

# When There Is Nothing Left But Love Chapter 1853-1857

## Chapter 1853 Staredown

As a result, I wondered if there was a limit to what he was capable of doing.

Meanwhile, although Garrett's men didn't fear death, they were not willing to lose their lives because of me.

Having heard the threat, Garrett raised his gaze at Nathaniel and fell silent in thought.

After a long while, he regained his senses and sneered, "Looks like I have raised nothing but a worthless dog. Instead of catching prey, you end up biting me instead. Well done, Nathaniel. Well done."

Just as he spoke, he sprang up from the sofa and glared at Nathaniel face to face. Both of them were within striking distance of each other.

Even though Garrett was shorter than Nathaniel, he made up for it with his commanding presence. At that moment, both of them were standing toe to toe against each other.

"I'm not going to be fooled. After all, you're not going to die for this woman." Narrowing his gaze, Garrett's murderous aura intensified.

Staring right at him, Nathaniel retorted steadily, "Mr. Jensen, why don't you try me?"

With their eyes locked, the tension in the atmosphere reached a crescendo as an invisible psychological battle began. It felt as if all hell would break loose at any moment.

After a staredown that lasted a minute, Garrett wavered. Raising his hand, he signaled for the guns to be lowered.

He understood how desperate one could be when forced into a corner, let alone the fact that Nathaniel's methods were never conventional. Therefore, a kamikaze attack by him was entirely possible.

"Do you think you can protect her?" Mr. Jensen scoffed. "The factions in Southeast Asia alone will never let her live!"

"Drop the scare tactics, Mr. Jensen. I'm not a three-year-old." Nathaniel broke out into a faint but dangerous smile. "As long as you don't bring it up, they have no evidence to accuse her of being involved. Even if you have the evidence and hand it over in an attempt to rebuild your empire, no one will trust you after that. You're a smart man. I'm sure you know what's best for everyone. In the end, you will still protect me. What happened overseas is just your excuse to dispose of Scarlett, am I right?"

Garrett was stung at how Nathaniel saw through him. It took him a long while before he regained his composure and responded sarcastically, "You are indeed a sharp man. As I said before, only you are qualified to be my heir. Unfortunately, you have used your wits in the wrong place this time. The only thing that awaits you now is death!"

"Perhaps, you might be disappointed again," Nathaniel smirked.

"Hmph! Retreat!" Garrett snorted and left with his men. Once they were gone, Nathaniel released me. He then dropped onto the sofa and heaved a long sigh.

After glancing at him, I turned around to head upstairs.

"Aren't you going to thank me for saving your life?" Even though Nathaniel was resting with his eyes closed, he was entirely aware of all my movements.

I would have uttered my thanks if it was anyone else. Just not him.

"In that case, I should really thank you for burying such a huge amount of explosives in my home without my knowledge. Mr. Hall, if you had detonated them earlier, you wouldn't need to agonize over a trivial matter such as my gratitude," I sneered while suppressing the rage inside me.

Despite trying to kill my entire family, he still insisted that he loved me. At that moment, I was lost as to what his definition of love was.

"But I didn't," Nathaniel rebutted stubbornly. "Even the law has a lighter sentence for attempted crimes. And yet, you couldn't wait to find me guilty before I did anything."

I found his argument ridiculous. "If you really did it, I wouldn't even have the opportunity to protest. Nathaniel, let's be clear, you intended to kill me and my family. Do you need me to remind you of the number of people who died in your hands? In fact, killing you wouldn't be enough to make up for it!"

"In that case, you should just do it." Suddenly, Nathaniel vented his frustration. "After all, dying in your hands makes me happy."

"You're mad!" I snapped. Not wanting to continue the argument, I headed upstairs instead. Just as I did, I heard two gunshots echo through the house.

### **Chapter 1854 Ashton Arrives**

Thinking that it was Garrett's men attacking, I turned to look. Instead, it was Ashton's figure that greeted me.

Nathaniel too had noticed his presence. After the two of them exchanged glances, Ashton turned away first and called out to me. "Letty, come to my side."

Although he was holding a gun, I couldn't sense any animosity from him. As if he was worried that I would be frightened, he even slowed down his speech on purpose.

I nodded and hurried to his side.

Opening his arms, he embraced me tightly.

After being apart for such a long time, I was finally reunited with the familiar warmth and scent.

Having noticed Nathaniel's piercing gaze, I was suddenly struck by a thought. Letting go of Ashton, I warned, "Run! Nathaniel has planted bombs all over the house!"

Just as I spoke, I grabbed Ashton's hand and sprinted outside without giving Nathaniel another look.

Unexpectedly, Ashton pulled me back. Closing his eyes, he signaled for me to calm down. He then turned his attention toward Nathaniel with a darkened gaze.

Standing there, Nathaniel's eyes were bloodshot at the sight of his rival. Not bothered to hide his emotions, he was filled with enmity toward Ashton.

"The police are on their way. Hence, you still have a five-minute window to flee." Ashton broke his silence.

When I realized he had come prepared, my fears began to ease.

"Flee?" Nathaniel narrowed his eyes. With an indifferent expression, he spread his hands. "What's the point of that? We might as well all go down together and end it all right here."

When I saw how he was on the brink of lunacy, I grew increasingly worried. Tugging Ashton by his sleeve, I reiterated, "Let's go. Now that Mr. Jensen's men have been scared away, there's no shame in leaving. Given how hard it was to reach this stage, I can't bear for any more accidents to happen."

In spite of my words, Ashton shook his head and calmed me down. "They don't understand Nathaniel. He won't do it."

"No, he will really kill us all in a suicide attack," I pleaded with Ashton to trust my judgment. After all, it was pointless to understand someone who was brutal and insane.

Watching us with a hidden smile, Nathaniel looked like he was enjoying a drama.

When I saw the confident look he had, I felt a shiver down my spine, causing me to tug harder at Ashton.

In the end, Ashton gave in to my pleas and followed me out of the villa. It wasn't until we were about a hundred meters away that we finally stopped.

I heaved a sigh of relief once I was sure we were safe. Patting myself on the chest, I stared at the villa and admonished Ashton, "You were too reckless just now. So what if you were right that he was just trying to scare us? You of all people know how much he hates you. What if he really did it? What would happen to me or the children? Have you ever thought about that?"

After observing me for a long time, Ashton didn't retort. Instead, he reached his arms over to hug me.

"It's all right now. Everything is fine. Nothing else will happen."

Instead of resisting, I wrapped my arms around him and hugged him back, as if that was the only way to prevent us from being separated again.

It wasn't until the police arrived that we let go of each other. Together with them, we reentered the villa.

By the time we did, Nathaniel was no longer there. Moreover, closer examination revealed that there were no explosives around the house. Nathaniel's threat was nothing but an empty lie.

I asked Ashton, "How did you know that he was bluffing?"

Ashton smiled at me. "All the credit goes to you."

"Me?" I pointed to myself, puzzled. Nonetheless, Ashton didn't elaborate.

Now that I could drop my front, I no longer had the mood to guess what Nathaniel was thinking. Hence, I put it at the back of my mind and changed the topic. "Since you led the police here, why didn't you wait a while for them to arrest Nathaniel?"

"That was my initial intention, but Mr. Jensen and his men left earlier than expected. We can only lure him out again using Nathaniel." Now that he could drop the act, Ashton's tone was relaxed. Smiling, he added, "Even if they were there, I still wouldn't have done it, as I couldn't risk putting you in danger."

### **Chapter 1855 Set Up A Trap**

Ashton was worried for a legitimate reason. Hence, I guessed that everything had turned out for the best.

Ashton had almost gathered all Nathaniel's incriminating evidence. The latter had also exposed his identity, so he would not escape for too long.

Although the police would patrol the villa, Ashton still felt that the place was unsafe for us to stay in. Hence, he sent us to John's house late at night.

John was staying in Louis' precious yard. The place was kept under strict surveillance by the security guard there. Moreover, there was a military base not far from the place, so Garrett's people would not get near.

The moment we entered the house, I jolted when I heard a loud voice. "Mrs. Fuller!"

When I regained my senses, I finally noticed that Joseph was right in front of me.

He's alive!

"Joseph!" I exclaimed. "Y-You're not dead! You're alive!"

Joseph smiled as he explained awkwardly, "Yes. I'm still alive. I went into hiding for detox and recuperation. I must've embarrassed Mr. Ashton since I've recovered so slowly."

"It's not embarrassing." I felt warm inside as I stretched out my arms to hug him. "Give me a hug. It must've been hard on you."

Joseph turned to look at Ashton for permission before he gave me a brief hug.

"Thank you, Joseph," I mumbled gratefully.

Joseph smiled without uttering a word.

Just then, Audrey and Gregory ran down the stairs and threw themselves at me.

"Mommy!"

"Mommy!"

"I missed you so much..."

"I missed Daddy too!"



“I miss you too!”

Seems like my senses have malfunctioned. Why do my tears taste sweet today? The next morning, Benson was dressed in his military uniform when he visited us.

“Congratulations, both of you. The darkest days are already over.”

Lying in Ashton’s arms, I looked at him to exchange glances with him before I smiled. Then, I invited Benson into the house.

After serving the tea, Ashton asked Benson the question I was concerned about the most. “Did you get any news about Nathaniel?”

Benson had just sipped his tea as he heard Ashton’s words. He slowly placed his cup down as he shook his head with remorse. “We’re still investigating. The same goes for Mr. Jensen and his men. It’s like they’ve disappeared into thin air. There’s absolutely no news about them.”

“Does that mean that Nathaniel might have escaped?” I frowned my brows worriedly.

Putting aside his identity, Nathaniel was highly intelligent. Once he had avoided the police, with his capability, it would be a matter of time for him to make his comeback.

Ashton and our family had never owed him anything. We did not deserve to live under constant threat and endless harassment.

“Mrs. Fuller, don’t be pessimistic. You should trust us. Those who I’ve intended to capture have never gotten far. Please don’t worry and enjoy your time with your family and forget about this issue.” Benson did not even see Nathaniel as a threat.

I did not blame him at all.

One would only be terrified when mishaps befell him.

Looking at the children who were playing in the living room, I could not stay calm. Ashton is suffering now because of all the grudges from the previous generation. I can't let history repeat itself and have my children suffer from hurting each other. I can't let that happen.

As my heart sank, I looked at Benson and said, "Mr. Zimmerman, we can't be on the passive side. There are almost a hundred billion people in K City. It's impossible to find a needle in the haystack. Why don't we change our plan, and try setting up a trap?"

"Oh?" Benson raised his eyebrow, looking interested. "How do we set a trap?"

Glancing at Ashton, I explained sternly, "I can't guarantee that my method will definitely work, but we can give it a try..."

The next morning, an ambulance drove into the Stovall residence and sent me to the best private hospital in K City. After a diagnosis, I was sent to the emergency ward.

The social media was soon awash with news, and some netizens predicted that I only had a month left to live.

That was actually a trap to arrest Nathaniel. Yet, the person who appeared was Rebecca.

In order to let Nathaniel get into the hospital, all the patients on my floor were transferred away. Instead, soldiers came to disguise themselves as patients and their family. Rebecca managed to get in because the guard was slacking.

## Chapter 1856 Pretending To Be Sick

Right at that moment, I was lying on a bed in the isolation ward. Breathing through the oxygen mask, I saw Rebecca's reddened eyes when I opened my eyes.

Rebecca chuckled when she noticed that I was taken aback by her presence. "Haha! Are you shocked? Scarlett, don't you think that you deserve this? After going against me for all your life, you're going to die anyway. What a waste of time!"

Since I was a patient who was close to death, I could only widen my eyes to glare at her.

Since I could not move, Rebecca started pacing around my bed. She took the oxygen mask off my face and threw it on the floor. "You've always depended on others for protection. Back then, you needed Ashton and the other men, now you're depending on this lousy mask. Come on, show me what you've got. Let's see how long you can go without this thing."

While speaking, she walked closer to the expensive medical devices and started to mess around with them. She mumbled, "Let me pull all these out and break them and see how you can keep glaring at me! Since you're dying, why didn't you just give me Ashton? You've destroyed me! I'll kill you now and watch you suffer a terrible death!"

In the end, a flat line appeared on the heart rate monitor.

Since the truth was going to expose soon, I quickly pressed the emergency button under my blanket. That should send all the police who were hiding in the room next door to arrest Rebecca.

However, before I could even press it, Rebecca hugged the heart rate monitor and exclaimed, "Haha! She's dead! Scarlett is dead! I finally killed her! I'm the happiest person in the world! There is no more Scarlett Stovall!"

She lunged herself at me, and her expression became nervous. Putting her index finger on her lips, she shushed me. "Shh! Scarlett is dead! Ashton is dead too! This is my world. I can do whatever I want! I'm the queen, so everyone loves me! I want everyone to love me!"

After screaming hysterically, she kept repeating her words. "I want everyone to love me. I want everyone to love me..."

While murmuring to herself, she walked out aimlessly. It seemed like she could not see me, and she looked like she was possessed.

After some time, someone disguised as a nurse came to ask me, "Mrs. Fuller, Mr. Fuller sent me in here. Are you all right? That crazy woman has probably escaped from the psychiatric ward. Did she scare you?"

"I'm fine." I shook my head and ordered, "Send someone in to repair the medical devices."

"Sure. Please hold on."

I did not pay attention to her at all as I was busy thinking about Nathaniel.

What if he doesn't come? What should I do? If he managed to escape, I would live in fear for the rest of my life.

Finally, in the middle of the night on the next day, footsteps rang on the entire floor of the hospital. I opened my eyes and found that everyone who was prepared for the ambush, was running downstairs.

Without a doubt, I knew that the scene was caused by Nathaniel.

I hurriedly yanked the IV tube which was stuck onto my body before I put on my jacket and went after the people.

Upon arriving at the back entrance, I saw Nathaniel being surrounded by the police in the middle of the road.

Although Nathaniel did not have any weapons in his hands, all the police still ran for cover. They dared not to confront an outlaw recklessly.

Nathaniel was looking at them disdainfully. He smirked as he despised everyone around him.

His expression made the police even more worried. They were afraid that he had a terrifying plan in place. Therefore, they did not dare to get closer to him.

Nathaniel noticed me among the crowd very quickly. His eyes darkened as he questioned, "Scarlett? Did you really fall sick?"

Clearly, he guessed that it was all a trick, but he still showed up.

I was deeply moved by him for a tad moment. Yet, that feeling stayed for just a mere second.

## **Chapter 1857 I Love You**

I saw Nathaniel's expression as he threw threats at the police earlier. That reminded me of how terrifying of a person he was, and my sympathy for him now would turn into a weapon against my family and friends in the future.

“No,” I admitted to it calmly. “Just as you’ve guessed, this is just a trap. You’ve fallen right into it, Nathaniel.”

Having heard that, Nathaniel smiled bitterly. “Really? Luckily...”

“It’s not good news for you.”

“Now that I’m here, I’m not afraid of anything.” Nathaniel gave me a faint smile as if he had seen through the world.

Just then, Ashton arrived and pulled me into his arms. He was afraid to lose me.

Yet, right at that moment, a jeep rushed toward us from the road on our left side. It hit all the police cars which surrounded Nathaniel and instantly came to a halt beside him.

The driver was wearing a bulletproof vest as he fired at the police, trying to force them back.

In the middle of the shower of bullets, the back door of the jeep was pushed open. Garrett suddenly stepped out of the car.

While gripping the back of the front seat with one hand, he shouted at Nathaniel, “Do you believe me now? That woman wants you dead. Get in right now! You’re putting everyone here in danger!”

Once he finished his words, a bullet shot through his head.

Many snipers were hiding on top of the building, and they were all waiting for that moment.

When Garrett collapsed, everyone else panicked. One of them started screaming, "Nat! Get in, or else we'll have to leave you-"

Before that man even finished speaking, those men collapsed one by one.

In no time, Nathaniel was the only person left alive.

It seemed like he had expected all this as a faint smile was still plastered on his face. Then, he slowly opened his arms, and the gun on his hand was revealed.

At that moment, I clearly saw that he was mouthing some words to me. Yet, before I could see properly, Ashton covered my eyes with his hand.

Bang! Bang! After several gunshots sounded, I heard the sound of a body dropping on the ground.

When Ashton moved his hand away from my eyes, Nathaniel was lying on the ground. He had lost the ability to move.

Under the protection of the crowd, one of the police approached Nathaniel and kicked the gun away from the latter's hand. He checked Nathaniel's pulse before he announced, "He's dead!"

Just then, everyone else rushed over and started cleaning up the mess.

Ashton did not want me to witness such a brutal scene, so he led me back to the hospital. Vaguely, I could hear a police shouting, "Boss, his gun is not loaded..."

I could guess that they were talking about him, but I did not ask them further.

How is it possible? He knew that he would die. Nathaniel wasn't stupid.

The only thing I was certain was the Fullers would no longer live in misfortune anymore.

Two months later, a wedding was held.

Alexander got down on one knee and started weeping. "I'm Alexander Zimmerman. I promise to take care of you for the rest of my life. Emery Moore, will you marry me?"

Even though Emery had been through many struggles in life, she was still moved. She nodded fervently in response. Worrying that she might embarrass herself, she pursed her lips as she stretched out her hand to take the ring.

They kissed passionately and announced their endless love on the stage. At the end of the wedding, Alexander snatched the microphone from the host's hands and pulled Emery to the video camera. He yelled on top of his lungs, "I've found the female lead in my life! Give us your blessings! I'll be happy, and I'll make her happy! I will!"

Ashton stayed at the wedding ceremony from the beginning until the end and left with me.

We did not return home immediately. Instead, he drove toward the best nursing home in K City.

The director of the nursing home led us to his office respectfully before he turned on the projector.

Once the light was switched off, three different scenes appeared on the screen.

The first one was Simone feeding Nicolas, who was paralyzed on the bed, in a clean and warm room.



The second scene was Tiffany and her boyfriend doing strengthening exercises in the physiotherapy room.

Whereas, the last one was Rebecca.

She was dressed in a hospital gown with the sleeves bound to each other, and she had a clean face with no makeup. With her hair tied into a bun, Rebecca was running around the room like a child, while a nurse was chasing after her. The nurse looked exasperated.

“Why are they...” I thought that the people on the screen had passed away, or even begging on the streets just like Ashton’s condition back then.

Ashton’s attention was focused on the people on the screen. He appeared calm as he explained, “Perhaps, I didn’t know what I want. I wanted them to suffer, but I realized that I couldn’t do that. Therefore, I’ll just feed them and let them live like normal people. Everyone will go through life and death. In the end, all of us are just ordinary people. Nothing is wrong with living a plain life.”

Yes. Ordinary people live plain lives. Nothing’s wrong with it. What’s the point of differentiating people with social classes? All of us are going to die in the end anyway.

I hugged him tightly and lay my face on his chest. Feeling his heartbeat, I said, “Do you know that I’ve always trusted you? I knew you wouldn’t change because you’re different. You’re not a cold-blooded animal. In fact, you’re soft-hearted and stubborn. Although you never say it, I understand everything.”

“I should thank you then.” Self-mockingly, he replied, “When I was undercover, I wanted to punch myself so badly, but you didn’t push me away.”

Hearing that, I chuckled and punched his chest lightly. “Yes. You have to suffer first. Otherwise, you would be too presumptuous.”

Ashton chuckled in response and did not resist me. Suddenly, he took out a medal from his pocket.

Benson gave him the medal. On behalf of the country, he rewarded Ashton with it for contributing to drug enforcement.

Although Ashton's identity could not be revealed, his record was stated in the files. Now, he was a registered soldier.

Moreover, Alexander had promised that if the Fullers were ever threatened in any way, Ashton could use the medal to request help in the army the Zimmerman family was serving in.

"What?" I thought that he was showing off the medal, so I pretended that I did not care about it.

Yet, he took my right hand and carefully put the medal on my palm. In a deep voice, he announced, "Letty, this is the first and only medal of my life. This is a gift for you."

Knowing the story behind the tiny medal, I felt that it was particularly heavy on my palm.

"A gift for me? Are you willing to do that?" Ashton valued it very much. He had always kept it in the most obvious position in his study.

"I'm willing to. If I could, I would even give you my life," Ashton teased.

"Stop it. You sweet-talker," I whined.

However, Ashton ignored me and pulled me into his embrace again.

“When I was twelve, I wanted to become a soldier. I insisted that men should serve in the military at least once in their life. I want to know how much I can push myself to the limit as I protect this nation. I want to contribute to it. Not long later, I lost my parents. My life was then filled with the drive to avenge their death. I gradually lost my direction, and I didn’t know what I want anymore. After that, I met you and fell in love with you. You kept me companied, and found the real me, who I’ve lost a long time ago. Although it’s late now, I want you to know that you’ve given me this new life, and this precious medal. I love you.”

I love you too.