

# When There Is Nothing Left But Love Chapter 1213-1217

## Chapter 1213

I thought the second one was from Marcus too, but I heard another man's voice instead. "Mr. Taylor, I think there is someone else investigating Marcus, and they appear to be foreign. Should we find out more about them?"

Not wanting to stop halfway, I tapped on the last one as well and heard the same man's voice again. "Marcus seems to be in contact with them, so it's possible that they have his wife and daughter. We've been tailing him for half a year now, and Marcus is getting increasingly cautious as a result. Would you consider having a different group of men tail him instead, Mr. Taylor?"

It was the man's voice again, and he sounded like he had lost all hope of finding Marcus.

I had a bad feeling in my heart as I placed the phone back down on the table. This isn't good news at all... M Country is an unfamiliar territory for them... Even if Marcus is able to look after himself, what about Camelia and their daughter? Would they even be able to escape unharmed? If even Holden's hardened men find the situation hopeless, what are the odds of Marcus making it back alive?

After giving it some thought, I turned towards Holden and asked in a questioning tone, "You wouldn't go back on your word and just leave Marcus for dead in M Country once I sign this contract, would you?"

Holden shot me a frivolous glance through the corner of his eyes. "What are you saying? I am running the risk of getting on Mr. Fuller's bad side just by coming over today, and this is what you think of me? How hurtful..." he said with a huge sigh and his head hung low like he was somewhat wronged.

He's telling the truth, though. The closer my babies are to being due, the more Ashton didn't want me getting involved in these sorts of things for fear of any accidents that may occur as a result. I know Holden must've snuck his way here to see me, but he doesn't understand the reason behind Ashton's concern. While I am grateful for his efforts, I could tell that he only did it because of the profits he stood to gain from it. Had the conditions not been favorable enough, he would probably have left Marcus for dead.

With that in mind, I handed him the phone as I said, "I do trust you, Mr. Taylor. However, your inability to locate Marcus after so long has me starting to doubt the capability of your men. Perhaps I should take some time to reconsider our contract..."

Holden narrowed his eyes. "I thought we had a deal."

"All is fair in war. It's better for the both of us to be a little more cautious with each other," I said with a shrug.

He sneered with an icy-cold look in his eyes. "And here I thought Ashton was a sly one... Turns out, you're a lot more cunning than he is! You haven't even fulfilled the promise you made me over half a year ago, and now you're demanding that I put more men on the search for Marcus?"

He had hit the nail on the head, as that was exactly what I wanted from him.

"I would very much appreciate it if you are willing to do so, Mr. Taylor," I said with the most innocent-looking smile I could muster.

Holden leaned back against his chair and eyed me from head to toe as if he was considering my suggestion.

After a brief moment of silence, he burst into laughter all of a sudden. "Hahaha! Very well, I'll make one last exception for you, Ms. Stovall! However..."

He then pointed at his phone on the table, and the look on his face turned vicious as he continued, "If you do not fulfill your end of the bargain when I bring you a video of Marcus on my next visit... I will resort to extreme measures, Ms. Stovall."

Considering the amount of violence and deaths he had witnessed in his life, I had no reason to doubt that he would carry out his threats.

"Of course," I said with a forced smile as I clenched my fist under the table in an attempt to appear unfazed.

Holden glared at me briefly before storming off irritably, having completely forgotten about the blonde woman he brought over earlier. I had to admit, she looked quite hilarious running through the soft mud in heels as she chased after him.

"Who were they?" Emma muttered right after they left.

## **Chapter 1214**

"Just a couple of nobodies. By the way, I haven't seen John around during the day lately. What has he been up to?" I tried changing the topic as I didn't want to get into it.

Emma frowned the moment I mentioned John. "He's been giving me the cold shoulder ever since you were kidnapped by Mitchell's men the last time I went out with you, so I'm guessing he hates me now..." she grumbled while tending to the potted plants on the table.

I was surprised as I didn't realize my own actions had led to a conflict between them. "Uh... You're probably just overthinking things... I bet he's just really busy with work!"

"Don't bother trying to console me. I can tell if he's busy, you know?" Emma let out a huge sigh as she continued, "John left his phone at home when you two visited Jackson at the hospital the other day, so I had the chauffeur drive me there and delivered it to him. I saw him starting a fight with Mr. Harrison in public because of you, Letty. I think you're the only woman that he will ever care so deeply about in his life."

I pursed my lips in response and took a moment to think about what she said before replying, "You're wrong, Emma. Have you forgotten what John said on your blind date with him? He personally admitted to liking other women before you, remember? He may come off as bold and fearless, but he's actually a coward who doesn't even have the guts to admit that he likes someone until it's too late! You have to give him some time and keep persevering until he comes to his senses, okay?"

Emma wasn't buying it at all and continued to take her anger out on the potted plants. "That's what you said before, but so much time has passed with no progress between us! In fact, we don't even find our usual squabbles fun anymore! Maybe it really is a one-sided love on my end, after all. I should probably cast these meaningless feelings aside and just be content with my title as his wife. Nothing good ever comes out of overthinking anyway..."

I could tell that she had been deeply hurt by John's words and actions. No woman could possibly put up with being treated so coldly on a daily basis, and Emma was no different.

Like flowers, women require plenty of warmth and care in order to bloom brightly. Being kept in a cold, dark room would just result in them losing their colors over time.

In the end, I decided to remain silent as I had no way of changing her mind.

I was dozing off on the sofa at around eleven that night when I heard the faint sound of footsteps approaching, I opened my eyes, and saw John about to drape his coat over me.

“You should go sleep in your room now that you’re awake,” he said while slinging the coat over his shoulder instead.

It was indeed uncomfortable sitting for too long with two babies in my tummy, so I did as told and made my way towards the bedroom with his help.

“You’ve been coming home late recently, John. Is everything okay at work?”

“What could possibly go wrong with Uncle Louis around? Some of my men screwed up a project, so I’ve been busy cleaning up the mess,” John said calmly.

I stopped in my tracks and gave him a serious look as I asked, “How is Hannah doing?”

I knew that John had been secretly keeping an eye on her despite them being separated for so long.

John let go of me and looked away when he realized I had seen through his secret. “Why bring her up all of a sudden?”

Feeling an ache in my waist, I held a hand against it to steady myself as I said earnestly, “To remind you that you should leave the past behind. It wasn’t your fault that you lost her, John. You both made that decision together, so you do have the right to move on and love someone else. Stop holding yourself back like this, okay?”

John lowered his gaze and kept quiet, which confirmed my thoughts about him.

He has been going after the Ziegler family ever since the kidnapping incident, and I know it isn't solely because of me. Emma too, was traumatized by the incident. It's obvious that he cares about her, but the blow from losing Hannah was far too severe for him. As a result, he refused to forgive himself and shut everyone out in the process, inadvertently distancing himself from those who loved him...

## **Chapter 1215**

Seeing no response from him, I was about to say something when the sound of glass shattering came from outside the door.

The noise was then followed by a servant's apology, "I'm sorry, Mrs. Stovall! Are you all right?"

John ran out of the room immediately upon hearing the commotion and was having a fight with Emma by the time I got to the door.

"You stupid woman! Can't you even watch where you're going?"

Emma's arm had been scalded by the hot tea, and him scolding her like that pushed her to the verge of tears. "What are you yelling at me for? It's not even my fault, to begin with!"

Despite having a scary frown on his face, John didn't talk back to her at all. Instead, he simply glared coldly at the terrified servant as he said, "How could you mess up something this simple? You're fired!"

“Stop it, John. I know you’re mad at me, but you shouldn’t take your anger out on the servants. I’ll just apply some ointment on the burn.” Although furious at how she had been treated, Emma was too kind-hearted to just sit by and watch the poor servant get fired.

The servant was so scared that he didn’t even dare breathe out loud as he waited for John to say something. It hadn’t been long since his return to the Stovall residence, but every servant in the household knew how bad his temper was.

After a moment of silence, John’s voice was heard once again. “Well? What are you waiting for? Go get the doctor from the guest room!”

Feeling relieved that he didn’t lose his job, the servant let out a sigh of relief and ran downstairs as quickly as he could, leaving the three of us standing in the corridor.

Still angry, Emma shot him a fierce glare and stormed off towards her bedroom with John running after her moments later.

Wow, he completely forgot about me... These two may quarrel a lot, but they sure as hell love each other! I chuckled to myself at the thought of that.

I heard my phone ringing in the bedroom on my way back and figured it must be Ashton as he was the only one who would call me at this hour.

After closing the door behind me, I checked my phone and saw an incoming video call from Ashton.

I then answered the call as I got into a comfortable position in bed, and saw him leaning against the headrest in his pajamas.

It’s been a month since I last saw him, and he hasn’t changed much at all... So it is true that men age like wine...

“Why are you home so early today?” I asked.

“Honestly, I haven’t been home in a week. Then I remembered your advice and decided to take a short break from work to recharge.” Ashton seemed to be really relaxed, judging by how lazy he sounded.

I let out a chuckle at the irony in his statement. “You wouldn’t be coming home once a week if you really did remember my advice. You’ll ruin your health if you go on like this, you know? Do you expect me to raise our kids all by myself?”

Ashton closed his eyes and took a deep breath as he said, “You’re right, I’ve been working for way too many years now. Once this is settled, I’ll retire and transfer the company and all of my assets under your name so I can live off you instead!”

“Tsk tsk tsk... Do you even listen to yourself? Looks like your rivals have crushed every bit of your fighting spirit, huh?” I teased him with a wink.

He opened his eyes instantly upon hearing that and stared right at me. “Wrong, you’re the only one who can crush my spirits.”

His mushy statement had me blushing a little, and I quickly tried to change the topic. “All right, you should hurry up and get some rest. You haven’t slept well in a long time.”

“Wait!” Ashton called out to me and seemed to have something he wanted to say.

“Yes? Anything else?” I asked.



"I promised I wouldn't keep any more secrets from you, so there's something I need to tell you." The look on his face grew increasingly serious as he continued, "Holden's men have lost contact with Marcus. No one knows of his whereabouts right now."

I tensed up immediately from my guilty conscience as he was completely honest with me regarding Marcus' situation even though I wasn't planning on telling him about Holden's visit.

## **Chapter 1216**

I pursed my lips and let out a giggle out of nervousness, much to his confusion.

"What are you laughing about?" he asked.

"Oh, it's nothing! Why are you suddenly okay with me helping Marcus out?" I said, trying my best to appear calm.

Ashton took a deep breath. "You're willing to trust me even after all that has happened, so what right do I have to complain? Besides, you chose to be with me, didn't you?"

"Yes, I did." I didn't know whether to laugh or cry in response to that. Had Ashton not been forced to tell the truth, we might never truly be able to trust each other our entire lives...

"How are the babies? Have they been behaving? Did they give you a hard time?" Ashton lowered his gaze as if he wanted to rest his head on my tummy through the screen.

I tilted my phone slightly downwards so he could see it and gave it a little rub as I said, "They've been really good. I haven't felt them kicking at all."

When I didn't get a response from Ashton for quite a while, I tilted my phone back towards my face and saw his camera pointing at the ceiling.

He was probably too tired and fell asleep while looking at my tummy.

"Good night," I whispered softly into my phone so as to not wake him up before putting it on silent next to my pillow. I then lay down on the bed and imagined him being next to me as I drifted off to sleep.

My babies didn't move much that night, so I was able to sleep very soundly.

By the time I woke up, my phone had switched itself off automatically when its battery died. Looks like Ashton got a good night's sleep too, or he would've hung up by the time he woke up.

Tossing the covers aside, I made my way into the living room to charge my phone before taking a shower.

Emma came running over excitedly with a stack of documents the moment I stepped out of the bathroom. "You passed, Letty! You passed!"

"Calm down, Emma. What are you talking about?" I asked in confusion.

"The bar exam! Here, see? Your admission to the bar came in the mail this morning, and along with it an internship invitation from a law firm!" Emma said while handing me the files.

"Seriously?" I exclaimed, feeling overjoyed as I read through the documents.

It's been so long that I had almost forgotten about the bar exam! This is a really pleasant surprise! Looks like my hard work throughout the past two years paid off after all!

After taking a moment to calm down, I began reading through the internship invitation. "Tinsel Group Law Firm..."

Wait... Why does this sound so familiar? I feel like I've heard this name somewhere before...

"Oh? Tinsel Group?" Emma snatched the invitation letter over and skimmed through it. "This law firm is situated in K City's most bustling street ever! It's a huge company, Letty! You've got a bright future ahead of you!"

I took the letter back from her and took another look at it.

Hmm, she's right... But why would a law firm of this caliber take interest in an absolute newbie who has just passed her bar exam?

Upon closer inspection, I saw that the invitation was only valid for a month. However, my babies weren't due until two months later, and postpartum confinement would take another month. As such, I decided to ignore the invitation.

Three weeks soon passed, and I had almost forgotten about it completely until I got a call from someone claiming to be the secretary of Tinsel Group Law Firm.

"Hello, is this Ms. Stovall? I'm calling to check if you've received our invitation for an internship here," the woman said politely in a soft voice.

"Yes, I did," I replied with a nod while sipping on some warm milk.

“I see... Did you choose to go for a different company instead? Or is there something about Tinsel Group that concerns you?”

“No, it’s a personal reason. I’m currently pregnant, and the baby is due pretty soon, so I’m unable to take up your offer at the moment. Thank you for the opportunity, though!”

I had conducted my own research on Tinsel Group, and it was said to be the best law firm in the city. Practically everyone who has passed the bar exam dreamed of doing their internship there as it would look great on their resume.

## **Chapter 1217**

It’s a bit of a shame giving up on such a great opportunity, but nothing matters more than giving birth to my babies safely!

“Oh, about that... The company has decided that you are an incredibly talented individual and would be happy to arrange for an online interview instead. What do you think?”

Hmm? That’s very tempting and all, but... Why is a company like Tinsel Group going so far for a nobody like me?

Although I found it a little odd, I figured it should be safe and agreed to their suggestion.

The interview was scheduled to take place at nine in the morning tomorrow. I wasn’t expecting much from it, but I woke up really early anyway thanks to the kicking from my babies and was readily waiting in front of my computer thirty minutes prior to the interview.

The secretary started the video call right on time, and I answered it after giving my appearance a quick fix. However, my jaw dropped in shock when I saw the face of my interviewer.

Zander? Oh, my god... I didn't think I'd see him again, so I didn't even keep his business card! I can't believe he ended up becoming my superior...

"All right, let's get this interview started." Zander began the interview before I could even regain my composure.

I calmed down a little when I saw how professional he was being, and we went through the interview process smoothly.

I was able to answer all of his questions easily thanks to my two years of hard work, and the fact that he ended the session without any difficult questions helped a ton as well. "Okay, we'll end the interview here. When will you be able to start work here, Ms. Stovall?"

"Wait... Does this mean I'm hired?" I asked in surprise and disbelief.

Zander leaned against his leather armchair and spread his arms as he said, "Your qualifications suit the company's needs perfectly, so it would only make sense to hire you. Is there a problem?"

"No, not at all!" I felt a little excited at having my abilities acknowledged, but I also made sure to explain my situation to him, "Did your secretary tell you that I'm pregnant? I'll only be able to start work about three months later."

Zander paused and frowned when he heard that.

Having prepared myself mentally for this outcome, I pursed my lips and said, "It's okay, I understand that three months is too long for..."

“All right.” Zander snapped his fingers at me all of a sudden. “I’ll just take it as a maternity leave taken in advance, then. You will not be allowed to take another maternity leave within the next five years. Is that okay with you?”

That condition of his makes no difference to me! Given my physical condition, I won’t be having any more children after giving birth to this pair of twins anyway!

With that thought in mind, I put on my most solemn face possible and nodded at him. “I accept your terms!”

Zander smiled and leaned back against his chair as he waved at me. “Congratulations, Scarlett! I look forward to working with you!”

The weather got increasingly colder as winter came, and the temperature in K City often dropped below thirty-two degrees. The sky was rather gloomy as it was both raining and snowing at the same time. Thanks to my huge tummy and many layers of clothing, I looked like a polar bear as I sat by the window with Emma.

The plants in the garden had all withered, and the whole place was covered with a thick layer of snow.

The tranquil moment was interrupted when Louis’ assistant came running into the room frantically. He was dressed in a plain fleece jacket, his warm breath clearly visible as he asked, “Is Mr. Stovall in?”

He was looking for John.

“What happened, Mr. Cooper?” Emma asked.

The assistant was about to say something when John appeared at the stairs and stopped him. "Mr. Cooper, let's talk upstairs."

Seeing as John called the shots in the house and was the person he came looking for, to begin with, the assistant followed him upstairs without another word.

Emma thought John was trying to spite her and grumbled angrily, "Hmph! It's not like I wanted to hear it anyway!"