everybody quietened down in the living room, John blurted, "Have you heard? Armond's out."

Upon hearing the news, my heart sank. I was very surprised, and at the same time, confused because it was a different ending to what I had in mind.

When Ashton's lawyer was analyzing the case, he stated very clearly that Armond was charged for multiple crimes, namely intentional assault, illegal possession of firearms, and inflicting cruelty against national Class 1 protected wildlife species. He should have been jailed for at least fifteen years. Why was he released?

I huffed as I felt a cold chill running down my spine the moment I recalled the dreadful incidents at the villa.

Just then, Ashton's big hand patted mine to console me. I lifted my head to look at him. I could read from the message through his gaze. Stay calm. I took a deep breath and tried to hold myself together. Then, I plastered a smile on my face so that he would not get too worried about me.

Seeing that we did not react to him, John continued to share his thoughts solemnly, "He got away when he was on parole for medical treatment. I've inquired about this and found out that it was the Venrians who did it. They don't care about their own safety and will only work for money. It's so bold of Mr. Murphy to use a million to sacrifice a few lives in exchange for Armond's freedom. No whistleblower and nothing leaked beforehand. Right after the prison break episode, the police ambushed at the Murphy Residence, only to find out that the Murphys have absconded with the money and went abroad."

"Does it mean Armond will never ever return?"

I was panic-stricken. As soon as I popped the question, I could feel Ashton tightened his grip on my hand. However, I hid my emotions and tried to maintain a calm composure. "I was just curious. Can't the law punish him?" I attempted to cover up eloquently.

“You’re too naive, Letty.” Raising one hand, John mocked, “The law is also a set of systems. Hence, in that system, the winner rules. Although it looks like we have the upper hand, the dirty games played inside the prison are not as simple as we think. The prisoner can choose to write his own survival story in this system. As long as he can find a loophole within the law, he’s able to start afresh, somewhere, somehow.”

His analysis had helped me to understand some life concepts. There was nothing much that money could not do in this world. Armond had probably thought of his escape plan the moment I exposed his involvement in organ trafficking. He must have foreseen his downfall one day and had a backup plan prepared in advance.

When someone turns evil, the extent of horror and ugliness the person can demonstrate through his thoughts, speech, and deeds is beyond our imagination. I learned this the hard way from Jared.

Understanding the reality is one thing; being able to calm my anxious heart is another. Like a vine, fear creeps all over me and invades every cell in my body.

Suddenly, Ashton placed my hands in his palm and started rubbing them to give me warmth. Frowning, I looked him in the eyes.

“I’m here with you,” Ashton asserted.

His voice was low yet soothing. Those clear eyes of his were resolute, and they comforted my apprehensive heart.

Ashton had saved me once from Armond. He could definitely save me again and protect me from harm.

Although the devil is prowling, Ashton is the light unto my path. As long as I follow him, I shall not fear.

That assuring thought made me feel better. A faint smile settled upon my face as I locked eyes with Ashton and was met with his unswerving gaze.