

# When There Is Nothing Left But Love Chapter 1398-1402

## Chapter 1398

"Do I have something on my face?" Ashton asked, growing uncomfortable under my drilling stare. He put down the document in his hands and folded his legs before leaning on the couch. "Do you also want to put some foundation on my face? You're putting on makeup on your own face, but you're staring at me. You'd better move on to the next step on your routine though, one side of your face is so pale."

I retracted my gaze and looked at the mirror, only to realize I had forgotten to put on foundation on one side of my face. I spread it out evenly as I talked to him. "Are you not worried at all about Armond? What if it's a trap?"

I swore Armond as my nemesis a long time ago. I could never sit still at the mere mention of his name.

Ashton took up the documents again and replied lackadaisically, "I'm not a bit worried about Armond. On the contrary, it's the person behind him who has to worry. Before he has a clear idea about the Moore and the Stovall family, he will not dare to snatch the children away, and neither will he do anything to us. Because if he does anything hasty, there will be a bounty on his head." Ashton paused for breath shortly before he continued, "I forgot to tell you that I've got some returns from an investment. I've already used the small amount of money to open a bank account in Sumanthova. The money will go to whichever bounty hunter in the world who's able to chase the perpetrator down."

It turned out that he had had everything planned out. I must have forgotten that I had married a shrewd man.

"A small amount of money? How small is small?" I asked jokingly.

"Not a lot. Around a billion," he replied, not bringing his eyes to meet mine.

I was dumbfounded by his answer and turned my head to hide my surprise. Though shocked, deep in my heart, I felt a sense of relief.

A billion might not be a lot to our family, but this was a phenomenal sum of money in the eyes of bounty hunters who had to risk their lives every day. The interest of such a sum of money was enough for them to retire and live a carefree life. It went without saying that no one would be able to resist such a tempting offer.

This is why Nicolas would never destroy us and risk going against all the bounty hunters around the world if he knew what he was getting into.

.....

Armond was nowhere in sight when we arrived at the golf course.

Ashton asked the bodyguards from the Hall family to check the whole compound for suspicious individuals, but they only found the caretakers and workers on the site.

I spread my gaze across the limitless sea. A barb of disquietude lodged in my heart as I fell back in Ashton's embrace. "Is he trying to pull our leg? I bet he won't show up today."

I was secretly hoping he would not make an appearance. After all, his presence meant nothing good.

But I was disappointed by the confidence in Ashton's eyes. "No. He will be here."

After many years of strife between the two, Ashton knew the man like an open book.

His surety was probably a result of knowing that each of them was stubborn.

The grudges passed on from the past generation had lingered to their generation. One of them pursued relentlessly, and the other fled tirelessly. Both of them were fiendishly clever, but they became sworn enemies just because of a slip on Armond's side.

Armond was set on restoring his dignity by vanquishing Ashton, and this would never change.

The man would seize every opportunity he had to seek revenge, so he would definitely come.

As for Ashton, I knew him far too well. He was deliberately giving Armond a chance. He might even put an end to their standing conflict this time, or he probably just wanted to create havoc to disrupt the security on the island so we could grab hold of the antidote.

Regardless of what his motivation was, I needed to act accordingly.

After we sat down around a table, we waited anxiously for Armond to turn up.

It was not until the sun set and the moon rose to the dark sky that Armond finally showed up.

The golf course was close to the pier, allowing Armond to come on a yacht with many men following behind him.

He sat down opposite Ashton across the table after he made his way over.

His subordinates spread out in a neat line behind him, outnumbering us by onefold.

"I'm sorry I'm late. Something came up," he said casually. He seemed a lot more temperate compared to the last time we saw him.

## **Chapter 1399**

"Get to the point." Ashton's patience was wearing thin.

Armond clapped his hands, and immediately, two men and a woman came forward at his signal. The woman had a child in her hand, and she was being held hostage by the men on both of her sides.

Her face became clearer as she came closer. "Aunt Sally...?" I mumbled as I scrutinized the woman's face under the faint light.

The woman made her way into the light and looked up at me. It was really her—the second and last heir of the Fuller family.

I saw Ashton's grip tighten around the arm of the chair when he saw Sally, but the expression on his face remained unchanged. "What does she have to do with us? She's already married to Jim, so she's one of the Murphys."

"Ha!" A cold smirk played on Armond's lips. "Kudos to you for remaining as cool as a cucumber under this situation, Ashton Fuller."

With that said, Armond darted his gaze at his men and tilted his chin.

The bodyguards nodded and kicked Sally in the joints. She fell to her knees in pain, causing the baby to start crying at the sudden jerk. The guards then took out their guns and pointed right at the frightened woman who dared not move an inch.

My first reaction was to dash over, but Ashton's hand grabbed me firmly. He sat on the chair unmoved, his mouth set in a grim line. I could not tell what he was thinking at that moment.

I was as anxious as a cat on a hot tin roof. "What do you think you're doing, Armond Murphy? They're your uncle's wife and child, your family! They're innocent!"

He must be crazy to do something this outrageous.

"My family? Innocent?" Armond let out a deep chuckle as he turned to question me with a menacing smile that quickly vanished. He soon resumed his cruel and cold face. "I'm innocent too. There are thousands of bloodthirsty evildoers in the world, but your husband purposefully singled me out and wants to hunt me down. I'll admit that there are unsettled scores between our families, but the truth is that the Murphys are no more than scapegoats of a misunderstanding between your husband and his father. My whole family was torn apart because of that problem. Now, you tell me who's the innocent one here."

Armond was sounded self-possessed and concerted as he spoke, but his words surely hit their mark.

When he finally stopped talking, he sat back in the chair, digging his hands into his pocket. In a blink of an eye, a pistol appeared in his hand, locked and loaded.

“Let the game begin,” he smirked, pointing his pistol around carelessly between Ashton and Sally.  
“Come on out, Mr. Hall.”

As soon as he spoke, a ruffling sound came from somewhere. The sound of footsteps followed. A man’s shadow elongated under the road lamp. It was Nathaniel.

From his calm demeanor, it was apparent that he had been here for a long time. Ashton and I had simply not noticed him.

Now that I thought about it, it made total sense. Given the foolproof security on the island, there was no way Nathaniel would not realize anything. Besides, it was not like he had completely let down his guard toward Ashton. We had been here for a whole afternoon, so we have given Nathaniel ample time to know what we were up to.

But Nathaniel did not seem to be coming towards us. “It seems like I’ve underestimated you. I can’t believe you dare to return to the island on your own. What do you take the Hall family for?”

“Well, well,” Armond replied casually with a smug smile on the corner of his lips, “Nathaniel Hall, I respect you for your caliber. Since you’re a talented young man, I’ll give you one last chance. Apologize now, and I’ll let you go.”

Nathaniel cocked his head and looked down at Armond, his eyes narrowing. “It’s time you change that insolent attitude of yours,” he said, agitated.

Indeed, Armond should be watchful of his words as he was on the Halls’ territory. It would be as easy as breathing for the Hall family to annihilate Armond and his men.

Armond rested his hands on his lap as he leaned back against the chair. He stared into the space blankly as he began talking to himself. "Why do I feel as if I'm getting the same patronizing vibe from the two of you? What a disgusting pair of brothers." He then turned toward his men and uttered, "Well? What are y'all waiting for?"

## **Chapter 1400**

The tone of his voice changed at that last sentence. When he finished speaking, the bodyguards behind Nathaniel took out their guns and aimed at him.

"Apologies, Mr. Hall. We don't want to be trapped on this island for the rest of our lives!" the bodyguard nearest to him said with a flash of guilt on his face.

Nathaniel had clearly not expected that to happen as it was evident that he was momentarily stunned. However, he snapped out of his shock the next instant and swept his glance calmly across his bodyguards who had turned against him. Keeping his composure, he paused for a moment before letting out an unfathomable smile. "I've known long ago that you have no loyalty, but my dad didn't believe me."

Armond sneered, "It's not too late for him to find out now."

Then, he looked towards Ashton with an expression as cold as ice and said, "It's your turn to speak now, Ashton. Between this woman from the Fullers and your biological brother, who are you going to side with?"

With that said, Armond rubbed his gun with a mirthless smile on his face. His intention was obvious. Whomever Ashton picked would continue to live; the other one would not be able to leave the island.

The entire golf course was already under Armond's control. There was no way Ashton could escape from the situation. As such, it seemed like he had no choice but to make a decision.

However, he remained unusually calm, and without batting an eyelid, he stated, "What if I refuse to choose?"

"You're probably the only person who can still sound so high and mighty in this situation," Armond replied while straightening his back. His expression darkened as he nodded purposefully and said, "Since you refuse to choose, everyone shall die together with you!"

Sally was so terrified that she burst into tears when she heard that. "Don't do that, Armond! Let that child go. He's your uncle's only offspring!"

Turning a deaf ear to her words, Armond looked at Sally, his eyes void of any emotion. It seemed like he was already accustomed to life and death; a life lost meant nothing to him.

Armond lost his patience after a while and pointed his gun at Nathaniel's chest. "You still have ten more seconds to decide. Ten, nine... "

Just then, a woman's voice sounded from afar.

"Armond."

Everyone looked in the direction of the voice and saw Nora walking towards them with Joseph supporting her.

Nora was carrying an infant in her arms. She did not look as bubbly and energetic as she used to. Instead, she had become gentler and had a more feminine air to her.



The woman looked at Armond with a passionate gaze. With tears in her eyes, she smiled and said, "We finally meet again."

As she said that, she walked towards Armond resolutely.

I noticed the changes in Armond's expression when he caught sight of Nora and her child.

It was a mixture of shock, confusion, and surprise.

"Is this my child?" His hand that held the gun dropped.

Nora smiled faintly as she looked at the infant in her arms lovingly. "Yes. I wasn't able to inform you earlier. Our baby looks so much like you," she uttered softly.

As Armond looked at Nora and the baby, it seemed like his hostility subsided a little. He narrowed his eyes, making it difficult for me to guess what he was thinking about.

"Armond," Nora called out his name again gently and said, "It doesn't matter to me what you've done during the past two years or what plans you have for the future. Now that we are parents, can we free ourselves from all the grudges and feuds and start anew? Ashton has promised me that he wouldn't pursue the matter further if you're willing to stop here."

Armond looked at Nora before shifting his gaze towards Ashton. He gave an imperceptible nod, looking convinced.

I felt a surge of hope rise within me at that moment. However, before my happiness could sink in, Armond started speaking again in his chilling voice. "As usual, Ashton is still so arrogant. He has even

resorted to unscrupulous tactics such as threatening someone else's wife. Why would I need your forgiveness? Do you really think you're more superior than me?"

The man took a pause before lifting his head and fixing his gaze on Ashton with bloodshot eyes. "Do you think that by doing this, you will be able to threaten me?"

No reply came from Ashton. Instead, he picked up the glass beside him and took a sip of water slowly. It seemed like a provocation.

## **Chapter 1401**

Just then, Millie passed through the crowd and approached me. Leaning towards my ear, she whispered, "Ms. Stovall, it's not safe here. You need to leave with me."

After we arrived at the island, Millie had come here with Ashton's men and had been protecting me from the shadows. During this time, she had been finding out the situation on the island. As she was a mature and staid person, she was not easily flustered, but it was obvious from the tone of her voice that she was feeling a little panicky.

When I looked up and saw the somber expression on her face, I knew my suspicions had been confirmed.

"What's going on?" I asked softly.

Millie frowned and replied, "While you were here, I spent the entire afternoon inspecting the nearby area. Armond brought a lot more men with him here. His subordinates are stationed all over the island. I followed a few of them secretly and found out that they were carrying explosives!"

When she said the last word, I could hear the tremor in her voice.

Just then, Joseph, who was beside Nora, took out his phone and took a glance at it. It seemed like he was also aware of the situation and pulled Nora and her baby towards us. After making sure that other bodyguards were protecting us, he walked towards Ashton and whispered into the man's ear calmly.

Ashton did not react to what Joseph told him. It seemed as if it was all within his expectation, just like Sally's appearance. Meanwhile, Armond had also noticed the interactions on our side and seemed to have guessed what was going on. With a dry laugh, he tossed his gun onto the ground and slumped down on the chair.

"We can all die together then. It'll be nice to have company on the way to the netherworld. Hahaha..."

Upon hearing the man's hysterical laughter, I took a deep breath instinctively.

It didn't matter if we died. However, the kids were on the island too. We had gone through so much to find them. It didn't make sense to put their lives in peril again.

Just then, Ashton instructed Joseph indifferently, "Joseph, take my wife to the kids and ensure that they stay together."

"Understood!" Joseph nodded respectfully and quickly requested that I leave with him. "Mrs. Fuller, please come with me."

I could not figure out what Ashton had in mind and was at a loss. I looked at him and knew that there was no way I would leave him here all by himself.

Ashton understood me well; he knew I wouldn't leave willingly. He turned to look at me, and with a faint smile on his face, he said, "The kids have not even reached a year old yet." He was right, and that was something I couldn't refute.

I was stunned. Ashton had surprised me with his decisiveness even during a life and death situation like that. He did not hesitate to use the kids as a reason to force me to compromise, giving me the will to live on.

I looked at his smiling eyes and clenched my fists tightly, digging my nails into my palms. With gritted teeth, I put on a brave front and replied, "Don't worry about us."

With that said, I stood up, about to follow Joseph to go to the kids.

However, right after I turned around, Armond, who did not seem to be pleased with our decision, shouted, "Stop right there!"

After a pause, he continued, "Scarlett, do you really think your family calls the shots here? Is this a place you can just come and go as you please?"

I stopped in my tracks but did not reply.

Just then, Ashton growled in a low voice, "This is the contract you wanted. Let's strike a deal. If you allow Scarlett to reunite with the kids, I'll give it to you. Otherwise, I'll tear this into pieces in front of your eyes right now."

Armond had been forever yearning to make a comeback with the petroleum production contract, so he would definitely not pass on the opportunity presented to him. It only took him a moment to think before replying, "Fine. I'll grant your last wish then. Scarlett, you can leave now. Savor these last moments with your children. There won't be any more chances for you to do so in the future! Hahaha...  
"

The man's laughter was extremely unpleasant to my ears, and I subconsciously clenched my fists again. However, I managed to force myself to relax and exited the golf course calmly.

As I left, I could hear Armond barking out orders behind me, asking for the contract, "I've already done as you wish. You can hand over the contract now... "

Flanked by Millie and Joseph, I hurried back to the Hall residence.

Nicolas had been able to survive on the island for such a long time, so it was possible for him to have measures in place to deal with emergencies. But even if that was the case, having ample time to implement the measures was still crucial.

However, it was apparent that Armond had planned for everyone to perish together with him as a last resort. As such, it was likely that no one would be able to leave the golf course alive. If Ashton could not escape in time, he would surely be blown into pieces.

## **Chapter 1402**

At that thought, I slowed in my steps.

"Mrs. Fuller, please don't worry. Everything is going according to Mr. Fuller's plan," Joseph suddenly said.

I froze, processing his words. "Did Ashton already know that Armond was intending to bomb the island?"

Joseph turned around and took a cautious look at Armond's men, who were behind us. Then, he glanced at his phone before urging me to carry on walking.

I quickened my steps while looking at Joseph. "Tell me. How is Ashton intending to handle this?"

Joseph lowered his voice, and with a grim expression, he replied, "Armond's men are scattered around the island, as such, their weaponry forces are not very concentrated. Two days ago, our men took control of one of the island's piers. If Armond's forces try to attack us, they will not be a match for us. We will be able to leave from that pier after meeting up with Mr. Gregory and Ms. Audrey."

"What about Ashton? The golf course is already entirely under Armond's control. How do you plan to rescue him?" I asked further while observing our surroundings, worried that something would crop up again.

Before Joseph could reply, I spotted the nanny with my babies. They were heading towards us, escorted by a few bodyguards.

The nanny was walking at a very fast pace, so the kids were understandably frightened by the bumpy journey. Audrey bawled as if she was in anguish, sounding extremely pitiful.

I rushed over and took Audrey from the nanny. At once, my little girl stopped crying. I heaved a sigh of relief, but sorrow filled my heart the next instant.

Now that the kids were here, the only one to rescue was Ashton.

"Mrs. Fuller, we should leave this place as soon as possible. Mr. Fuller's instructions were for us to wait for him at the pier," Joseph cut in, his voice piercing through my thoughts.

Perhaps it was because the man had worked for Ashton for a long time; he knew very well how to convince me. After considering for several seconds, I decided to send the kids to the pier first.

At the pier, Ashton's men had already gotten ready the ships for us to leave in. Other rescue personnel was seen disembarking from the ships, and they were rushing towards the island. They aimed to get rid of Armond's men as well as to buy Ashton more time.

After settling the kids, I waited for Ashton at the pier.

However, more than ten minutes soon passed, and he was still nowhere to be seen. I got impatient and asked Joseph, "Why is Ashton not here yet?"

Joseph's face was clearly filled with tension. Frowning, he replied, "He should be here soon."

I turned around and looked at the ship that was ready to leave the pier. Then, I said solemnly, "I'll go get him."

Joseph immediately objected to my suggestion. "If any one of us were to go get him, it should be me. Mrs. Fuller, you need to remain in safety with Mr. Gregory and Ms. Audrey."

I sighed and asked him a rhetorical question, "If you go, do you expect me to be the one protecting the kids if someone attacks the ship and seizes the kids?"

Between me and the kids, anyone besides Ashton would choose the latter without hesitation. Indeed, Joseph was swayed by what I said.

"Millie will be staying with me. Don't you trust her?" After I said that, I turned to Millie and asked, "We're really risking our lives this time. are you alright with that?"

In an unyielding manner, Millie replied with a resolute nod, "I've been waiting for this day."

After seeing that Joseph did not have any further questions or objections, I turned around and headed towards the island.

Ashton and Armond were still in the same stance as before we left. It seemed all peaceful on the surface, but I could feel the tension mounting in the air.

Armond did not appear to be concerned about Ashton's escape plan at all, which was strange.

His hatred for Ashton was a well-known fact, so it wouldn't make sense for him to let our family off so easily. Could it be that he has suddenly developed a conscience and decided to be merciful to the kids?

No matter what, I was determined to leave with Ashton.

"Scarlett?" Armond was the first to discover my presence. With a mirthless smile, he tilted his head and looked at me.

Only then did Ashton turn around. A deep crease appeared between his brows when he saw me. I could sense that he was reprimanding me with his eyes, as if he was screaming at me silently, questioning my presence.

After taking a deep inhale, I walked towards Ashton and stood next to him.

Armond's smile broadened. Even though the man was a monster, on the surface, he looked like a gentleman. The way he looked was no different from the time when we first met. He was still the dashing man from a prominent family he used to be.

But at this moment, I was clearly aware that he was a wolf in sheep's clothing, a heartless and cruel beast.