

# When There Is Nothing Left But Love Chapter 1538-1542

## Chapter 1538

This scary and unethical human experiment shouldn't exist.

At that moment, tears streamed down the young researcher's face, and his eyes became blurry. Hearing my words, he muttered an address, "M-M Country... Cranur... St. Peter's Orphanage... Unit 118..."

His voice was too soft, so I didn't hear what he had said. Running out of patience, I didn't continue asking him. Instead, I gave Joseph an order, "Mr. Campbell, make a trip to that place to figure out the situation. Try your best to save the children."

"Yes, Mrs. Fuller," Joseph answered without any hesitation and signaled for the subordinates to take the researchers out of the room before he left.

Once they had left, there were only the three of us left in the living room. Maybe everyone was worried about the unknown gene mutations in my body, so the atmosphere was tense at that time.

Furrowing his brows, John had his hands in his pocket with a preoccupied face.

In the meantime, Ashton's face was grim. He always liked to give orders, but he didn't talk much just now, and now, he even took out a cigarette and lit it up.

Letting out a deep sigh, I walked toward him with a frown on my face. I reached out to grab the cigarette in his hand and stubbed it out in the ashtray.

"If I catch you smoking again, I'll punish you based on our family rules," I said with a serious and fierce look on my face. I thought I must have looked like a tigress at that moment.

So what? I was just trying to liven up the atmosphere.

To me, I was not sure if gene mutations would occur in my body. Perhaps, I might not experience any side effects forever. But I had no regret for becoming Ashton's lab rat because I was certain that he wouldn't go blind now.

If a person didn't want to have a relationship with someone, he would draw clear boundaries between them, just like how Ashton treated Rebecca. He tolerated and forgave her to repay Parker.

However, Ashton and I were husband and wife. We were one, so we should be there for each other. It was only natural for us to owe each other.

When someone fell in love with the right person, he would definitely be willing to sacrifice for that person.

At that moment, there was about half a meter of distance between Ashton and me. We stared at each other for a period of time. His eyes were dark and mysterious.

Although I was complaining about him, I hoped that he knew I didn't mean it and I would never regret marrying him.

I didn't blame him for that and I didn't want him to put all the blame on himself for the choices that Nicolas made. For now, we should look forward and stop brooding over past regrets.

After a long while, Ashton's expression changed from one of gloom to relief. Then, he let out a faint smile as he put his hand up to his forehead like a soldier and said, "Yes, Honey."

Looking at him, my lips curled into a smile unwittingly.

A single look by the both of us made us let go of the grudges. At that time, I felt like my life was complete because I had found someone who knew me so well.

After a while, I remembered that John was also in the living room. When I turned around, I saw a sullen John crossed his arms over his chest and stared at Ashton and me. The scene that he had witnessed just now made him doubt his eyesight.

When he realized that I was looking at him, he lifted his chin and said angrily, "You guys continue. Just ignore me. I'll see how far you will go. Let me take a lesson from you so I can do this with my wife too."

I guessed what he really meant to say was, 'When my wife gets here, I'll show you how affectionate we are!'

Upon hearing that, I didn't feel embarrassed at all. Instead, I teased him, "Hmm. I hope the children don't see you as a henpecked man."

“Tsk! What did you say? What henpecked man? Besides, does someone need to learn from me to be submissive to his wife? Recently, someone excelled in both his work and household. I think he is the real henpecked man!” John retorted angrily.

## Chapter 1539

This time, It seems like John had gained the upper hand over Ashton.

Originally, I figured that Ashton would rebuke. Instead, he rose to his feet and carried me in a bridal style. In the moment of surprise, my vision blurred as he scooped me into his embrace. Unconsciously, my hands found their way around his neck to stabilize myself.

“It’s a rare occasion that John is so eager to learn. As his honored guests, we should work harder,” Ashton addressed me with a serious look on his face.

“Huh?” I blinked up at him in utter confusion and shock.

The next moment, Ashton bent down and planted a gentle kiss on my forehead.

An electrifying feeling jolted across my body when he kissed me. At the same time, I heard John’s ragged breathing when he saw Ashton’s bold display of affection. “The two of you shouldn’t take things so far!” John yelled.

“We are about to take things even further,” Ashton replied as he gave John a disapproving gaze, “I wouldn’t recommend for you to follow us. I’m sure you can figure it out yourself. From now on, you won’t be receiving our help.”

With that, he turned on his heel and carried me upstairs.

As I caught a glimpse of John's face when we turned, he had a petrified look of shock painted across his features.

When I finally snapped out of my daze, we were already back in our shared bedroom. We are about to take things even further; realization dawned upon me when I realized the true meaning of Ashton's words. In the blink of an eye, my face turned scarlet as I blushed in mortification.

With a single leg, Ashton kicked the door open and placed me on the bed. Hurriedly, my hands outstretched to block his path when he bent down.

My palms connected against his muscular chest. It felt as if I was shoving against a brick wall. The impact sent a wave of tremors through my body when I tried to resist his advances.

"Audrey and the rest are awake..." I argued.

Despite my protests, Ashton closed the distance between our bodies. His large hand outstretched behind me as he rustled around the bed before pulling out the remote control from last night.

When I caught sight of it, the ache in my waist seemed to throb as I gulped in fear.

That night, I was helpless against his ferocity...

Just as I was in the midst of my thoughts, Ashton clicked the black button on the remote control.

Click. As the doorknob clicked shut, the curtains along the balcony began to close automatically. In the blink of an eye, the bright room turned dim as it became shrouded in darkness. Even in such close quarters, I could barely make out the outlines of Ashton's face.

"It's dark, and the door is locked. Is it to your liking now?" Ashton asked in a deep and baritone voice. His voice echoed right beside my ear.

"I must admit... you are quite thorough," I mumbled. I couldn't decide if I wanted to laugh or cry.

Now that Ashton had been given a second chance, is he going to focus all of his intelligence and energy on matters like this?

"Thank you for your compliment," Ashton replied airily.

After he spoke, I could feel his lips connecting with mine. Yet, the recollection from last night sent a feeling of fear into my heart. In the midst of trying to resist his advances, a brilliant idea flashed across my mind. Struck with this sudden inspiration, I decided to put my plan into action.

Seizing the chance, I wrapped my hands around his neck and pretended to play along. "Forget it! My husband will be furious if he finds out!" I cried out dramatically just as he was about to kiss me again.

Upon hearing my words, Ashton's body stiffened. Even in the dark, I could see that his expression had turned stoic.

His expression made me stifle my grin. My plan worked! I had managed to smother the lustful flames in him; thus, I would be able to escape from his clutches soon.

All of a sudden, Ashton released his grip on me. Without his support, I fell onto the floor with a loud crash. Just as I scrambled to my feet, he had already stripped off his jacket.

"What are you doing?" I asked in confusion.

Ashton wrapped his hand around my waist and yanked me towards him with ease. Despite my trashing, he kept me pinned against his body as he talked. "If you don't want your husband finding out, we should act swiftly."

As I gaped at him in shock, he pressed his cold lips against mine.

Ashton knew my body like the back of his hand. It only took a few rounds before I was helpless against his ministrations and laid vulnerable before him.

After an hour, Ashton finally left me alone as he strode to the bathroom with reluctance.

I was left lying on the bed as I peered at the ceiling; the sheer exhaustion kept me from moving. It was only then when I discerned that trying to fool around with Ashton would only lead to a dead end.

## Chapter 1540

Emma and Drew had a flight scheduled at six. At seven o'clock, John had arrived with his subordinates.

After resting for a whole day, both Louis and Cameron made an appearance in the evening.

After six years, our family was finally reunited. As the children played together, the adults gathered and shared tales about events that had occurred last night. Occasionally, they would discuss the hardships that they had experienced in the past years too. As time has flown past, they all harbored mixed feelings.

When the dishes were served, Emery brought the kids back. “Congratulations! The two of you have finally broken free of the nightmare that plagued you for years!” she exclaimed cheerily as she took a seat.

The neutral relationship between Emery and Zachary had remained unchanged throughout the years. After her divorce from Hunter, Emery and her children relied solely on each other. Additionally, Emery no longer attended such boisterous events. I was worried that she’d become too detached from society if she continued down this path. Thus I decided to invite her. Seeing her joyful mood, it seems like I was worried for nothing.

In terms of social settings and relationships, Emery would be able to mingle well unless she bumped into someone she disliked.

“It’s too early to celebrate,” John added, “We can’t forget about Nathaniel. He is no better than the Halls.”

He took a seat beside Emma as he spoke. Nonchalantly, he reached out a hand to toy with her long hair.

John pulled Emma into his embrace and wrapped his hands around her waist with a pleased look across his face. On the other hand, Emma remained calm despite John’s actions. She continued to listen attentively to the ongoing conversation and treated John as if he was invisible. The stark contrast in their reactions painted John as a clingy and affectionate lover.

When Hannah was still here, I had envisioned such a scene too. Although things have remained unchanged, they were no longer the same people they used to be. However, who could claim that John and Emma were a bad match? Things would turn out best when decided by destiny and fate.

Seeing that I was looking, John’s movements grew bolder. He raised his arm in a semi-circle and placed it on Emma’s shoulder as he caught her in his embrace. The scene was reminiscent of the sweet affection of a married couple.



It seemed like he was still affected by Ashton. Now, he was desperately trying to regain his dignity and pride.

I wasn't sure if the years had softened him, or maybe Emma was the one responsible for melting his heart. Right now, John had finally gained his fighting spirit.

The thought made me smile with joy.

"What's on your mind?" Ashton asked and pulled me into his embrace when he caught sight of my grin.

"Nothing much. It looks like everyone is doing well," I beamed and placed my hand over his left shoulder.

No matter my presence, I can finally let go of the past and start a new life.

I kept the last sentence to myself. Ashton would have been unhappy if I said it aloud.

"It's because you are here," Ashton replied with a soft smile. Gently, he tucked a stray lock of hair behind my ear.

Despite his languid movements, Ashton's dark gaze was fixated intently on my face.

Although I remained silent, he was able to read my thoughts as clear as day.

"Scar," Cameron called out all of a sudden. Her voice snapped me out of my daze, and I turned around to address her. "What is it? I'm listening."

Cameron nodded in acknowledgment. “John mentioned that your sickness isn’t diagnosable?” she asked in earnest.

I had no wish to ruin the cheery mood by talking about it. Yet, I noted that she had asked me out of concern for my well-being. “Yes. However, it hasn’t shown any symptoms in six years. I figure that it will not bring me any more trouble,” I replied reluctantly.

Cameron shook her head profusely. “You cannot neglect your health. How can you take such a risky gamble? Maybe the resources and facilities in this country are not up to date. After everything is settled, why don’t you visit M Country with us and take this opportunity to confirm your illness?”

After six years, Cameron – a renowned and respectful figure in our generation had aged greatly. Yet, her kind eyes were filled with nothing but concern and worry.

In order to relieve her worries and settle the root of this problem, the best scenario would be to accept her good intentions.

Chapter 1541

“Alright,” I nodded in agreement.

Regarding the matters of my flight, the schedule would be discussed on another day.

When I shifted my attention elsewhere, I realized that our casual conversation had garnered everyone else’s attention. A few of them even nodded solemnly in accordance with Cameron’s words. It seemed like they had taken this matter to heart.

Under their heavy scrutiny, my shoulders trembled with guilt. Yet, I chose not to elaborate any further.

Fortunately, the men had a short attention span. It didn't take them long to shift the topic elsewhere. "How confident is everyone against Nathaniel?"

The question came from Louis. As John had brought up the topic regarding the oil painting materials, Louis took this matter very seriously. After all, he was a veteran officer with a strong background.

As soon as he spoke, a knock echoed from the door. "Mr. Hall is here," the maid announced politely.

Hearing her words, Louis burst out in laughter. "Speak of the devil."

"Why is he here? Is he looking to beg for forgiveness on behalf of Nicolas and his wife?" Emery guessed.

"He can try if he has the guts to do so," John scowled and said in an angry tone.

"Come in," Ashton called out calmly.

On the other hand, I didn't believe that Nathaniel would act so generously. He wouldn't have let them fall into Ashton's trap if he had genuine feelings for Nicolas and his wife. Nathaniel must have an ulterior motive behind his visit.

My suspicions were confirmed when I caught sight of Tiffany alongside Nathaniel.

Upon closer look, I realized that she had a very disheveled and unkempt appearance. Her hair was a mess of tangled curls, and her body was bound in countless coils of rope. Additionally, Tiffany was missing a high-heeled shoe. It was an utter shock to see her like this because Tiffany always maintained a dignified and elegant appearance.

“Bring the children upstairs,” Ashton instructed the maids. After delivering the order, he rose to his feet and strode towards the door. There, he blocked the path of Nathaniel and his henchmen as he kept them cornered near the stairs.

Hurriedly, the maids scurried to obey Ashton’s command as they rounded up the children. In the midst of the chaos, Gregory somehow managed to slip from their grasps. In the blink of an eye, he rushed towards Nathaniel.

“Uncle Nathaniel,” Gregory greeted him respectfully with a slight bow, “I’ve finished studying most of the books. Will you be able to teach me when you are free?” Gregory had an earnest expression across his face when he asked.

A young child like him was oblivious to the politics and complicated relationships between adults. In his eyes, he viewed Nathaniel as a wise teacher. Needless to say, he approached Nathaniel with an open heart.

How was this any different from Summer’s trust towards Jared?

Although wickedness was terrifying, seeing Nathaniel put on an act like a wolf in sheep’s clothing terrified me even more. At least I’d be able to respond to any imminent danger. If he ever decided to lash out, Nathaniel would cause irreparable damage.

Learning from my past mistakes, I refused to let my child fall for such deceiving traps again.

“Gregory,” I called out and beckoned him over with a crook of my hand.

When he noticed that I had called for him, Gregory jogged over immediately.

I held his hand in my own and patted his chubby cheeks. “The adults have something to discuss. Why don’t you head upstairs first? You can take care of Audrey with Summer, alright?” I told him gently.

In Gregory’s viewpoint, Mommy’s words were to be obeyed immediately. Furthermore, he was fiercely devoted to Audrey. With a determined nod, he trailed after Summer and went upstairs.

When they finally vanished from sight, Nathaniel made a move to enter. “I’m here to congratulate my brother for his splendid victory. Aren’t you going to let me in?” he smirked without any ounce of shame.

In response, Ashton raised his hand to halt Nathaniel’s path. Ashton had a stormy look on his face.

Despite the stony silence, it was clear that he would not entertain Nathaniel’s visit.

The two brothers locked gazes for a long moment as tension filled the air. Finally, Nathaniel backed down.

Nathaniel took a step back. At the same time, he gave his henchmen a look. Immediately, his henchmen yanked Tiffany forward and shoved her to the ground.

“Ah!” Tiffany fell to the floor with a loud thud. The pain caused her to inhale sharply as she struggled against her restraints. “Nathaniel, I am your sister! How could you mistreat me this way! All I did was take what I deserved in hopes of spending my future with my lover! What have I done to you?” she yelled.

Chapter 1542

Nathaniel remained unruffled despite her outburst. He acted as if he hadn’t even heard her. “In the few days that you left the company, Tiffany has taken advantage of the company’s interests countless times

through embezzlement. She even tried to sell the company's equity and attempted to transfer the properties for herself. Seeing that you were busy, I decided to step in and clean things up on your behalf. Now that I brought her here, I'll let you decide her punishment."

His words sent a chill skittering down my spine.

Nathaniel's wickedness had no bounds. Even after sabotaging Nicolas and his wife, he still harbored such evil intentions towards his own sister.

Catching Tiffany red-handed must have been a scheme that he plotted for a long time. After all, it was impossible that he managed to expose her on a whim.

Despite her cautiousness, her own brother was the one who stabbed her in the back.

This must be Tiffany's worst nightmare. She finally managed to elude Ashton and had a chance to achieve her goals. Yet, her path to success was blocked by her meek and gentle-mannered younger brother. It was no wonder that she seethed with resentment and reluctance from the moment she stepped foot inside the house.

Ashton glanced downwards; he seemed to disregard Tiffany's existence entirely. Instead, he locked gazes with Nathaniel. "At this point, we should learn to get along with each other. If we don't, the consequences of our falling out will be severe."

"What are you talking about? I can't seem to understand what you're saying," Nathaniel laughed despite Ashton's cold gaze.

"Oh, I get it now!" he exclaimed after a brief pause, "From now on, we should support our family business to the best of our abilities! After all, we are brothers; we should watch each other's backs. Am I right? You can relax. Blood is thicker than water. We will never be separated." Sarcasm dripped off his every word.

Not only was he unashamed of his actions. Nathaniel even dared to blow his own horn.

Despite his goals to obtain revenge, Ashton had not acted out of the line by harming innocents. On the other hand, Nathaniel was willing to sacrifice his family and friends without mercy. Not to mention, he might have even dabbled in human experimentation.

How could such a revolting person like him hold a candle to Ashton?

Although Ashton's broad back was facing me, the gloomy atmosphere that hung around his figure was easy to read. He must have a troubled expression on his face.

Nathaniel was aware that he wouldn't be able to enter by force. With that, he decided to take the initiative and retreat. "Since I'm not welcomed here, I'll take my leave."

"Ashton, you should appreciate both of my gifts. You shouldn't hold back on behalf of me, alright? I believe that you'll show me satisfactory results," Nathaniel reached out his hand and straightened Ashton's suit.

After giving me a knowing look, he turned around and left.

Now that a huge crowd had disappeared from the magnificent living room, it seemed much emptier than before. The sudden emptiness amplified Tiffany's presence.

Just as Ashton took a step away, he paused and turned around again. "Give me a reason to forgive you," he uttered with restrained patience.

After several years of experience, Ashton had become more cautious when he was faced with picking a choice.

Although Tiffany had nearly lost her life to Ashton in the past, she seemed to hold no regard for it. “There’s nothing much for me to say. If you and Nathaniel wield the same ideals, you must see me as nothing more but a woman who isn’t worthy of receiving my share of the property. Why don’t you report me to the police? I have contributed to the Hall family countless times. Thus, I don’t see why there’s anything wrong with me taking away what belongs to me,” she replied stubbornly.

“Your parents have been kidnapped. Even until now, there is no trace of them. Despite their disappearance, you have been busy transferring money into your own account. Your greedy actions have revealed your true colors. It seems like you’ve inherited the wonderful trait that the Hall family shares,” Ashton said nonchalantly as his eyes narrowed.

“They are missing?” There was a trace of surprise evident in her tone. Yet, she refused to believe his words. “There’s no way that’s true. No one is smart enough to defeat Dad’s tricky schemes and sly wit.”

She shook her head in an attempt to clear her thoughts. “Are you saying the truth? Is father never coming back?” she questioned Ashton again.

Ashton’s sharp gaze narrowed as he remained rooted firmly in the spot. An aura of fury seemed to emanate from his figure when he took a deep breath to regain his composure.

Although he did not comment any further, the tense silence that filled the air confirmed her question.