

When There Is Nothing Left But Love Chapter 1148-1152

Chapter 1148

The more desperate I wanted to study, the less I could focus. My mind was wandering off to cloudland. I only snapped out of it when I felt a familiar warm hand on mine. I lifted my head, and my eyes met Ashton's.

"Still upset?" Ashton broke the silence.

I lowered my eyes and shook my head. "No."

If I had any anger, it was directed at me. For ten years, I lived under the protective wings of these two men. I allowed myself to stagnate and cease to flourish.

"Marcus had approached me for help," Ashton started sharing. "It was before I went overseas. I already promised him I would help him, on the condition he shall not tell you about it. Yet, he still came and stayed a long time with you. And those securities did not notify me. Imagine how disastrous that would be if anything untoward happened, and those irresponsible securities failed to inform me."

He began to sound resentful, but he suppressed his emotion in front of me. In the end, everything boiled down to him wanting to protect me.

He had my welfare in mind when he made those decisions, and he kept things hushed to protect me. On the other hand, I wanted to help Marcus as I felt indebted to him. Both men did no wrong.

"I am sorry." I tried giving him a smile, but could only manage a bitter smile. "I used to feel indebted to Marcus only. Now, I can't face his family as well."

I always felt a sense of guilt and regret towards Camelia. Yes, we can put the blame on Camelia for not upholding her own dignity and pride. Nonetheless, we cannot deny the fact that if Marcus had not met me, she would not have transformed from a gorgeous princess to a disheveled housewife.

I gave it all to help a stranger like Yvonne, yet I was not as forthcoming when Camelia needed help. I could not forgive myself for this. Even if Camelia and Toby were to return safely, I wonder if I could still be at ease when I meet them in the future.

Suddenly, I felt nauseous. I instinctively covered my mouth, brushed Ashton aside, and ran to the nearest restroom. I bent down to the basin and started retching.

I finally stopped retching after some time. I was slumped on the basin and had one hand clenching my tummy. I looked at myself in the mirror, panting.

I went through pregnancy twice, so I was familiar with morning sickness. Deep in my heart, I knew the in-vitro fertilization procedure was a success, but I could not feel the joy.

When my first child passed away, the whole world was against me. Only Marcus was by my side, and he saved me. However, time and again, I stood by and did nothing when he needed support.

I put my hand to my heart and asked myself. Could I really feign ignorance and innocently continue to nurture a business and family with Ashton while watching Marcus go down the hill?

Ashton walked in, and I could see his cool and flawless face in the mirror. I hurriedly lowered my head and released my hand from my tummy.

“Not feeling well?” he asked. He was waiting outside, so he did not see me retching earlier.

“No.” I shook my head and headed towards the bedroom. My mind was still in confusion and dilemma, but my body told me our baby needed rest.

I climbed into bed. "Let's get the family doctor to come by for a check," Ashton suggested as he sat by the bed, tenderly tucking me in

"You decide." I leaned back on the pillow, closed my eyes, and hoped to get some sleep.

A heavy silence fell upon the room. My mind was swirling in darkness. I could feel Ashton's movement. He seemed to want to speak to me but ended up keeping it in. He sat by me for a while before heading out.

Chapter 1149

I opened my eyes when I heard the door closed. The room was dimly lit, with only the bedside light on, and the place felt lonely and depressing.

I recalled on the day Sharon died, the atmosphere at the White residence was the same, empty and depressing. Marcus was staying in the house. His only wish was for me to stay the night with him, so the house would not feel so forsaken.

Pregnant women were usually emotional, and the emotions they feel are amplified. I dreaded to continue with this wandering mind, as I could drown myself in emotions. So I shut my eyes tightly, forcing myself to sleep instead.

I woke to the sound of knocking on the door. It was Mrs. Eriksen.

"Mrs. Fuller, time for breakfast. Mr. Fuller is already waiting downstairs."

Ashton has not gone to work?

“Ok, I am coming,” I responded and got out of bed to wash up.

Ashton was eating when I entered the dining hall. He had his tablet next to him and was monitoring the stock market. I walked up to the seat facing him and sat down, silent.

Ashton did not look up at all. When I was about to start eating, he put down his utensils, dabbed his mouth, and said, “I will help Marcus, on the condition that you will not meet him until you after have given birth.”

I was pleasantly shocked. “You will?” I did not expect Ashton to put aside their differences to help Marcus.

Ashton placed his napkin on the table, looked up with a cold and solemn expression, and said, “Isn’t that what you wanted?”

Deja vu. We had this kind of crabby relationship when we first got married, and whenever we spoke, we were out to hurt the other party.

I could empathize with him. If we reverse our roles, and I was asked to help Rebecca instead, I would not have kind words for him as well.

I put down my fork, softened my expression, and explained, “I wanted to help Marcus as it was within our capacity. I could not wash my hands of this matter as Marcus saved my life before. I will forever feel indebted to him if I don’t repay his kindness. I will be able to let go of that burden when he moves on and lives happily. I am sure you would like to see him out of our lives, and ceases to be a contentious figure in our relationship, right?”

Just the mention of the name Marcus would bring out the irrational side of Ashton. He looked at me with a sarcastic smile. “Do you mean if Marcus doesn’t live happily ever after, both you and I will not be able to too?”

Jealousy and suspicion can cloud our judgment, and a simple matter becomes complicated because of that irrational emotion.

I had no wish to get into an argument with him when he was obviously still fuming. I cajoled him, "That was not what I meant. We are married and will be having our own child soon. I wanted to help Marcus so I don't live with regret and guilt for the rest of my life. Honestly, you get agitated every time you hear his name as you are wary of our relationship. You were annoyed that he, not you, was by my side during my darkest days. I..."

"That is enough!" Ashton boomed. He stood up and towered over me. "I am aware, so you don't have to keep reminding me about it. I will resolve this. You keep out of it."

With that, he stormed out.

I was dumbfounded. I had no idea how this issue can get so blown up.

Mrs. Eriksen saw Ashton leaving when she came out of the kitchen. "Mr. Fuller is off to work? He had not slept a wink last night."

Chapter 1150

"He was not at the office last night?"

"No. He was in the study the whole night. He only came down when breakfast was ready," she added.

I stared at the doorway, knitted my brows, and sighed. Men behave like children sometimes and will go out of their way to spite others.

Who would believe Mr. Ashton Fuller has this childish side of him? Unfortunately, he simply could not stay rational if the matter was about Marcus.

I left Mrs. Eriksen to her chores and fished out my phone to message Ashton. Get some sleep when you reach the office. No matter how busy you are, you need to get some rest.

I paused, then added, Professor Zidd said so. I did not want to show I was concerned.

I was amused by my own draft message.

Ashton and I were two peas in a pod. Both of us were stubborn and prideful, unable to let go of our egos even in the face of love. Ashton may be petty about matters concerning Marcus, but I knew he was a man of his words. If he promised he would help Marcus, he would honor that promise.

Even though we did not make any special efforts to reconcile after the quarrel, Ashton still picked me up for my pregnancy test appointment.

I was sure I conceived, but it would be reassuring to have a proper confirmation from the doctor, hence the pregnancy test appointment.

Ashton's phone rang a couple of times while we were waiting for the test results. He did not pick the calls out of respect for Professor Zidd. He excused himself to answer the call in a far corner only when Professor Zidd urged him to

The nurse brought my test results. As expected, I had successfully conceived, and our baby had developed in my womb.

Professor Zidd was happy for us, but he also had to fill me in on the possible complications in pregnancy. I was in the early stage of pregnancy, so I had to be more careful as there would be a higher risk of miscarriage during the first two months of pregnancy.

I thanked Professor Zidd and left his office with the test results in hand. I could not help but smile while looking at the ultrasound image.

That was probably the only good news we had in a while.

“My dear!”

Rose surprised me. I had to take a deep breath to recover from the shock before I could speak. “You are here for your prenatal tests again? Nick is not here with you?”

“He is too busy. I couldn’t bear to stress him further, so I did not tell him about my appointment today.” Rose defended Nick, smiling contentedly as she caressed her belly. “It is just one of those routine tests I had to do a few times every month. I am not that finicky to make him come with me every single time.”

I looked in the direction of Ashton. Unless he was overseas, he had always made it a point to accompany me on my medical appointments. Honestly, he’s a gem.

Rose had been through many prenatal tests, so she was familiar with those test slips. She yelped when she saw the ultrasound image in my hand. “My dear, you are pregnant!”

I was pretty composed until then, but her joy was contagious. I couldn’t conceal my smile and nodded vigorously, “Yes, I am.”

“Really? That is wonderful!” Rose came over and held my hands. She was visibly emotional. “Who knows? Maybe our children will be born on the same day! They can grow up to be like sisters!”

Rose was obsessed with having a daughter. She projected her ardent wish for a daughter to everyone else.

I grinned and kept quiet. Rose did not know Ashton came with me, so she led me towards the elevator as she chattered. “My dear, in the future, we can come for our prenatal tests together. If we keep each other company, Ashton gets to take a breather. I heard Fuller Corporation bought over an overseas

automation company. In addition, they are acquiring the White Corporation. He must be stretched, so we shall not add to the men's burden. We can come with a few bodyguards who can help us with the heavy bags."

Chapter 1151

Acquire the White Corporation?

I was stunned. I looked at her searchingly, "Did you just say Fuller Corporation is acquiring White Corporation?"

Rose nodded. "Yes. That is why Nick is suddenly piled with work. They have to do valuation before the acquisition, right? Ashton appointed Nick to do the audit of White Corporation's accounts. That would take a while. I'm glad I meet you today, as I have wanted to thank you and Ashton. As you know, Scarlett, Nick just took over the Harrisons' business, so he had to show results to assure the shareholders. This audit job came in just in time!"

The smile I had on my face froze. I am lost for words.

I heard footsteps behind me. Ashton walked over and hugged me from behind. Rose naturally let go of me and took a step back.

"Oh, Ashton, so you are here."

"Uh huh," Ashton nodded coolly.

Rose could not sense the tension between Ashton and me and happily congratulated us. "I am so envious of the two of you. You successfully conceived again. Things will only get better from now on!"

“Conceived?” Ashton took the ultrasound image from my hand and a grin appeared on his face. Even though he was smiling, it was difficult to read what was really on his mind.

“Are you happy?” I turned to ask him, frowning slightly.

On the day we conceived our baby, Marcus lost everything, and he was the one preparing to acquire White Corporation.

Ashton’s smile widened. “Of course! This is what we have been waiting for,” he proclaimed in his deep, mellow voice.

He massaged my shoulders as if to assure me he was telling the truth. All I felt was a chill down my spine.

I felt like a zombie. I had no idea how I made the journey back to the villa, turned on the computer and searched for news about the acquisition of White Corporation. I was shivering as I read.

...White Corporation’s results dipped as their general manager went missing for two weeks, leaving its management in a shamble. A consortium from M Country expressed interest to acquire White Corporation with an offer of two and a half billion...

Fuller Corporation joined in the acquisition bid with a package including one point eight billion in funds and restructuring plans in line with the government’s affirmative policies. White Corporation is the biggest loser in this close fight...

One point eight billion.

The White family’s had multiple properties in K City and those were already worth much more than this amount. On top of that, they had many other assets in other parts of the country. If GW was merciless in

their business dealings, Ashton was way more ruthless. That was a classic act of twisting the knife in the wound.

A few days ago, Ashton promised me he would help Marcus. In less than a week, he joined in the acquisition bid for White Corporation, and made use of his home advantage to save a huge sum of money for himself.

The media were singing praises about Ashton's investment foresights and his rise to dominate the local industries. He was in a class of his own when it came to investing.

The media did not know Marcus saved me. He saved the life of Mrs. Ashton Fuller. They were also not aware White Corporation was in a mess because Marcus was busy trying to locate his missing wife and kid. GW may be the mastermind, but Ashton was also at fault as he did not extend a helping hand as promised. Moreover, he rubbed salt in Marcus' wound by eyeing White Corporation.

Ashton looked poised and confident in the photo on the article. Looking at his photo, I could only muster a miserable smile. I should have expected that move, as Ashton was a businessman. No businessman would take on a noble deed at the expense of a profitable deal. Business would always be his top priority.

Chapter 1152

Without any hesitation, I called Marcus.

"Scar?" Marcus sounded surprised.

"Why did you not tell me about White Corporation's trouble?" I demanded. I hated being kept in the dark.

"It has nothing to do with you," he sighed and left it at that.

I had no time for casual talk, so I went straight to the point. "I don't know where you are now, but if you trust me, send a power of attorney to White Corporation and grant me agent powers to act as White Corporation's chairman in your absence. I will represent you in the acquisition bid negotiations." Before long, news of me appointed as acting chairman of White Corporation spread like wildfire through the city.

I was expecting GW to come knocking at the door first. Surprisingly, it was Ashton.

It was ten in the morning. He should be at his office at this hour, but he suddenly came back and barged into the study.

I was having a video conference with the shareholders of White Corporation. I turned to look at Ashton, then resumed the meeting, unconcerned.

Obviously, Ashton would not take that disregard lying down. He marched over and pulled the plug on the monitor.

I lowered my gaze and remained silent for a long while. "What do you want?" When I finally looked up to speak, my expression was cold. "

"I should be the one asking you this. Don't you remember you are pregnant now? Why did you agree to take up Marcus' case?" His attitude was just as hostile as mine.

He appeared to be agitated. He paused, then added, "Did Marcus look you up again? You met again, didn't you? What did he tell you? Speak up!" He had his hands on his hips, a confrontational pose.

That was not the first time I had to face his rage. I clenched my teeth and tried to hide my vulnerability. "It had nothing to do with Marcus. I approached him. I received his help, so I am returning a favor. That is how things work."

I dared not look him straight in the eye. He would have easily seen through me.

“What sh*tty theory is that?” Ashton swore and paced around the room. “We had an agreement. You stay out of Marcus’ affairs and the Fuller Corporation will help him. Why did you get involved? Are you trying to force my hand?”

I snorted at the irony. What right does this man, who took advantage of his wife’s savior, has to be jumping mad? His wife was only repaying kindness to her savior.

I did not wish to get into an argument with him about business ethics, neither did I want to force him to accept my values. Nevertheless, I could not stand by and watch the White family fall.

“I promised not to meet Marcus before I give birth, and I will honor my words. As for being his representative, I discussed that with him over the phone, so technically, I did not break my promise. Also, you had no reason to worry since I am working from home. Why are you still dissatisfied?” I asked. He was the master of twisted reasoning, and I learned that from him, so he only had himself to blame.

“Scarlett Stovall...”

I could tell Ashton was clenching his teeth, and I knew how terrifying he can be when he gets infuriated. “Unfortunately, we can’t turn back time. The news about me representing Marcus is already out, so both of us are on opposing sides now. I think it’s best we minimize contact during this awkward period,” I continued, all the while trying to maintain a false front of calm.

“I have asked Mrs. Eriksen to clear a room in the rear house to house my legal team. I will do my best to keep a distance from you until the acquisition deal is concluded,” I informed Ashton, looking at him coldly.