

When There Is Nothing Left But Love Chapter 1343-1347

Chapter 1343

Then Xavier ran up to Hunter. "Play with me, daddy!"

Hunter put the gardening equipment down and picked Xavier up. "You promised me you'd finish your homework, Xavier," he whispered. "If you're a man, you're going to see it through no matter what."

Xavier pouted unhappily, but he didn't throw a tantrum. Oh, he was taught well. Since Xavier had calmed down, Hunter went back to the house. "Let's talk inside."

Emery didn't blow up in front of the kid, but she still looked irked. And no, she wasn't following because she relented. I knew her too well.

Emery yanked Xavier away from Hunter the moment we entered the living room. Xavier didn't recognize her at first because she was gone for more than a month, and she had heavy makeup on. The boy kept struggling, but he quieted down the moment she spoke.

"Mrs. Eriksen," Emery called the servant. "Take Xavier upstairs. It's study time."

"Yes."

Emery called the shots in the house. Xavier knew that, so he let Mrs. Eriksen take him away.

Once her son was gone, Emery turned back to Hunter. "I thought I said I don't want to see you or anything related to you in here. Did you lose your class along with your job? Can't you understand simple English now?"

After Hunter's extramarital affair and assault were made public, his institution voided the contract the very same day. They also made a notice that slammed his actions. Because of that, his career was ruined, and he lost his source of income.

I only found out about it after John told me. Emery didn't do it though. Hunter was too famous for his own good after marrying Emery. He had a lot of enemies who were just waiting for the chance to beat him while he was done, and Hunter gave them that chance.

The higher they were, the harder they fell.

Hunter was deep in his thoughts, then he looked at John and me with a frown. The heck? What's that supposed to mean? Are we an eyesore now? This is Emery's place. You're the unwanted guest here.

John realized that faster than I did, so he raised his chin and squinted at Hunter. It was as if he was saying "We're staying here. Bite us."

Emery didn't notice the silent tussle between them, though she was still impatient with him. "Cat got your tongue?"

Hunter sat on the sofa beside Emery, ignoring us. "I've been taking care of Xavier and tended to everything in the house in your absence. I realized I've been too harsh on you. I've given it a lot of thought, and I think we should give it one more shot."

John and I looked at each other, then we gasped. The heck? How could he even say that after what he did?

Emery laughed mirthlessly. "Alright. Tell me this: what about Delilah and the baby?" She threw him a mocking look.

Hunter had a serious look on his face. He stared down, resolving himself, then he answered, "Xavier's still young. He should grow up with both his parents there for him. My parents persuaded Delilah to withdraw the lawsuit after the marriage. She'll deliver the baby, and we'll give her a house and a million. Then that's the end of it between us. My parents' relatives are going to raise that kid."

Getting a decent house in K City and paying a million in compensation was going to take a lot out of Hunter, especially after losing his job.

Still, he was a piece of trash. All he cared about was himself. Even if he was better looking than Emery, that didn't mean he could tell anyone how to live their life.

Chapter 1344

Emery spoke our minds though. "You cheated on me, but you're asking me to date you again for a stupid excuse like that? And you want me to forgive my would-be killer, and you want that woman to deliver your baby? So I don't even have a say in that? Sometimes I wonder if we've not dated long enough, Hunter. You don't seem to understand me at all. What makes you think you can tell me what to do?"

At that point, even Emery thought it was pointless talking to him. She shook her head in disdain. "Get out. Before I change my mind about sparing you."

Hunter's face fell as she glared at Emery intently. But then he remembered how terrifying an angry Emery was, so he shot up. "I'm Xavier's father. Nothing can change that. I'm bowing my head here so everyone can live in peace, but you burned that bridge, Emery. You're gonna get what's coming for you."

Emery tossed him a dark look. "Is that all? Right. F*ck off."

Hunter frowned, but he couldn't say anything, so he stormed out. I looked in his direction, then I realized there was a sports car at the gates. "Can I borrow one of your cars?"

"I thought John took you here." Emery gave John a weird look. "What are you guys doing?"

"Just tell me, yes or no," I insisted.

Yep, I could imagine John's smug look without even turning around, but I didn't care. I didn't want to let him take me around anymore. We did meet some important people, but I could have met them some other day, and it would still be the same thing. Not Ashton though. I wouldn't rest until I saw him safe and sound with my own two eyes.

Emery lent me the most expensive car she had. I quickly went to it, then John knocked on the window the moment I revved it up.

Dammit. "Take your jokes somewhere else, John. I don't have time today."

“I’m not stopping you, so easy with the attitude.” John leaned against the car languidly. “I wouldn’t have opened the firm if I knew you’d be working yourself to the bone. Just when I finally managed to take you on a day off, you just had to run off no matter what.”

Wait. What was that? Was he actually complaining? Gosh, men were getting weird. Where’d the stardust crusaders go? Well, I didn’t have time to fool around, so I floored the accelerator and dashed toward Thora’s hospital.

Unbeknownst to me, John made a call the moment I left.

I went to the same elevator and descended down the basement. Then I quickly went to the place I came the night before, but nobody was there to stop me. The corridor was mine to explore, so explore I did. My first stop—the room Ashton was in.

Darkness. Nothing but darkness. I fumbled around for a switch, then I flicked it on. The lights shone brightly, but the room was empty. Well, that’s it then.

I went back up, feeling nothing but emptiness inside. Everything around me looked ethereal when I came back out. I couldn’t understand what happened. There was no need for Joseph and the bodyguards to guard that room if it was empty, and if it was, then why did he knock me out?

There was only one possibility. Someone moved everything in the room somewhere else. John was acting weird that morning too, so it was plausible.

I wasn’t looking where I was going, being deep in my thoughts. Eventually, I bumped into someone.

“Oh, sorry, sorry.” I moved aside to let him pass, but he backed me against the wall, then I looked up.

The moment I met Ashton’s gaze, I leaped to him, giving him the tightest hug I could. I was afraid he might leave me again if I didn’t.

Chapter 1345

“What’s wrong?” Ashton sounded husky, but also gentle.

“Nothing.” I tightened my hug. “What did you guys do in the hospital after I left?” I grumbled. “Are you doing something dangerous behind my back, Ashton?”

Before he could say anything, I continued, “I don’t care what the answer is, but remember to live. Survive. I won’t allow you to die before your time.” I almost screamed that out loud, praying that the Gods could grant my wish.

Ashton said nothing. He held the back of my head and pulled me closer so I could take in everything about him.

We quickly separated in case we were seen. Then he took me to the safety exit’s staircase. I gazed at him as I talked about the events the night ago. All I wanted was an explanation from him. A reasonable one, at least.

Instead of answering my question, he gazed at me for a few moments. “I don’t keep secrets from you. I’ll let you know about it as soon as I could.”

I did not expect him to agree so quickly, so I froze up for a second before nodding. “Thank you.”

Ashton kept to his promise. He picked me up in secret at the Stovall residence and drove around the urban area a few times before going into a biotech company.

Joseph was already waiting when we arrived. He didn’t seem surprised to see me. “Hello, Mr. Fuller, Mrs. Fuller.” He bowed at us as usual.

“Hey,” Ashton answered curtly, but I pulled a long face. Yes, I was still salty about the chop. I could still feel the pain on my neck even then. That was a constant reminder of what Joseph did.

Ashton went in easily, and I followed. The place wasn't as mysterious as the hospital's basement. Once I got out of the elevator, I was greeted with a high-tech office.

The office looked cold, and glass canisters lined the whole place. A human-sized glass container stood in the middle of the office. It was filled with a clear liquid, while a green test tube was fixed in the middle. There seemed to be air going in from both ends, since the liquid was bubbling.

I fell into a trance looking at the container.

“You're here, Mr. Fuller.” A familiar voice snapped me out of it. When I looked in its direction, I saw a gray-haired, elderly man shaking hands with Ashton. He was probably the guy who reminded Ashton about the time that night.

“I'll need you to explain it to my wife,” he commanded calmly.

“Yes.” The old man smiled and came to me. “I'm the project manager, George Sanchez. I'm a certified microbiology professor, and the suppressants you have been taking are made by my team.”

“Hello, Professor Sanchez.” I forced a smile, though I felt more at ease than when I first came in.

“Look, Mrs. Fuller.” George pointed at the green test tube smugly. “This is the antidote we just made last night. We'll switch locations every time one antidote is made for safety purposes. In case the enemies find out about it. We were doing inventory last night and getting ready for the transfer. You know, when your condition acted up.”

“My condition?” I didn’t remember that happening. “Impossible.” I was confused. “I took my suppressants before coming out last night.” I looked at Ashton subconsciously. Are they trying to gloss this over with that cheap trick?

“That’s what suppressants do. They suppress. The toxins have mutated,” Ashton said. “You can’t stay out of contact for more than three hours from now on.”

I pursed my lips and thought about the veracity of his reply. Ashton seemed to see through what I was thinking, so he asked, “What? Do you really think Joseph was the one who knocked you out?”

Chapter 1346

I saw it with my own eyes. I didn’t just think he did it. I knew the man did it! I looked at Joseph, but he was standing behind Ashton calmly, as if he didn’t do anything.

Well, maybe he didn’t, but how would I know that? Joseph worked for Ashton long enough, so he was an expert in hiding his emotions. I wasn’t sure if he was actually innocent or putting up an act.

I racked my brains and calmed down. “Where’s the volunteer?” I asked Ashton. I wouldn’t believe he didn’t have anything to do with it until I saw the volunteer.

Ashton knew that was coming, so he looked to the mechanical door on his right. “Open the door,” he instructed coldly.

The door opened. I gave Ashton another glance before going into the room. I had to go through another couple of rooms before finally seeing the volunteers who were taking the risk for me.

It was a room that measured a hundred meters square, and it was divided into four equal parts. The volunteers were kept inside the glass walls. There was nothing but beds and desks inside. The volunteers were wearing patient attire and living their lives inside as if they were merchandises on a shelf. It made it easy for the researchers to observe the medicine's effect.

"They'll go back safe and sound after the experiment. And they'll be paid a million as thanks. Also, the Fullers will take care of them for the rest of their lives," Ashton said coolly as if he was just listing his grocery list.

I knew he was doing it for me, but I couldn't accept that someone else had to be sacrificed for it. It didn't even take one minute before I wanted to leave.

Ashton sent his men away and came up to me. "Just pretend you've never seen this. I did this, so it has nothing to do with you. If someone's gonna get bitten in the *ss, it's me."

It was the law of equivalent exchange. Ashton made it sound so easy, but what he did was controlling someone else's life with money so nobody else needed to take the risk. It was insane. People should be equal, but I couldn't tell him that when I saw the resolve on his face.

That was what we'd do for love. I did the same thing for Summer back then. Ashton was making the same choice for the same reason. Telling them to stop at that point would mean death for those volunteers. They had no choice but to wait for the antidote.

"I want to leave." I didn't know what else to say, though I was relieved Ashton didn't risk himself for me.

I was immersed in my own thoughts on the way out. My questions were answered, but I still had that feeling of unease. Did I miss something?

I glanced at Ashton as I went into the car, but he didn't seem different. I wondered if I was being paranoid.

Ashton buckled himself calmly. He didn't even look at me, but he said, "I know what you're thinking."

A pause later, he stared at me coldly, but his anger was directed at something else. "I'll risk my life for you, but we have to live until we get our vengeance. I won't do anything that'll hurt us. Do you think that's selfish of me?"

He was a heroic man, but at the same time, he looked so melancholic. I was seized by an urge to hug him, to tell him everything was okay.

Then I felt more at ease. As long as he was safe, nothing else mattered. I smiled and held his hand. "I'm glad that you know what you're doing. Professor Sanchez said that the toxin has mutated, so we don't really know how long I can hold out. We're just delaying the inevitable. If you had risked yourself for me and died, who'd fend for baby and me?"

Ashton thought about what I said, though he never did reply to me.

There was no traffic in the dead of the night, but Ashton was still driving carefully. Something about him made me feel uneasy. I could still remember how he looked that night no matter how many years had passed. He was as calm as a pond on a windless day, but I could feel his love for me underneath that façade, still going strong as ever.

Chapter 1347

If he had to make a choice between revenge and dying for me, I had no doubt he'd choose the latter, but that was just hypothetical. No need to waste a life on something imaginary.

It was quiet the whole way through. Ashton parked the car at the roadside when we approached the crossroads near the Stovall residence.

I saw Millie's car, so I unbuckled myself. When I was about to go out, Ashton suddenly said, "You're mistaken."

Well, that came out of nowhere. "Sorry?"

Ashton gazed into my eyes. "You're the most important person to me. Nothing else matters. Yes, you might have guessed it wrong this time, but that doesn't mean you're always wrong. I'll risk my life for you if you were ever in trouble, and nothing can stop me. You'd better give up on dying, or I'll dump everything on you. You can try handling my job."

I was surprised he would go so far for that, but he was right. I was too at ease the moment I came out of the lab. I even started thinking that I should leave my life in the hands of fate. Naively, I thought everything I cared about would be alright as long as Ashton was there.

But I forgot about the fact that Ashton could never accept my death. Even the thought of it was torture for him. There was nothing more devastating than watching the person he loved waste away while he could do nothing.

It was then I realized he needed someone to tell him everything was fine. Even though I knew everything was not fine, I looked him in the eye and told him otherwise. "I won't. Even if I am going to die, I'll send Thora and her backers to jail before I do. I'm not going to leave my kids alone. They're too adorable for this world."

Ashton stopped frowning and started smiling. He knew the kids were more important to me than anything.

To think that a business genius like him would ask the same question three times just to get my confirmation. He was just like a child asking for candy.

I unbuckled myself and, before he realized it, kissed him on his cheek. Then I went out of the car, avoiding his passionate gaze.

When I went into Millie's car feeling all smug, she revved up the engine and took me back to the Stovall residence. I looked back at Ashton, who was still in his car. He was becoming farther and farther away, but still, his gaze was fixated on me.

It wasn't until he disappeared from my sight did I turn back to Millie. "I want to know the truth." I stared at her through the rear-view mirror.

She looked at me calmly. "Mr. Fuller should have told you everything."

"Yes. He let me see the truth he wanted me to believe." I gave her a solemn look. "The apparatuses, the volunteers, everything. Everything looks so natural, so reasonable, but you guys overlooked one thing. There was nothing in the corridor, so even if I did fall, I should have bruises all over. But all I have now is my neck injury."

I didn't know why Ashton lied to me, but I didn't dwell on it. All I wanted was for him to be safe and sound, and that was what he did. Also, he ordered me not to die. That was a sweet bonus.

If that was the truth Ashton wanted me to see, then I would go with the flow.

Millie said nothing, but that silence was an answer in itself. My face fell as I asked, "How much did he pay you? Holden told me skills and loyalty are the most important things for mercenaries. I'm your employer, but you worked with someone else and lied to me. You ruined my trust. You'd best give me a reason for that, or I'll terminate you."