

When There Is Nothing Left But Love Chapter 1748-1752

Chapter 1748 I Will Follow Him To Purgatory

By putting myself out there, I could force Ashton into revealing his true intentions.

I didn't want to be in his way, but I couldn't tolerate the world turning its back on him either. Hence, I had no choice but to elicit a response this way.

In the midst of the long silence, Joseph had lost consciousness due to the overwhelming effects of the drug. As the cold breeze filtered through the building, tension started to build up in the surrounding atmosphere.

Nathaniel's gaze was constantly trained on me, like an eagle eyeing a rabbit.

Just like Ashton, he was good at seeing through people. I reckoned he was hoping to read something from my facial expressions. Luckily, I had picked up a thing or two from John's nonchalant attitude as Nathaniel drew a blank in his search.

Just as expected, he averted his gaze in defeat after a two-minute staring contest. Closing his eyes, he lost himself in his own thoughts.

As the seconds ticked by, Joseph's chances of survival grew increasingly slim.

Sneaking a glance at him from the corner of my eye, I clenched my fists and decided to negotiate the terms under false pretenses.

"Hey," I called out to Nathaniel as if I was the wife of a mafia boss. Then I went straight to the point as I continued, "Don't think that I will work for you for nothing in return. If you want to leverage the resources of the Fullers and Stovall Corporation to expand your business, you have to agree to my two conditions."

"There's no place for you to interfere in men's affairs." Ashton tried to stop me. His expression was as icy as ever.

I tilted my head and looked at him with a mischievous smile. "What else can I do? I wish to stay by your side forever. In fact, both my body and soul desire it. Didn't you feel it from the kiss just now?"

I winked at Ashton in front of Nathaniel as I spoke.

"Your career is at home. Raising kids is what you should be doing." Ashton's frown deepened. In fact, the look of disgust on his face couldn't be any more obvious.

However, I shrugged to express my defiance.

"Are you two putting up an act in front of me?" Nathaniel finally responded. He was emitting such a frosty aura that one could feel a chill down the spine just by looking at him.

He felt that Ashton and I were colluding with each other.

If one's betrayal was for the greater good, it was a choice worth considering. After all, Nathaniel was someone extremely guarded.

Taking a deep breath, I cast my emotions aside and stared earnestly at him. "What about it? What will satisfy you, then? Let me remind you that I am the one who's being monitored, not you. Where do I find the opportunity to conspire with Ashton? Or perhaps you want to hear me lie to you that I no longer love Ashton? Fine, if that's what you want, I'll say it out loud. I am utterly disappointed and have lost faith in him. From now on, we will not have anything to do with each other... Are you happy now?"

Nathaniel's eyes flashed with disdain, as he knew those words were nothing but falsehoods. Nevertheless, he was hoping that those lies would become the truth so that no one would love or dare to love Ashton anymore, just like him.

Gaining momentum from his volatile emotions, I continued my performance with a smirk.

"Look, even you don't buy it. Love isn't something that one can control. Yes, I admit Ashton's recent actions are despicable. Just as you wanted, I'm disappointed in him. Still, you didn't take into consideration the bond we have built over the years.

"His name no longer belongs to him alone. Instead, it has been seared into every fiber of my body. I have grown to love and trust him so much that I will stand by his side even in the face of Armageddon!

"If you have loved someone, you will understand how powerless it feels when one is being swept away by one's emotions. I have gone through too many separations in my life, so there's no way I'm going to let go of Ashton. Even if it means going to Purgatory, I will gladly follow him there."

Chapter 1749 All Of You Will Be Reunited

“You are someone who has never been loved before. I understand if you don’t comprehend this. But since you believe you can put a price on everything in this world, I am willing to give you all my assets in return for you staying out of our marriage. It should be an easy choice for you, shouldn’t it?”

Nathaniel’s eyes widened as he exploded, “Do you not care if the Stovall and Fuller families are destroyed along with you?”

Raising the corner of my mouth, I turned to Ashton and looked at him fondly. “Despite being the daughter of the Stovall family, I cannot bring myself to abandon Ashton. Every moment I spend with him turns into sweet memories. If both families are ruined because of me, I’m willing to pay for my sins with my life. At the end of the day, the choice isn’t mine. Just go ahead and do what you want. I hope you would force me to my doom so that I wouldn’t even need to think about this anymore...”

As soon as I finished, I heard the sound of someone flicking his sleeves. When I turned around, all I could see was Nathaniel’s leaving silhouette.

With no time to celebrate with Ashton, I knelt down at once and gently slapped Joseph’s face. “Mr. Campbell, wake up! Joseph...”

Joseph didn’t respond to my calls. I had no choice but to drag him up and take him to a private hospital. Given the statuses of the Fuller and Stovall families in K City, I figured it wouldn’t be difficult to keep the matter from the police.

“Ashton, help me, quick! I’m not strong enough to get him up. If we delay any longer, Joseph won’t survive.” Putting Joseph’s arm around my shoulder, I tried my best to pull him up.

Suddenly, a bag containing a syringe was thrown to my side. After picking it up, I turned to look at Ashton whose expression was frosty as ever. “It contains atropine. Inject it into his chest and it will stabilize his condition for a while.”

I heaved a sigh of relief and smiled at the fortunate turn of events.

Worried that Nathaniel would return, Ashton declared scathingly, “Only I can decide whether my man lives or dies.”

With that, he walked away without even bothering whether I knew how to inject the syringe or not.

Realizing how weak Joseph’s breathing had become, I had no other choice but to make every possible effort to save him. I opened the package, ripped off his shirt, and stabbed the needle into his heart.

Since then, Ashton and Nathaniel never showed up again.

Joseph woke up the next afternoon and the first thing he did when he opened his eyes was to grab my hand and ask about Savannah and his child.

“Don’t worry. They’re fine.” While consoling him, I poured him a cup of warm water. After making sure he was fine, I said, “Ashton was the one who saved you.”

“I know.” Joseph’s expression was calm as he held the cup. “It means that I am still of use to Mr. Fuller.”

From this reaction, it was obvious that he wasn’t surprised at all.

It also helped to confirm one of my suspicions—Joseph was aware of the hidden agenda behind Ashton’s drastic change in temperament.

“We are not being watched by Nathaniel’s men here, so there’s no need to say such ridiculous words. No one wants to hear them.” I tried to lighten the atmosphere as I spoke in a joking manner.

Joseph looked better, but he didn't reply.

I knew how good he was at keeping secrets, so I wasn't surprised at all. Consequently, I just treated him as a messenger since he excelled at it.

"It's fine if you don't want to talk about it. I can see it with my own eyes. After all, we will be spending a lot of time with each other going forward." Picking up an apple, I began to peel it leisurely.

Not knowing what I meant, Joseph looked up and shot me a glance. Then, he casually remarked, "Mrs. Fuller, that's the way you should see it. Ultimately, Mr. Fuller will return to your side. With that, all of you, including Ms. Audrey and Mr. Gregory, will be reunited."

If it wasn't for the incident at the abandoned factory, I would have thought Joseph was being sarcastic on purpose. But now that I thought about it, Joseph's implicit and explicit words had always been reassuring. It was the different state of mind that I was in that caused me to misinterpret it.

Men everywhere were the same. Once they had a plan, they would give it their all to make it a success and they would be paranoid that revealing just a little would cause their plans to fail entirely.

Chapter 1750 Does It Matter

I shook my head with a smile. As I continued peeling the apple, I said casually, "If it was as easy as you say, you wouldn't need to be so fearful of telling me the truth."

Not one to be good with words, Joseph was stumped by my remark.

Anyway, I wasn't in a hurry to force him into telling me the truth. After peeling the apple, I handed it over to him.

He took it and held it in his hand without the intention to eat it. Instead, he stared blankly into space, visibly shaken by my words.

"I'm not trying to accuse you of anything. I'm sure you have your reasons for keeping mum, and I understand that. Still, I hope you can empathize with me. As both a wife and a lady, I don't want to and I can't stay out of this matter. Tell Ashton that I will continue to muddy the waters until he can strike when the opportunity arises."

"I don't really understand what you're trying to say, Mrs. Fuller." Joseph furrowed his brows, his eyes filled with concern.

I almost forgot that he was unconscious when I announced that I would join in. I gave a faint smile and said, "It's simple. As of now, you're no longer Ashton's only right-hand man. I, as his wife, will be joining you guys in running the business."

"Mr. Fuller won't allow it," Joseph expressed his doubts.

I put on an innocent look. "Does it matter? What counts is that Nathaniel didn't object. If I'm right, your boss will not say no to any of Nathaniel's requests now, am I right?"

Joseph stared at me, not knowing what to say. Perhaps he had wanted to dissuade me from doing it, but when he saw the look in my eyes, he could sense the change in me. In the end, he resigned himself to hold his tongue.

Having achieved my goal, I left him for the time being and returned to see John, at the same time allowing both Joseph and Ashton some space to exchange information.

When I pushed open the door to John's ward, I saw that the nurse was busy packing up. John was dressed in casual clothing with a jacket draped over his shoulder. Its sleeves hung loosely, covering his hand that was in a cast. From the look of it, he was preparing to be discharged.

"What's going on?" John had a broken. He would need to recuperate in the hospital for at least a month. It was way too early to be discharged from the hospital.

The nurse stopped what she was doing and answered, "Mr. Stovall ordered it. Also, the paperwork for the discharge has been completed."

"It's all right. Just continue packing," John instructed before walking over. Putting his hand over my shoulder, he began cooking up excuses with a cheeky smile. "My dear sister, I'm someone who just can't sit still, and you know that, right? At this rate, I would be mired in depression soon. Besides, wouldn't I recover faster if I was happier? Just let me recuperate at home."

I lifted my head and chuckled sarcastically, then a serious expression descended upon my face. "No."

"Didn't the doctor say that the first half a month's recovery is the most crucial? You still need to go through a myriad of tests. How are you going to do them at home?" John had hurt his right hand because of me. I wasn't going to allow anyone to interrupt the healing process unless the doctor declared that it was crippled.

"I'll just come back every day for my check-up. No matter what, I just can't stand staring blankly at the ceiling for another day in here," John said slovenly.

"It's still a no." I felt bad as I looked at him. I knew how tormenting it was for someone who was used to enjoying freedom to be cooped up in a ward. However, I had no other choice as I simply owed him too much. As long as there was a sliver of hope, I would spare no effort in trying everything until his hand had fully recovered.

“How about I alternate between staying at the hospital and at home?” When he saw how persistent I was, he put on a pitiful face in an attempt to elicit sympathy from me.

In spite of that, my solemn expression made it obvious that there was no room for negotiations. “Don’t think that I don’t know you. Once you leave this place, there’s no way I can force you to come back here. Just bear with it for half a month, and don’t get any funny ideas.”

Chapter 1751 We Can Trust Ashton

Seeing that his attempt was futile, John slumped onto the couch and crossed his legs. “Then I’ll just follow my own will. I’ll go out when I want to go out and come back when I want to come back.”

I folded my arms, unfazed by his threats. “You’d better not try that with me. I don’t mind taking turns with Emma to monitor you round the clock. If it doesn’t bother you, then please go ahead and behave recklessly.”

John’s face instantly turned sullen as he complained, “You only do this to me. If you’re so good at it, why don’t you keep Ashton in check instead?”

At the mention of Ashton, I subconsciously knitted my brows. After pondering for a moment, I replied, “I’ll keep him in line as I have always done.”

I knew that Ashton didn’t change. It was just that he couldn’t express it for the time being.

Thinking that he had triggered me, John quickly cleared his throat and rephrased, “I’m not blaming you. I just want you to think about the matter from my perspective. You can’t let go of Ashton, and there’s no way I can allow Emma to manage such a huge company by herself. Her family... I’m a man too, Letty. You

are my family, and so is she. I have to be fair. I can't support you unconditionally while enjoying the results of her efforts and then back out like a coward at a time when she needs me the most, can I?"

"What? Did something happen to her family?" His words brought a sinking feeling to my stomach, but I expected it to be not as bad as I imagined.

Unfortunately, John gave me a heavy nod. "Someone has manipulated the stock exchange and trapped all of the Lyons family assets."

"Was it... Nathaniel?" The look on John's face confirmed my suspicions. My teeth began to chatter in disbelief as the matter caught me by surprise.

How is this possible? I acted as if I didn't care about any of it, yet he still proceeded to destroy them. Did he see through my ruse?

I felt as if I had missed a step and fallen into a deep abyss.

Why can't I ever figure out what his next step or who his next target is? Will it be the Stovall family or the Fuller family next? Or perhaps both at the same time?

I swallowed a lump in my throat, feeling a chill down my spine. Maybe Ashton was right. Nathaniel was a lot more terrifying than I thought. The more I tried to probe, the deeper the trouble I would land myself in.

Given the circumstances, I no longer had any reason to stop John from leaving the hospital. "Fine, you can recuperate at home. But you have to promise me that you will come back for your check-ups as scheduled. Also, don't even think about shouldering the matter with Emma's family alone. We'll fix it together."

That was the ideal solution that would satisfy both sides.

“No problem, you’re the boss.” John’s face lit up, but suddenly remembering something, he asked seriously, “Millie mentioned that you met Ashton again today. Did you manage to verify what you wanted to?”

I harked back to that day when Ashton threw me the atropine syringe while making smug comments.

He had obviously prepared to use it on Joseph. After all, no one would walk around carrying such a thing.

In truth, it was a blessing in disguise. If Joseph’s life hadn’t been hanging by a thread, Ashton wouldn’t have risked being discovered by taking out the syringe at the abandoned factory. It was that very gesture that allowed me to confirm that he was still the Ashton I loved and that he hadn’t changed at all.

John didn’t press on with his questions when he saw that I had spaced out. He patted me on my shoulder and comforted me, “It’s all right if you don’t want to talk about it. I believe you know what you’re doing.”

Regaining my senses, I replied with a smile, “No, I was just thinking about something else.”

“John”—I wore a serious expression after getting a grip of myself—“we can trust Ashton.”

Chapter 1752 You Are In Charge

John furrowed his eyebrows in disbelief. Looking thoughtful, he asked, “You’re saying that everything Ashton has been doing recently is a lie and that he is doing this undercover? Are you sure about that?”

As smart as he was, he quickly grasped the meaning behind my words. I nodded with my lips pursed, my eyes filled with undeniable conviction. "I'm certain of it."

"Hmm..." Unconvinced, John let out a long hum and didn't reveal his thoughts.

I could understand his skepticism. After all, even the Lyons family had been dragged into this war, which was one that we couldn't afford to lose. It was too risky for him to have faith in Ashton, who had never pledged his loyalty to anyone.

If he was still a youth, he would make the same bet as I did without a care for the consequences. But now, he was all grown up and was a legitimate head of a family. Hence, he could no longer make decisions recklessly.

That day, his scathing words were not just meant to frighten me. If Ashton had really changed, he would go all out to take him down. But even so, he was apprehensive when faced with my decision to trust Ashton still.

After all, other than being stubborn and soft-hearted at times, John was someone who would deliberate upon matters comprehensively.

"John"—I suppressed the emotions in my heart and adjusted his jacket that had flipped over by his shoulder—"just prioritize Emma this time, all right? What you have done for me is more than enough."

After a brief pause, I continued, "Although all good things must come to an end, I know that both of us are different. No matter what you choose this time or whether we're on the same path, I will always remember that you are the biggest source of my courage."

John let out a long sigh. "The way you talk really unsettles me."

Taking a deep breath, I hid away my sorrows and looked up at him. With a confident smile, I answered, "You should get used to it because the conclusion will show that my judgment is correct."

John grinned in response. "Are you really that confident in Ashton?"

I shook my head. "It's more like I'm confident in my own choice. After all, I picked it up from you, no?"

With nothing to retort, John laughed in resignation.

"What's so funny?" At that moment, Emma entered with her assistant.

"Nothing." John turned to her while maintaining his smile. "You won. I admit my defeat."

After shooting him a knowing glance, Emma laughed alongside him.

Sandwiched in the middle and being the third wheel, I didn't know whether to laugh or cry. "Can the two of you please stop flirting in front of me?"

"I didn't. I'm innocent..." John raised his left hand. Instead of asking for mercy, he looked as if he was greeting someone.

After all, pleading for mercy required two hands, but he could only use one now.

Holding that thought, I couldn't bring myself to laugh anymore.

As for Emma, she warmly put her arm around my shoulder, just like old times. “Don’t listen to his b*llshit. We were betting whether you would still take Ashton’s side this time. I put my chips on you while he did the opposite. The loser will be second-in-command at home forever.”

Second-in-command? Doesn’t that mean he no longer has any status in the family? On second thought, John never did possess any authority at home to begin with.

“I have lost miserably this time.” John began to put on a pitiful look. Although he was just pretending, it did lighten up the atmosphere significantly.

Shrugging, I quickly apologized. “I’ll let you be the top dog in my house in the future, just as how it was when Ashton lost his memory. You were in charge of everything then.”

With his spirit suddenly reinvigorated, John pointed to the air and said, “Remember what you said.”

I looked down at his well-defined fingers and pushed them aside with a smile, just as how I would coax a child of Audrey’s age. “Of course, and I won’t go back on my word. You’d better remember it.”

John chuckled like a child. “You don’t even have to remind me. This is something I will definitely remember. By the time Ashton returns, I’ll make sure I claim it from him.”