

When There Is Nothing Left But Love Chapter 1593-1597

Chapter 1593

After I collected myself, I could finally talk about Summer's decision calmly. "Are you really going to support Summer on opening a bar?"

Ashton was not some sly fox that played around with his words. He usually meant what he said, so him not denying my question was a sign of his support for Summer.

"Letty," he said all a sudden and took a deep breath.

"What is it?" I asked.

"Summer should have the freedom to do what she wants."

What he said hit me where it hurt. I could not refute that.

It was true that my manic caution should not be a shackle for the child.

"Let's use the project I gave her as a test. If she can do it well all on her own, then you should also try and let go."

Ashton took a brief pause before he continued. "I know it would be difficult if I asked you to stay on the sidelines, but you have to relax. Look at it from an objective standpoint. Summer's a good kid. She'll surprise you."

He continued, "Don't forget that I'm here if anything goes wrong."

Not long after what Ashton said, I heard a faint and consistent snore behind me. He had fallen sound asleep.

Hence, I stayed in his embrace as it was unexpectedly soothing, even though I was still not sleepy.

I got up early the next day morning and, to my surprise, bumped into Summer as soon as I opened the door.

"Good morning, Mommy." Summer was wearing a dazzling smile on her gentle face, reminding me of an angel.

I felt guilty for how I acted last night, as it was not something a good mother would do. Nevertheless, I put up a smile and walked with her down the stairs. "Why are you up so early? You don't have school."

"Did you forget, Mommy? Daddy asked me to take charge of the project in Wenville. I looked through the files last night. This is the first time Daddy's company is involved in a project like this, so there's no reference. On top of that, the culture relating to Hanfu is exceptionally meticulous. To make sure everything goes well, I asked Mr. Cress to meet up with me to research the related materials and catch up on my knowledge regarding that topic. Mr. Cress

told me that the library's usually packed on the weekends, so we won't be able to find any seats if we're late."

We reached the bottom of the stairs right when Summer finished, and Jared was already waiting at the door.

Thus, Summer walked straight toward the door. "I'll get going now, Mommy. I won't be back for lunch."

"Why don't you eat something before you leave?"

"It's fine, Mommy. I'm not hungry. Bye!"

With that, Summer disappeared out the door.

I exchanged looks with Jared, asking him to take care of Summer. He proceeded to give me an affirmative nod before leaving as well.

After that, my walk to the dining hall felt like it took a lifetime. My anxiety for Summer had made me very high-strung. Nonetheless, the truth was that she had grown up to be a capable and responsible person. Someone that was curious about everything and would not easily feel defeated.

With that in mind, I could not help but curl my lips. My emotion was like a ferocious beast, but it was no match for the innocence my children exuded as they unraveled my insecurities.

Then and there, I had decided to support Summer in her first business endeavor.

Ashton told me he wanted to test Summer's capabilities. But he did not say I could not help. Besides, I was not the type of mother who neglects what their children do.

"What are you so happy about?" Ashton asked after coming down the stairs. His slippers squeaked as they rubbed on the wooden floor.

"Didn't you know how to read minds? Take a guess." I was not going to give him the answer that easily.

Hence, Ashton pulled out the chair opposite of me and sat down. He did not seem to be the least bit grumpy after just waking up. "Hmm. It's probably because you finally realized our daughter has grown up. Am I right?"

It looks like he found out that Summer already left the house.

I did not get any sense of achievement from that, so I rolled my eyes at him. "Wrong! And I'm not telling you, so eat your breakfast!"

After that, for the next two weeks, I could actually count the number of times I saw Summer with just my hands.

Ashton already said that he wanted Summer to work on the project independently. He knew her well and knew that Summer would not ask me for anything unless she was in dire straits. Naturally, if she did not bring it up with me, I should stay put and not stress her out.

Therefore, things would become really awkward whenever I want to know what was going on.

Chapter 1594

It was like Summer was not a fourteen-year-old but a strong and independent businesswoman. When people have their own business, it gives off an illusion of them being held back whenever their parents get involved.

After a few days of thinking, I finally came up with a dignified reason to visit Summer at her workplace. And coincidentally, Emery called.

“Let’s go. Come with me to see how your wonder girl is doing.”

“Sure!” I answered without even thinking.

When I got ready, Emery’s car arrived and bumped into Ashton, who had just gotten back. So, I quickly said something like, “Why are you back?” and hopped into Emery’s car under Ashton’s sad gaze, leaving him immediately.

“That was Ashton, right? Why didn’t you ask him to come along?” Emery asked as she took a side-eye glimpse at the villa.

“This is between us women. Besides, he’s a busy man. He needs to make money for me to spend.”

“True.” Emery nodded in agreement.

Ashton would probably be thinking something like, “Why didn’t I know I’m busy?” if he heard that.

Wenville was adapted from Fuller Corporation's previous project involving movie films and was going to be a large-scale showcase of the culture of Hanfu.

Any and all transportation was halted at the entrance, and people in traditional attire could be seen everywhere, along with tourists.

Currently, it was still in the hype-up phase of the festival, where they set up all the businesses and infrastructure to fulfill the consumer's needs.

Thus, we got out of the car and did a simple registration before going in. Even the securities were in traditional uniforms for soldiers, so Emery and I looked highly discriminable.

"Mommy?"

I heard Summer's voice behind us and turned around. Her hair was in a bun while she dressed in green, waving her hand at us from on top of the wall. Jared was beside her in a white robe. Even his hair got specially styled. Looking at them reminded me of the scenes from old stories.

If I did not look back, I would not have known that all those girls at the entrance were actually looking at Jared. It was no wonder they all looked shy.

It was not a surprise since Jared was good-looking. And due to his age, he looked more profound, which attracted a lot of women.

After that, a staff member guided us to the top of the building. From there, the view was magnificent. The lights. The people. All of them made it so it looked like we went back in time.

When we met up, Summer immediately started telling us about her progress. "All the prep work is done. Mr. Cress was a lot of help. Oh, and on the day of the festival, there will be ninety-nine pairs of couples

holding their wedding ceremony here in Hanfu fashion to generate publicity. There will also be tours as well people live-streaming them. I'm confident that this event will rock the whole country."

While she was talking, I could see that she was happy about the city that she had built. It was the same look that Macy had when she opened up the bar for business.

"You did great." I walked over to her, placed my hand on her shoulder, and watched the incredible view she created with her.

Suddenly, we heard a commotion from behind us.

"Let go of her! I said let go!"

"Shaun! Save me, Shaun!"

I knew just from hearing their voices that it was Audrey and Shaun. The two somehow got their hands on some children's Hanfu.

"Ms. Summer, these two didn't pay for their food and even committed theft. What do I do?" the security asked while the children struggled in midair like lobsters out of water.

"I'm not a thief! I'm not!"

It was clear that Audrey asked Shaun to sneak out with her, but they ended up losing their wallets and couldn't pay for anything.

"Mrs. Fuller, why are you here?" Shaun was the first to notice us.

“If I weren’t, you two would be sleeping in the police station,” I said before approaching them. “These are our kids. The Fuller Corporation will cover any damage these two caused. I’ll personally bring them over and apologize to the victims. Let them go for now.”

Chapter 1595

Audrey was finally free, but she huffed in frustration, “You’re mean, Mommy! I called you earlier, but you ignored me and let me get bullied!”

Oh? Is she mad at me?

I glanced toward Shaun as I was being falsely accused.

However, the boy’s eyes widened as he said seriously, “It’s true, Mrs. Fuller. We saw you earlier, but you ignored us. You left your wallet and Audrey before leaving.”

“Were you guys seeing things?” I was really telling the truth because I had been brought away since I arrived. I never even had the chance to go anywhere else.

Still, Shaun insisted, “No, Mrs. Fuller! That person looked exactly like you.”

There was a possibility if Audrey had seen it wrong since she was quite a careless person. But if Shaun was insistent on it, it had to mean that the woman really did look like me.

Even so, it didn’t mean that it was right for them to sneak out.

“Audrey, I’m only going to say this once, okay? The woman you guys saw earlier looked like me, but it wasn’t me. I would never leave my kids behind and ignore them. Don’t you trust me?” I pretended to be angry.

Children should know that being outside was different from being at home. It wasn’t somewhere they should mess around as they please. Besides, as a mother, I should not be condoning their actions.

Having heard what I said, Audrey frowned, but her anger vanished a while later. She looked aggrieved and guilty as she asked, “Was she really not you?”

I shook my head to assure her. Emery then chimed in, “Your mom was with Summer and me the whole time. We never left this place.”

Hearing that, the girl let out a deep sigh and dropped her head. “Okay. I’m sorry, Mommy. I shouldn’t have raised my voice at you.”

“Yes, you were wrong,” I said, my voice sterner than before. “But your mistake isn’t mistaking someone else for me. It’s that you sneaked out without telling any of us adults. Think about it. What would you do if Summer and I weren’t here?”

Audrey fidgeted with her fingers and took a sideways glance at the security. Then, her head seemed to have drooped lower as she said, “I’d be treated like a naughty kid and be brought away by the police.”

“That wouldn’t be the end of it,” Emery said. “You might have bumped into some bad guys and gotten kidnapped. Then, you wouldn’t be able to see your mom, or Summer, or your Uncle John and Aunt Emma.”

The girl paled and burst into tears the next second. She didn’t dare to cry out loud and instead sobbed silently.

Even a hero would have their soft-hearted moments, let alone a mother like me.

The metal walls in my heart tumbled down and melted into goo the moment I saw my daughter cry.

I quickly walked up to her and swept her into my arms to console her.

At that, Audrey couldn't hold it in anymore as she cried loudly. Her tiny arms were wrapped around my neck as she bawled, "I was wrong, Mommy! I won't sneak out anymore. I don't want to not be able to see you, Mommy!"

My eyes burned with tears, and I couldn't get anything else out of my mouth besides repeating, "I'm glad you know your mistake. It's fine now. Mommy's here..."

She finally calmed down after a while.

With that, I used a wet tissue to clean up Audrey's face and tidied up her clothes. Then, Emery and I brought the kids along to the restaurant they had dined and dashed to apologize and pay for the food.

Perhaps it was because Summer was present, but the owner of the restaurant was surprisingly civil. Upon finding out that the kids were her siblings, he generously decided to waive the bill and even tried to get us to have a meal before leaving. The owner continued with his offer for a long while before Summer finally got us out of the situation by telling him that she was busy.

Right when we got out of the restaurant, the owner caught up to us and handed me a wallet. "The kids left this wallet here when they were brought away by the security earlier. Keep it well."

"Excuse me, I'd like to place another order."

"Okay, coming!"

Before I could refuse, he rushed back into the shop to tend to his customers.

I had no plans on taking someone else's stuff and was going to put it on one of the vacant tables. But for some reason, I pulled out the picture popping out from one of the corners.

Chapter 1596

My brows furrowed at the sight of the picture.

Audrey was right. The woman looked just like me.

Besides our fashion styles, it was no exaggeration to say that both of us looked exactly the same. I stayed stunned for a moment before noticing the other person in the picture.

It was a man. Even though only his chin showed up in the picture, I could tell that it wasn't Ashton.

The first thing that came to mind was that I had never taken such an intimate picture with any man in my life. Both of them were standing shoulder to shoulder, with their faces touching. They looked like an affectionate couple no matter what.

Seeing that I wasn't reacting at all, Emery leaned closer to take a look before saying, "She looks like your long-lost twin sister."

Without giving it much thought, I replied in shock, "Really? Do I really have a twin sister?"

A look of disdain appeared on the woman's face as she said, "Can't you tell that I was just joking?"

Then, she took the picture from my hands and started to study it. "But I've got to say, both of you really do look alike. It's at the point where I can't even tell that this woman isn't you. It's no wonder the kids would go after her like that."

I shrugged, unsure of how I should reply.

Meanwhile, Audrey had already made her way to the car and was urging us to hurry up. I quickly shoved the picture back into the wallet and put it on the counter before leaving.

With Fuller Corporation as the sponsor, the whole of Wenville seemed like a banquet out of the dreams. The parade of carriages stretched on for miles during the warm-up phase alone. Models with excellent figures stood in the carriages as they displayed the Hanfu they were wearing. Just the sight of them made the audience appreciate the clothing more.

For some reason, Emery had a sudden change in attitude after receiving a call. She immediately dragged me to the biggest Hanfu store in the city.

For someone who would only shop in high-end stores, she didn't seem to mind the bustling shop at all. In fact, she was completely unaffected by her surroundings. The woman circled the shop and noticed a sign that wrote: "Haute Couture upstairs (minimum spending thirty-six thousand)." At the sight of this, Emery took the wooden stairs and spent around eighty-eight thousand there, making her one of the shop's VIPs.

It was a lot quieter upstairs. All the Hanfu there were made with first-class materials, so every one of them looked beautiful.

A green gown caught Emery's attention. She had a softer temperament after putting it on and looked absolutely stunning when she wasn't speaking.

I was the only one being absent-minded. Is it really possible for two people to look exactly the same?

We were in the same place too. This is too much of a coincidence.

“Hey, Scarlett! What’s on your mind? Why do you look so somber?”

I finally snapped back to my senses when Emery raised her voice. Shaking my head, I said, “It’s nothing. This one suits you. Should we pick out some accessories? I noticed that some of the young ladies outside had even changed their shoes.”

“We can pick out the accessories, but there’s no need for the shoes. High heels are a woman’s secret weapon.”

I laughed at her words. “The people here truly like Hanfu, but you’re paying more attention to your beauty. You just have to be the prettiest even when we’re wearing traditional clothes, don’t you?”

Hearing that, she chuckled and said, “Don’t expose me even when you’ve figured it out. You should pick something too. They would need a week minimum to custom-make your order. We can still make it to the project’s opening if we come here together when it’s done. We have to show off what we have at least.”

“I’ll pass,” I replied. I didn’t have any interest in this sort of stuff. “It’s too annoying to get changed.”

Having no desires and with life becoming more stable, I started to become lazy. I didn’t feel like moving once I sat down.

“Okay, then. It’s your choice.” Emery didn’t try to force it on me, and she continued admiring the dress she was wearing.

Seeing that we hadn't paid even after such a long time, the manager of the shop walked over to us and said, "Hello, the shop is offering a forty percent discount if both of you pay together. If you are interested, I can tell the ones working at the counter to register both of you."

"Forty percent? That's almost free, then." Emery instantly turned into a shopaholic. She turned to me and said seriously, "It's a forty percent discount! This is like picking up money from the streets. I don't care. You have to get something now. I don't mind paying it for you."

No woman could ever escape the clutches of a discount.

I became serious about it now that I was going to buy something.

There were many different kinds of accessories displayed in the cabinets. However, I liked the phoenix coronet in the center the most. It was as though the coronet was enchanted as I couldn't take my eyes off of it the moment I saw it.

Chapter 1597

"You have a good eye, miss. This phoenix coronet is our shop's most prized possession. It is entirely handmade, and there's only one of this in the whole country."

The manager wasn't exaggerating at all.

With the transparent glass petals, the red tassels with white crystals, and the handmade embellishments, the phoenix coronet looked so much more stylish and classy than any other accessories in the cabinet, let alone paired with a red gown.

I couldn't stop the corners of my lips from tilting upward as I traced a finger over the coronet.

The memories of the wedding I had with Ashton back then were already blurry. All I could remember was that I felt nervous but excited. I didn't have time to rest that day. As for how the wedding went, or how many guests there were, I could remember none of it.

Perhaps it was because of where I was from, but I preferred the traditional Chanaean wedding with a red and gold theme. Back then, we were in a rush to get married, so there wasn't time for me to think about this at all.

I regretted not being able to wear a phoenix coronet or a veil over my face as I went up to Ashton. Even after so long, I could still feel something tugging at my heartstrings whenever there was anything related to weddings near me.

Indeed, women must never miss out on the formalities, or they would carry the regret in their hearts forever.

"Here, I would like to pay with this card."

Emery got ready to pay for our stuff while I was still in the midst of my thoughts.

"Hold on," I said, quickly reaching out to stop her. Then, I said to the manager, "Sorry, please let us have a moment of discussion. We'll call for you if we need anything."

"All right." Fortunately, the manager was modest as he left immediately after with a polite smile on his face.

I pursed my lips and made sure he was gone before putting the phoenix coronet back into the cabinet. As I fiddled with the other accessories, I started to advise earnestly, "Didn't you hear what the manager said? This is a one-of-a-kind item. It's the only one in the whole world. The ones you're wearing now already cost you tens of thousands. This coronet will definitely cost up to hundreds of thousands. I won't be able to use it even if you spend that much money, so there's no need to waste your money."

I paused for a moment before continuing as I traced the sides of the coronet, "I can't bring myself to keep such a beautiful thing from the world. It'll only collect dust if I get it and put it up on a shelf, like all the antiques we have. Let's give it a chance to find someone better. Let the person be the most beautiful bride when she wears this."

"Why do you overthink so much? When are you able to shop to your heart's content then?" Emery's motto was "Have fun while you still can." It was especially true when it came to shopping. She would never be stingy, nor would she try to bargain for a better price. This was the reason that her mood was rarely affected for material reasons.

In a way, there were benefits when women earned a lot in their jobs.

"I'm satisfied with what I have now." I turned around, a smile on my face as I sighed. Then, pointing at my head, I said, "I already have it in here. We should leave it to surprise others with its beauty. That's why we should just spare it."

"What kind of logic is that?" the woman snorted with anger. "You should claim something for yourself if you like it. If you're going to be like that, you might as well open up a charity home. Why should you compromise yourself for someone else's benefit?"

"It's not as bad as you think. I just feel that a wedding item should be left for someone who is going to get married. We're just here for the cultural festival. So why not just choose something else? I really can't bring myself to throw away money as if it's dirt."

At my words, Emery sucked in a cold breath and was looking at me as if I was a freak. Her brows were furrowed as she continued to stare at me but said nothing.

“What’s with the look on your face?” I lost my confidence after being a wet blanket.

“I was thinking if anyone would believe me if I told them that the wife of the richest man couldn’t bring herself to spend a few hundred thousand. Are you trying to play the role of a virtuous wife and help Ashton to save money?”

A laugh escaped her lips as she continued, “Whatever. I’m not going to force you to buy it. What belongs to you will end up with you in the end anyway.”