

# When There Is Nothing Left But Love

## Chapter 261-264

Chapter 261

Argh! I guess I can't out-talk him, huh?

"Thanks for the ride home!" I decided to keep my mouth shut and boarded the car as instructed.

He nodded and responded with a poker face.

When we were about to reach the villa, I couldn't suppress the urge to ask him about the thing that had been bothering me. "Joseph, where's your girlfriend?"

"I don't have one, Mrs. Fuller!"

I nodded and remarked, "Well, I thought so. Otherwise, your girlfriend will have a hard time dealing with you."

He took a peek at me for a few seconds before turning around to focus on the road.  
"Actually, I'm married."

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I was completely speechless and decided to wrap up our conversation because I was pretty sure I would get increasingly infuriated if I were to go on.

Once we were back in the villa, I got out of the car as soon as possible and strode my way into the living room.

I changed into a pair of indoor sandals in the foyer and noticed the light in the living room was switched on. There was a man in the living room, enjoying his cup of tea as he indulged himself in reading a book.

"A\*\*hole!" I blurted out the things I had in my mind almost instantly.

He frowned and stared at me silently, but I ignored him and bounced my way up the stairs without any hesitation.

"Hold it right there, Scarlett!" Ashton broke the silence and raised his volume out of the blue, rendering me incapable of motion while I was on my way up the stairs.

I turned around and confronted, "What do you want?"

The infuriated man burst out chuckling and asked rhetorically, "What do I want? How dare you raise your volume against me when you're the one at fault?"

"Well, I guess you have proven yourself to be right! Is there anything else you want from me?" I glared at him with my mouth shut tight.

Ashton took a deep breath and announced in a righteous manner, "I'll turn a blind eye to the incident that has occurred today, but I want you to stay away from Marcus in the future!"

"You're ridiculous! I have to work, for goodness' sake! Marcus was merely drunk!" Halfway through my reply, I avoided his gaze due to the sense of guilt I felt.

He rushed over and grasped my wrist because he couldn't hold back his anger anymore. "Scarlett, what does it take to get you to stay away from him?"

I raised my head and looked at him in the eyes because he was frustrated for real. "Fine! I'll try to stay away from him in the future. I'm conscious of the things I'm doing, okay? You have been getting in touch with Rebecca while nothing's going on between Marcus and me! Don't you think you're being unreasonable?"

It was a habit of mine to bring up Rebecca whenever we were involved in a conflict. I knew nothing was going on between the duo, but I couldn't resist the urge to provoke him whenever I had the chance.

His expression turned gloomy all of a sudden. "Which part of me is being unreasonable? Besides, what makes you think something's going on between Rebecca and me? Scarlett, who the hell do you think you are?"

Judging by his expression, I knew I had to bring the conversation to a halt. Otherwise, things would spiral out of control soon.

I assured Ashton, "I'm so sorry, okay? I'll definitely stay away from Marcus in the future. I promise you I won't get anywhere near him anymore!"

He narrowed his eyes because he was confused by my sudden change of attitude. "Scarlett, are you keeping something from me?"

Argh! Why would I apologize and give in to his request when I hadn't done anything wrong? Actually, what does he want? I can't seem to talk any sense into him at all! I have done everything he wants, yet he isn't going to let me off the hook at all!

I took a deep breath and forced a smile. "Ashton, I have told you the things I have in mind! It's up to you to believe it or not!"

As soon as I finished my sentence, I brought myself upstairs because I couldn't take it anymore-if the conversation went on any longer, I might pass out due to frustration.

To my surprise, he grasped my wrist and stopped me once again.

"Ashton, what the heck do you want?" I turned around and confronted him because I couldn't suppress my wrath anymore.

He finally returned to his calm and collected self as he requested, "Calm down, Scarlett. Let's head upstairs after we get ourselves something to eat, okay? I'm hungry. Can you please make me something to eat?"

Perhaps he had just reached J City. Therefore, his housekeepers and maids weren't around in the night. This time, it was my turn to express my discontent. I yelled, "Can't you make yourself something to eat? Why does it have to be me!"

Ashton had his lips pursed in an aggrieved manner while he showed me his hands. "I've accidentally hurt my hands during the fight."

What kind of excuse is that? I thought I was hearing things when I heard the absurd reply from him. If I hadn't witnessed the fight he had with Marcus, I would have fallen for his words for real!

He was merely faintly bruised. I guessed he must have accidentally hurt himself when he got all worked up during the fight.

"Ashton, have you no shame at all?" He had the audacity to put on an innocent front when he was the aggressive one who had caused the uproar.

Ashton leaned over and peered into my eyes, asking rhetorically in return, "Don't you know me better than others? Anyway, I'm really hungry because I haven't had anything throughout the entire night."

At that point in time, I was startled by his response because he seemed to be a needy man instead of his usual egoistic self.

I couldn't be sure if it were a hallucination, but I walked into the kitchen to make him something to eat as requested nonetheless.

There were a lot of fresh ingredients that had been prepared by the maids in advance.

Truth be told, I wasn't a great cook either. I diced a little garlic and started preparing a simple Spaghetti Aglio E Olio from scratch.

"Are you going to make me some spaghetti?" Leaning against the wall while crossing his arms, Ashton stared at me wide-eyed and asked when he saw the ingredients I had with me.

"Mm-hmm!" Since there wasn't anything else I could prepare apart from spaghetti.

"Is this how you're supposed to treat your husband?"

Halfway through my preparation, I turned off the stove and glared at Ashton. "If that's the case, you can always get yourself something else to eat. Why don't you get someone else to deliver you a fancy meal?"

Startled, he quickly blocked me and touched my nose. "Actually, I don't mind at all. Spaghetti sounds great."

The irritating man finally stopped getting in my way.

I was completely worn out after I finished making his food.

Immediately after I served him his meal, I returned to the bedroom and fell asleep after I carried out my bedtime routine.

I got irritated in the middle of the night because the buzzing phone roused me from my wonderful sleep. By the time I opened my eyes, Ashton had picked it up.

He leaned over and ran his fingers through my unkempt hair, asking gently, "Did I wake you up?"

## **Chapter 262**

I nodded and asked, "Who is it?" It was three o'clock early morning, so I couldn't figure out which maniac would interrupt others at such odd hours.

He looked elsewhere and denoted in a serious tone, "Rebecca is going to give birth soon."

All of a sudden, my mind was all over the place because she was nowhere close to her estimated date of delivery yet. Hence, I was confused that she was going to give birth so soon.

I wondered what the person on the other end of the call told him. Meanwhile, he held on to his phone with a frown as though he had received some upsetting news.



Ashton lowered his volume and replied, "I'm so sorry, Ms. Anderson. I'm currently not in K City."

He was aware I had my eyes on him. Hence, he decided to carry on with the conversation with the speaker.

At that moment, Cameron's voice could be heard as she pleaded anxiously, "Ashton, Rebecca needs you by her side more than ever! Can you please make a trip back to K City immediately? As long as she's able to give birth to her child safely, I'll give in to whatever request you have! Please, Ashton!"

PlayvolumeAd

Ashton furrowed his brows because he was slightly irked by Cameron's fretful voice.

I took over his phone and replied on his behalf, "Ms. Anderson, I'm afraid I have to turn you down because my husband is in the middle of something. I don't think he's able to make the trip back."

"Scarlett!" Cameron exclaimed in shock and yelled, "You're the one who has sent Rebecca the photos of the deceased children! She almost fell down the stairs in the middle of the night because of you – you vicious woman!"

I found her words hilarious and replied sarcastically, "Ms. Anderson, how am I, a trivial character, supposed to expose your beloved daughter to such horrible photos that can drive her mad? You should stop blaming me for everything that has gone wrong on her end. Perhaps God was behind this. After all, look at what you have done over the years. Instead of asking Ashton to fly back, why don't you atone for your sins instead?"

Cameron gasped when she heard my sarcastic remark. She warned me in return, "Y-You! Come at me with everything you have if you're holding a grudge against us! Aren't you afraid of karma if you make a move against a defenseless pregnant woman?"

"Oh, I'm terrified, Ms. Anderson! However, you're the one who should be afraid because it's your karma that we're talking about! I haven't done anything to get my revenge, and I don't think I need to do it myself anymore."

Immediately after I made myself clear, I hung up the call and looked at Ashton. "Are you going to make a trip back to K City?"

He smirked and directed a rhetorical question at me in return. "Do you think I'll make the trip back?"

I shook my head and asserted, "Nope! If you dare to make your way back to K City, I'll kill you for real!"

"Shall we give it a try?" Ashton sneered and provoked me.

I stared at him and caressed my chin in silence while he narrowed his eyes and asked, "Are you a part of this?"

"Excuse me?" For a short while, his words confused me. However, after a few seconds, I noticed he was talking about the incident that had occurred right before Rebecca's labor.

"Does that mean you're not involved in this?"

I nodded and queried in return, "Since I'm in J City, how am I supposed to get the better of her? If I wish to get my revenge, I'll definitely stay back to witness the outcome of my plan."

The bedside lamp was the only faint illumination that was available in the room. Ashton stared at me and leaned over to cradle me in between his arms. He gasped and apologized out of the blue, "I'm sorry, Scarlett!"

I pushed him away and said, "Stay away from me! It's pretty war, tonight!"

Although I couldn't figure out the reason he had apologized, I had no intention to get to the bottom behind his odd behavior either.

I stared at the ceiling with my eyes shut tight because I felt empty deep down as I recalled the traumatic experience with our child back then.

Previously, I held a grudge against Ashton and blamed him for not protecting us. I resented him for not being around when I needed him by my side the most.

Eventually, I noticed I was the selfish one because I had never put myself in his shoes and looked at things from his perspective.

Right then, Ashton broke the silence, asserting in a serious manner, "I won't repeat the same silly mistake anymore."

I peered into his eyes and queried, "Ashton, do you love me?"

It was a foolish question, but I decided to bring it up since I didn't have anything else on my mind.

He turned over and glanced at me. "I'll never file for divorce with you."

"Oh..." I replied quietly because I didn't expect such an odd reply from him.

To be honest, his reply was as good as none because it didn't mean anything to me.

He wrapped his arms around my shoulders and asked since I went into dead silence once more. "Are you angry?"

I shook my head and denied it because I couldn't resist the urge to fall asleep anymore.

Perhaps it was due to the wonderful news right before my sleep; a few seconds after I closed my eyes, I fell into a deep slumber.

Since we had sealed the deal with OrbitTech, it wouldn't be necessary to adhere to the initial schedule that had been devised for the upcoming three days anymore.

Ashton got up early in the morning because he had something to tend to and would have to depart earlier than usual. As he was getting ready, I stared at him while lying on the bed because I had just woke up. "Have you ever put on clothes of other colors throughout your entire life?"

He got himself a necktie from the walk-in closet and ignored me. Instead, he instructed me, "Hurry up and put this on for me."

I shook my head and told him, "No! I can't tie a tie!" It was the truth because I didn't need to pick up such a skill since I had never gotten romantically involved with another man prior to my relationship with him.

As always, he replied with a frowned look, "I'll teach you!"

He refused to give up just yet and instructed me to sit upright.

Instantly, I sat upright on the bed and peered at him in the eyes. "Come over!" Since it was way ahead of my schedule, I refused to bring myself out of bed because there wasn't anything else I could do that early.

He shook his head helplessly and walked over as demanded, taking a seat by my side on the bed because I showed no signs of getting out of bed just yet. "Scarlett, why are you such a lazy bum?"

"Me? Are you sure I'm a lazy bum?"

Ashton couldn't think of better words to rebuke my statement.

Then, I started tying the tie based on the methods he taught me. After a while, I managed to tie the knot after my first attempt.

He asked with his eyes widened in disbelief, "You were saying?"

I grinned awkwardly because I didn't expect it would be such a piece of cake. "Are you going to believe me if I say I'm a prodigy when it comes to tying a tie?"

Actually, I was surprised because it was easier than I thought it would be.

## **Chapter 263**

Ashton sneered and pinched my cheek. "I hope you're telling the truth."

After Ashton departed, I planned to return to bed and take another nap before starting my day, but my phone on the nightstand had started buzzing.

I took a peek and noticed I have an incoming call from an anonymous number. The first call was hung up by the person on the other end because I had no intention to pick it up.

After several consecutive calls, I picked it up and heard a man's hoarse voice the moment the call got through. "I'm at your doorstep!"

"John?" I was surprised.

"Are you trying to avoid me?" he replied, utterly irritated.

"N-No! I'm not in K City! Currently, I'm at J City!"

He got worked up all of a sudden and yelled, "Stop it! I'm currently at Peakville Estate! Are you going to open the door or not?"

I finally figured out the reason behind his frustration – it turned out he was right at my doorstep, yet I refused to pick up the call.

After I changed and headed downstairs, I noticed the maid had gotten the breakfast ready. I told her to get me another serving and pack it for me.

By the time I reached the entrance, I saw the Bugatti that was parked right in front of the gate. The driver of the eye-catching vehicle wined down the window and instructed, "Get in the car!"

As soon as I boarded the car, I caught a whiff of a pleasant scent. Perhaps it the air freshener that was applied to conceal the awful stench of tobacco.

John laid the seat flat and stared at me with his pale and haggard face while he took another whiff of smoke. "Why have you blacklisted my contact number?"



I was confused. A few seconds later, I asked, "Huh? Since when have I done such a thing?"

John sneered and asked, "Have you spent the night with Ashton again?"

I nodded and affirmed his thoughts while he scoffed, "Hmph! He must be the one behind it!"

Does that mean Ashton was the one who had blacklisted John's contact number? Though, why would Ashton pick on John out of the blue?

"Have you called me last night?"

John nodded and told me he called me at three o'clock in the middle of the night.

"3 a.m.? Well, you should have seen that coming!" I blurted out the things in my mind. After all, no ordinary man would reach out to others in the middle of the night.

The man, who was in a foul mood, told me, "Rebecca was rushed to the hospital last night, and I don't think her child will make it through."

I was astonished by his statement and recalled the conversation Cameron had with Ashton at three in the morning. "What have you shown Rebecca?"

John squinted his eyes and yawned as though he didn't have enough sleep last night. "I have shown her the photos of all sorts of children and given her a special souvenir."

"Which was..."

"Have you heard of a voodoo doll?" He queried with an odd expression that made it hard to read his actual mood.

It took me a few seconds to grasp the things he was talking about. In the end, I stared at him with my eyes widened in disbelief. "Is that what you have shown her?"

He nodded and explained, "I told her it would take a seven to eight-month-old fetus to produce a custom-made voodoo doll. Coincidentally, her child is about eight-month-old."

I was baffled by his words and couldn't be sure if I should be delighted or not. "Fine, I guess I should be grateful because you have gotten rid of her on my behalf. At least I don't have to go through the trouble of dealing with her anymore."

John rolled his eyes and asked, "Where's your phone? I want you to unblock me at once."

I nodded and reached for my phone, going through the contact list to search for John's contact. There was no way John could reach me since Ashton had blocked both John's phone and WhatsApp account on my phone.

Later on, John started dissing Ashton for his unbelievably childish act.

"I think Ashton is the only person who will resort to such a childish and despicable trick on this planet!"

I remained silent throughout the session and handed over the set of breakfast I had brought along with me to him. "Have you been staying up throughout the night?"

John nodded and shared, "Initially, I wanted to call you and tell you everything about Rebecca, but I ended up being frustrated for the entire night because I couldn't reach you at all."

He was such a sentimental man and tend to overthink things whenever he was on his own.

"Have you gotten rid of the evidence after sending those nasty things on Rebecca's way?" Judging by Cameron's words, I was pretty sure she was suspicious of me being the mastermind behind everything.

He stuffed a sandwich into his mouth and muttered with a scowl, but his words were inaudible. "H-Have you always perceived me as such a foolish man?"

I shrugged my shoulders and told him, "Rebecca and Cameron aren't much of a threat, but you have to keep an eye on Zachary because we're both doomed if he dispatches the men from the underworld society to come after us."

In spite of my sincere warning, John scoffed as though it wasn't a big deal. "Don't worry. He's not much of a threat because he will be doomed soon."

I asked with a baffled look, "What do you mean? Is anyone going to take the Moore family out?"

"They can't blame others for their miseries when they're such an easy target, can they?"

John was right – the Moore family had been around for many years. They must have a lot of foes that were constantly going after them.

"When are you going back to K City? Uncle Louis is going to make a trip back to K City soon, and he's planning to acknowledge you as an official member of the family. He told me to share his plan with you because he wants you to get yourself ready by then."

I was slightly astonished when I heard the things John told me.

When I recalled the incident that occurred during Marcus' mother's birthday banquet, I lost myself in a train of thoughts and nodded. "I'll keep that in mind because I'll be heading to the countryside soon. I wonder if they are fine because it has been quite some time since we last got in touch."

He responded with a nod and assured me, "Forget about Rebecca for the time being. I'll deal with her for now and keep you updated."

I took note of his words and got out of the car. Staring at the gloomy weather, it felt as though everything was part of God's greater plan.

All along, I had never intended to get Rebecca's innocent child involved, but since things had turned out as such, there wasn't anything else I could do to turn the tables.

Shortly, Marcus gave me a call and inquired when would I be back.

"It's going to take me another two to three days. I have stricken a deal with OrbitTech. All you have to do is to get in touch with the person in charge regarding the progress of the project."

## **Chapter 264**

"Are you going to look for Macy?" Marcus went silent for a few seconds before asking.

I was taken aback by his sudden question, but I recalled I once brought it up in front of him during our random conversation.

The person on the other end of the call remained silent in anticipation of my reply. Shortly, he probed once more with a husky voice, "Have you finally located her?"

I shook my head and denied him of his thought. "No, no matter how hard I tried, I couldn't reach her. Jackson was the one who would pick up the call on her behalf. I wanted to pay them a visit and check on them for myself."

"I'll go with you!" Instead of a suggestion, it sounded more like a command.

Thus, I turned him down right away and said, "That won't be necessary because Jackson will be around to take care of me."

"Scarlett! Why don't you give Jackson a call before heading over? I'm afraid you're going to make a futile trip," Marcus rebuked in a callous tone.

"How do you know that when I haven't got in touch with Jackson? I think it's going to turn out just fine because Jackson told me he would stay by Macy's side to keep her company."

"You shouldn't jump to the conclusion! What if they had made their way back to J City ahead of you? Perhaps they had traveled elsewhere! Don't you think you should figure out their exact whereabouts before heading over?"

I nodded and gave in to the anxious man's request since he sounded so desperate. "Alright! I'll give Jackson a call and figure out their whereabouts beforehand!"

As soon as I detected the sound of the vehicle's engine from the courtyard, I told Marcus, "I have something to tend to on my end. I got to go."

Once I hung up the call, Ashton strode into the living room and noticed the packed meal that was in front of me. He asked with a frown, "What is this, and who's it for?"

I was confused for a short while, but I rebuked him and said, "No! I'll be heading out soon! So I got the maid to get my meal packed!"

"Where are you going?" Ashton asked.

"I'll be heading over to look for Macy and Jackson!" After I told him about my upcoming agenda, I stuffed the meal into my bag, which seemed to be unnecessary at all.

As a matter of fact, I could have my meal before heading out, yet I couldn't back down anymore since I had told him an out blunt lie.

When I was about to leave, Ashton stopped me and said, "Wait! I'll go with you, but allow me to retrieve a certain something from the study before that."

"N-No-"

"Just stay right here until I'm back!"

He didn't even allow me to stop him and proceeded to bounce up the stairs.

While he was away, I grabbed the opportunity and gave Jackson a call.

It took a while for him to pick up the call. "Scarlett."

"Jackson, can you please drop me a text of your current location? I'll be heading over to pay you and Macy a visit soon." If they were in the countryside, we would have to drive there. Otherwise, we would have a hard time maneuvering around because it would be tough to get a cab there.



"Are you back in J City?" It was evident Jackson, who was on the other end, was taken aback by our presence.

"Yeah! I came back because of a certain project. It has been some time since we last met, so I wanted to drop by and pay both of you a visit!" I told him about the truth without holding back.

"I... We're currently away from J City. A few days ago, I brought Macy along with me and made a trip back to M Country. We'll return after some time. Once we're back, I'll bring her over to K City and pay you a visit," Jackson stuttered.

I furrowed my brows because of his suspicious tone. It sounded as though he was nervous. "Why didn't you tell me earlier? Besides, how could you bring an infant everywhere with you?"

"It's fine! The baby is already three-month-old and proven suitable for a flight! We'll return and drop by K City by the end of the year, okay?" I thought Jackson was in the middle of something due to the noise coming from the other end of the call.

After he told me he had to tend to the things he had on his plate, he hung up the call without further ado.

I slouched against the couch after the call was hung up. A sense of insecurity engulfed me because it felt as though Jackson was trying to stay away from me.

"What's bothering you?" Ashton, who had returned with a folder, asked as he walked down the stairs.

I looked in his direction and paused for a few seconds. "Ashton, is Dr. Crest in M Country?"

He nodded and said, "Jared has been staying there because he's the person in charge of the expansion of the company. What's wrong?"

"Can you get him to do me a favor?" I couldn't shrug the very thought of Macy's disappearance off my mind because it had been a few months since I last heard from her.

Every time I got in touch with Jackson through a call, he would try to wrap up our conversation as soon as possible. I couldn't figure out if things were fine on their end.

"He'll be joining us for a dinner tonight. Why don't you bring it up in front of him when the time comes?" Ashton paused and stared at me with his brows furrowed when he noticed I had my bag on the coffee table. "What's wrong? Are you not heading out anymore?"

I nodded and explained, "Macy and Jackson had departed to M Country a few days ago."

He responded with a nod and stated, "Alright, if that's the case, I'll head out because I have something to deal with. I'll be back and pick you up for dinner tonight."

"That's alright. I can drive!"

"Scarlett Stovall, have you gotten used to turning me down?"

Staring at Ashton's downcast face, I murmured to myself, "N-No... I-It's because..."

"Make sure you're keeping your eyes on the road while you're driving!" After he finished his so-called heads-up, he walked out of the house with a darkened expression.

He seemed to be angry, but I wasn't sure of the reason behind it.

Anyway, I felt lightheaded after the series of confusing incidents I had to deal with within a day.

At seven o'clock in the evening, after I reached Imperial Hotel and parked my car, I headed over to the private dining room and made my way in before the designated time.

Apart from Ashton and Jared, there were two other figures in the spacious dining room. One was Felix, whom I had encountered a few days ago, and Thomas, the president of AC Credit.

"It has been a while, Mrs. Fuller!" Thomas could be considered a close acquaintance of mine because we used to encounter one another back in the day on several occasions for our work.

After I nodded and greeted Thomas in return, I took a peek at Felix. I was clueless about the reason he was there when he was taken into custody by the cops a few days ago. Thus, it didn't make any sense for him to be released within a few days.

