

# When There Is Nothing Left But Love

## Chapter 269-270

### Chapter 269

I felt a chill running down my spine and knew I had to stop him before things got to the point of no return. "Mr. Ludwick, are you trying to take me into custody against my will? If that's the case, I'm afraid I won't keep you company anymore because it's not fun at all!"

"Shut up and come with me! Since we're going to have some fun, we should spice it up a bit!" I wasn't a match for him in terms of strength. In the end, I was dragged out of the bar against my will.

My life might be at stake if I were to leave with the vicious man.

Therefore, I leaned against the wall and warned him, "Mr. Ludwick, if we're going to leave, I'm afraid I have to turn you down!"

The man glared at me and confronted, "Why do you insist on staying here? Are you trying to deceive me? Scarlett, do you really think I'm not aware of the plan Stacey has devised with you? I'm conscious of the plan to trick me, but that's not going to stop me from having

you spend a night with me! I'm not afraid of Ashton at all, but I don't want others to get in my way when I'm having the best time of my life! They're going to ruin my mood!"

My heart sank when I heard his words – he knew of our plan all along! Immediately, I tried to yell for help, but before my voice could reach others in the bar, I was rendered unconscious the moment I felt a racking sensation from my neck.

By the time I regained consciousness, Felix was right in front of me with a perverted look. I surveyed the surroundings and noticed I was placed in a bathtub in a hotel room.

I was completely drenched because he had splashed water on me to wake me up. What was worse was that my clothes were soaked, making every single part of my body exposed.

Staring at the now butt-naked Felix in front of me, I squinted my eyes and asked calmly, "Mr. Ludwick, what are you planning to do?"

Grinning, the pervert approached me and said, "What else could it be? Have you forgotten the reason we're here?"

"Mr. Ludwick, are you trying to force me into submission? I told you I had no intention of changing the venue!"

"So what? Don't you think this is even better? However, I'm afraid of hurting you during the process! My heart will shatter into pieces if that's the case!"

He placed his arms on the bathtub and leaned over.

Instinctively, I raised my leg and launched a kick in Felix's direction. However, he managed to evade my kick and moved away swiftly.

After he brought himself up, he wiped the water droplets that were on his face and complimented, "Oh, aren't you a feisty one! You made me all excited now."

I paid no heed to his words because the only thing I had in mind was to get in touch with Ashton. Since we were in a hotel, I was sure there was a landline in the room.

Once I thought about it, I brought myself out of the bathtub. Yet, the moment I got out of the tub, he held me by the neck and pushed me back into the tub.

I was appalled by the sicko and retaliated against him in an attempt to break free from his grasp. Nonetheless, my effort was futile because he was way too strong.

Eventually, I was bruised all over my body because I knocked into the bathtub while retaliating against Felix.

It was an awful scene, yet it seemed to have pleased the sadist even more. Right then, he started teasing me, "Tsk-tsk! You have such a gorgeous figure! I guess a woman who has given birth before is better than those virgins! What's so great about Ashton anyway? If you're mine, I won't approach another woman anymore!"

Using my knee, I launched a fatal blow in the direction of his crotch when he got caught up in delivering his arrogant speech.

"Argh!" He finally unfastened his grip when he felt the racking sensation. I grabbed the opportunity and sneaked away from him, making my way out of the bathtub.

However, the man couldn't be bothered by the pain at all. He grabbed my ankle and stopped me, causing me to stumble.

As a result, I fell to the ground and thought that would be it for me because I could literally hear my bones cracking due to the impact.

He then got out of the bathtub and pulled my hair to bring me up from the floor. Without a second thought, he slapped me in the face after he brought me up.

"Where do you think you're going? Since you have come to me, why are you playing hard to get all of a sudden?" That pervert didn't bother to hold back against me at all. My face was swollen after the several consecutive, merciless slaps.

The man, who had been proven to be aggressive, let loose of himself since there wasn't anyone in the room to restrain him.

Perhaps he wasn't satisfied with the few slaps in the face – he lifted me and kicked me in the abdomen after he pulled himself together.

I couldn't stand against the powerful force. Therefore, I bumped into the basin and had a hard time breathing due to the excruciating sensation coming from my head and my abdomen.

As a result, I collapsed on the ground because I was rendered defenseless by the sadistic man. That pervert approached me with a vicious smirk and crouched by my side after he reached me.

He ran his fingers across my shirt and stopped when he reached the collar. "You know what? I can't wait to devour you when you're in such a pathetic state! I wonder if Ashton will be disgusted when he looks at you right now!"

I gasped due to the pain I felt. Although I could barely open my eyes, I forced myself to glower at the man. "Felix, you better make sure I don't get to make it out alive! Otherwise-"

"Argh!" I felt as though I would pass out again soon as he started biting me on the neck.

Truth be told, I would break down soon if Stacey failed to show up as promised.

In the nick of time, Felix stopped when he heard the vigorous knock on the door.

Then he looked at me and yelled, "Scarlett, I'll send you to hell for real!"

Immediately after his warning, he started strangling me once more. It felt as though I was merely a step away from hell.

Meanwhile, the person outside of the room wouldn't stop knocking on the door. Eventually, he started yelling because no one was there to answer the door. "Felix! Open the door!"

H-Huh? Is that... a middle-aged man's voice?

We were equally dumbfounded because we thought Ashton was the one who was at the doorstep.

Quickly, Felix cast me aside and rushed over to answer the door.

Although it was merely a few minutes, I was completely messed up due to Felix's brutal act. In spite of my horrifying look, I brought myself up and rushed out of the bathroom to ask for help.

To my surprise, the person who had shown up was none other than Mr. Tuffin – the man who had abducted me from the parking lot some time ago.

Mr. Tuffin looked at Felix because he was shocked by my presence. “Why did you ask me over when you’re clearly in the middle of something?”

Felix, who was completely drenched, replied with a confused look, “What do you mean? I have never asked you to meet me here!”

## **Chapter 270**

“Weren’t you the one who had called me over because you have something to tell me? I wasn’t going to rush over, but you insisted you had something urgent to tell me and said it was about a new mission from the Moore family!” After he explained himself, the middle-aged man looked in my direction and asked, “What’s going on?”

Felix rebuked with his eyes wide open, “No! I’ve never contacted you! I didn’t receive any mission from the Moore family either!”

They exchanged glances and knew something was wrong almost immediately.

The vicious duo looked at me while Felix confronted, "Are you the one behind this?"

I supported myself and leaned against the wall to bring myself up. After I took a breather, I nodded and announced, "Yes! Since we're holding a grudge against one another, eventually, we'll have to settle the scores, right?"

Mr. Tuffin couldn't grasp the situation. He looked at Felix with a frown and asked, "Are you the one who has brought her over?"

Felix nodded with a horrified expression and told Mr. Tuffin, "Hurry up and let's go!"

Leaning against the wall, I neglected the pain I felt and warned them, "It's too late! Do you really think I'll let any one of you go after the things you have put me through?"

Slap! The middle-aged man landed a hard slap on Felix's face. He then got worked up and yelled, "You're such a fool! Do you know who the hell she is? Of all the people you could get your hands on, why the heck does it have to be her? Didn't you know that you're playing with fire!"



"C'mon, Ashton is just a businessman! He can't do anything against us apart from throwing us behind bars for a few days! What are you afraid of?" Felix wiped the blood from his lips and replied scornfully.

"You idiot! Don't you know Louis had acknowledged her as his goddaughter when they were in K City? And it just so happened that Louis is attending an event with Clinton today?"

"W-What? S-She's Louis' goddaughter?"

After giving it a thought for a few seconds, Felix made up his mind and cast a wrathful gaze at me. "Let's kill her!"

"Oh, you must be out of your f\*ckin' mind! What should we do about the surveillance system of the hotel, huh? Do you really think you can get away unscathed if she turns out dead when you were the one who had brought her into the room? Please tell me you're not such a simple-minded fool!"

The middle-aged man was infuriated and could barely catch his breath. He added, "Louis has always been known for being extremely protective over his close ones! Meanwhile, Ashton is a cunning man that's capable of pulling the strings to send you to hell! Do you really think Mr. Clinton can keep you safe? And to think that you're the bastard who would drag me down along with you!"

Felix looked at me with his eyes narrowed to a slit. "Scarlett, I have never offended you! Why did you set me up? What are you coming after? Don't you think you should tell me about the rationale behind your action since you have gotten the better of me?"

Leaning against the wall, I didn't bother to conceal my bruises at all. Instead, I wanted to be as pathetic as possible. "I'm merely doing Stacey a favor while getting my revenge for the abduction that has occurred half a year ago. Coincidentally, I found out both of you are executing the orders from Zachary. I will never allow those from the Moore family to live a peaceful life! Therefore, I didn't mind putting my life at stake to achieve my goal!"

"You're crazy!" Felix was no longer the arrogant and proud man he was a few minutes ago.

Truth be told, I couldn't figure out the reason he was released from the police station.

His influence due to his position as an auditor affiliated with AC Credit and the Ludwick family wouldn't allow him to wield such great influences. Stacey wasn't a fool either – she came to me for help because the one behind Felix wasn't AC Credit or the Ludwick family; it was Clinton!

I should consider myself lucky because if it weren't because of Stacey, I wouldn't have figured out the relationship between Felix and Clinton, let alone Clinton and Cameron.

Previously, Ashton brought me to Pear Garden to get Macy out of jail. It turned out Cameron was the one who had brought Clinton over.

An instruction from Cameron was all it took to get Clinton to do her bidding.

Meanwhile, Felix, who was still being hopeful, hadn't given up on the thought of killing me. He looked at the middle-aged man and instructed, "Kill her! As long as she's dead, I'm sure we can get off the hook easily! Let's get Mr. Moore to deal with the surveillance system for us. I'm sure he can go against Louis."

Compared to Felix, the other man was relatively calm. All of a sudden, he ran and crashed into Felix in an attempt to knock him out.

Instinctively, Felix moved away and evaded the middle-aged man's attack. Since the latter had a relatively chubby built, he passed out after he knocked on the wall. His head started bleeding as a result.

I couldn't help but was surprised. Undeniably, he was a smart and shrewd man.

At the same time, Felix also realized what the middle-aged man was trying to do. Hence, he cursed, "Savini, you're such an a\*\*hole!"

A few minutes later, a bunch of police officers and bodyguards barged into the room and surrounded us.

Felix was pinned to the ground by the police officers while Ashton, Louis, and John showed up in the room side by side.

Ashton, who had a gloomy expression, rushed over and placed his blazer over me.

The last to enter the room was a terrified Clinton. He got infuriated the moment he caught a glimpse of Felix. A few seconds later, he launched a kick on his stomach and warned him, "How dare you challenge the authority of the police when you're in J City! Who the heck do you think you are, scoundrel?"

It was a heavy blow on Felix. If the police officers hadn't pinned Felix to the ground, he might be sent flying by the powerful kick.

In the meantime, I was rushed to the hospital immediately after they found me.

After Ashton left, John, who had stayed by my side in the ward, held onto my hand and teased, "Do you really think you're capable of defending yourself? Who gave you the audacity to lure them out on your own? Do you have a death wish?"

I replied with a faint smile and checked on my pair of hands that were wrapped in gauze. "It's nothing serious, isn't it? Shouldn't you be congratulating me for a job well done?"

He scoffed, "If Uncle Louis and I weren't around, how would you get yourself out of the nasty situation? And if it weren't because of our influences, do you think Felix will be intimidated by the presence of Ashton, a businessman?"

I shrugged my shoulders nonchalantly and beamed. "Well, it turned out just fine, hasn't it? If none of you were around, I wouldn't have put myself at stake either."

## **Chapter 271**

Pausing for a while, I asked, "What's awaiting Felix?"

John told me the truth, "He will be sentenced to death or thrown behind bars for the rest of his life since he was the culprit behind a few innocent lives. Previously, Hector allowed Felix to get away after all the nasty things he has done because no one was around in J City. Since Uncle Louis has shown up and reported the things that Felix was involved in, he will never be set free anymore! As Hector was the one backing him up over the years, he, too, will have to bear the consequences of his actions. Honestly speaking, you did a great job because your action has allowed Uncle Louis to get his hands on the foundation of the Moore family."

I wasn't conscious of the exact relationship that was involved behind the scene, but I knew Cameron was a close acquaintance of Hector. They must have some sort of dodgy deals that could be exposed through a simple investigation. Perhaps Uncle Louis could get to the bottom of the Moore family's scandals over the years. If the Moore family wished to protect the sake of the greater crowd, they would have to forsake Cameron and chase her away from the family.

John stared at me for a short while before asking, "So... are you happy about this?"

I shrugged my shoulders and said, "Hmm... Not really, because the best is yet to come! This is merely the beginning of a wild ride!"

Before heading over to meet Stacey, I found out Louis was in town to carry out his duty, but he would depart after he was done with the things he had scheduled beforehand. Initially, I asked Louis to join me for a simple meal, but he had a lot of things on his plate and didn't have time for me.

Therefore, I headed over and meet Stacey in advance.

When she asked me to do her a favor, I thought of the options available. After a while, I figured that Stacey only wanted me to make use of Ashton's influence to keep Felix behind bars for a few years, alive.

However, I had the exact opposite idea. Since I was involved in the operation, I figured he would definitely come after me once he regained freedom. Thus, I would never allow him to make it out alive, let alone getting his revenge.

I decided to give him a fatal blow through Louis' aid after I had everything sorted out.

In spite of the flawless plan, I was traumatized because I was merely a step away from hell a few hours ago. After John departed, I fell asleep.

Halfway through my sleep, I opened my eyes and caught the silhouette of a certain someone by my side. It was Ashton – he stared at me with a poker face in the pitch-black ward that was illuminated by the streetlamps, making him extraordinarily unfathomable.

I looked at him quietly because I was conscious he was infuriated by my careless acts. He refused to talk to me the moment we made our way to the hospital. However, he urged the doctor to keep an eye on me over and over again as he was afraid something bad might happen to me.

Suddenly, the nurse switched on the light because it was about time to change the bag of saline solution, but she noticed something seemed to be off and made her way out since it wouldn't be necessary to change it yet.

I noticed his wrinkled blazer once the light was switched on. Ashton had a relatively haggard look while his eyes were bloodshot. Although he had chapped lips, it didn't impact his ethereal-looking face at all.

I thought he wouldn't break the silence should I keep quiet throughout the night, but he initiated a conversation and asked, "Aren't you going to talk about it?"

To be honest, I couldn't be sure of the things to talk about because all sorts of things flashed through my mind, including the part where his participation was all part of my intended plan.

Although he didn't expose me, I knew he had figured it out after he rendezvoused with John and Louis to rescue me.

I gave it another thought and put on a pitiable front in response because I thought he would feel better after teaching me another lesson as he had always done.

Ashton got infuriated and had his abysmal pair of eyes glued to me when he noticed my response. "How could you get yourself involved because of a jerk? Is it worth it?"

He was worried about my condition because I was bruised all over my body. Therefore, he asked in a serious tone to express his concerns.

Thus, of course, I replied with a miserable look in an aggrieved tone, "I-It hurts..."

I wasn't lying. It was like nothing I had ever felt throughout my entire life because Felix went all out and strangled me as though he wanted me dead. Thankfully, I managed to make it out alive.

Upon that, Ashton sneered sarcastically, "Oh? Does that mean you can feel the pain?"

I pursed my lips and played along with him because I was aware of his frustration. "I didn't expect him to be such an aggressive man either! At first, I thought you guys would rush to my rescue after a few punches, but it turned out to be slightly off track at the end."



"Are you blaming us for not being there for you?"

I shook my head and asserted, "No! I'm grateful to have everyone there in the nick of time!"

Just then, he recalled something and asked solemnly, "Why is Savini in the room when you're there to avenge Stacey?"

I was surprised by Savini's response as well. But when I thought about it, I reckoned Stacey was the one who had lured him over, but the cunning man knocked himself to the wall. Thus, he managed to make it seem as if he were there to rescue me.

I didn't have the evidence that he was the one who had abducted me previously. So they might not believe me even if I brought it up in front of the rest. Upon that thought, I decided to keep everything to myself.

"I'm not sure, but he seems to be a close acquaintance of Felix and has dropped by to meet him."

However, Ashton, knew that I was holding something back. Then, he glared at me and warned me, "Scarlett, tell me the truth!"

Raising my chin against my will, a dangerous glint could be seen in his eyes. "Are you sure you have never seen him before?"

I nodded and assured, "What makes you think I have?"

"Are you telling me Savini, who's the vice president of a technology company in A City, has shown up in the hotel because he was there to rescue you? Have you always perceived me as a fool? Why would such an influential corporate figure sacrifice himself to protect someone he isn't affiliated with?"

I was baffled because I didn't expect Cameron to be affiliated with another influential figure from A City. Frankly, I was shocked by Savini's actual identity.

"Are you going to believe me if I tell you he's an accomplice of Felix?" I asked as I looked at Ashton.

Frowning, Ashton queried, "Did he deliberately hurt himself?"

## **Chapter 272**

I acknowledged his words with a nod and said, "The cunning man started hurting himself once he noticed that the cops were near."

"Did he know you before this?" I furrowed my brows when I heard his question because he had brought up the topic I wished to avoid the most.

A few seconds later, I told him the truth, "Rebecca used to send him to abduct me."

"When?"

"It was during the period when I had just taken over AC Credit and HiTech..."

Ashton frowned once again. He rebuked my statement with a determined look, "It's impossible... Rebecca couldn't be the one behind it..."

I chuckled at his response, but I felt dejected deep down. "I know Rebecca still holds a special place in your heart..."

Immediately, his face loomed with a gloomy expression as he stated, "It would be impossible for her to utilize Cameron's subordinate because she had just reunited with them back then."

"Ha! You're right because I don't think she's capable of executing such a complicated scheme! To begin with, she was never a smart woman!" I had no intention of rebutting his statement.

"Scarlett!"

Initially, I thought he was there because he was worried about me. However, I seemed to have misperceived his intentions – he was there to interrogate me.

As I was sleepy, I yawned and said, "Mr. Fuller, it's time for you to leave because I need to sleep."

Nevertheless, the infuriated man showed no signs of leaving as he leaned against the chair while glaring at me in the eyes indifferently.

His presence had intimidated the nurse who had dropped by to change the bag of fluid. She wouldn't stop shivering in fear because she thought she had done something wrong and offended Ashton.

After she got the bag of fluid changed, she heaved a sigh of relief and walked out of the ward with the used bag of fluid immediately.

However, after she walked a few steps, she turned around and stuttered while delivering her instructions. "S-Sir, you have to apply the o-ointment that has been prescribed by the doctor on Ms. Stovall's n-neck. I believe Ms. Stovall has the ointment with h-her."

Immediately after the nurse departed, he stared at me and asked callously, "Where's the ointment?"

"I'll deal with it myself! You should just go back!" I pouted my lips as usual because I had enough of him.

He got up from his seat and neglected my words, searching high and low for the ointment. After he found the ointment on the nightstand, he squeezed some of it on his palms.

"I can do it myself!" As he approached me to apply it to my neck, I inched away from him because I didn't want him anywhere near me.

It was too late because, by the time I finished my sentence, I could feel his palms on my neck. I pursed my lips and allowed him to apply the ointment.

I frowned due to the tingling sensation I felt and tried to move away from him because it was unpleasant.

"Does it hurt?" He hushed and started blowing my bruised neck to alleviate the pain I felt.

"No!" Since I was the one who decided to get myself hurt, I wasn't in a position to complain about the injuries.

"You have to refrain from acting on impulse in the future. Even if you want to lure someone out, you have to ensure your own safety."

I closed my eyes and remained silent while nodding because I had no intention to carry on with the conversation.

After he applied the ointment on my neck, he asked, "Anywhere else that hurts?"

I shook my head because there were certain parts that I couldn't share with him.

He took me by surprise and unfolded the blanket, exposing my stomach that was bruised due to Felix's aggressive kick. The tender skin on my stomach had turned purple as a result.

Glaring at me once more, he gritted his teeth and asked, "Does it hurt?"

I knew it wouldn't do me any good to reply to him, so I kept mum.

After he applied the ointment on my stomach, he checked on my body to ensure I was fine before placing the ointment aside and tucking me in. In the end, the man instructed, "You should get some rest."

"Alright... Thanks!" I replied with a nod.

He narrowed his eyes and queried, "What are we?"

"Uh... Humans?"

I rephrased my reply because I knew he was rendered speechless by my reply.

"We're a married couple!"

"Since we're a married couple, is it necessary for you to express your gratitude for such a trivial favor?" He cast a skeptical gaze at me.

Ultimately, I decided to keep my mouth shut because I was at a loss for words.

After spending most of my time on the bed for the upcoming few days, I heard the word of Felix's conviction. John was spot on – Felix was sentenced to death due to his involvement with a few other victims.

Meanwhile, Hector was terminated from his position because of his wrongdoings over the years.

As there were a lot of people that were involved in their dealings, Louis instructed some of his men to investigate those who used to be in touch with Hector when he brought back Hector to K City with him.

On the other hand, Marcus had long made his way back to K City because of an emergency that had arisen within his company that required his attention.

After Ashton had people back at the company to take over his role, we made our trip back to K City as well.

A week after we returned, we found out Rebecca had lost her baby. Consequently, she started behaving like a madwoman due to her miscarriage.

I had to follow up with the deal we had with OrbitTech and set up the necessary groundwork for the operation to take place soon.

Therefore, I spent the entire week working after we returned because I had a full schedule.



As Felix had launched a fatal blow on my abdomen area, we dropped by the hospital for a few rounds of check-ups as the doctor in J City advised.

When Ashton and I dropped by the hospital, we encountered Cameron and Rebecca in the corridor. They were on their way to the doctor's office for an examination as well.

To be honest, I was shocked because Rebecca was much skinnier than the last time we met.

Rebecca's eyes started brimming with tears as soon as she saw Ashton. She catapulted in his direction while wailing, "Ash, you're finally here for me!"

Ashton evaded her, but the fragile woman, who had collapsed to the ground, grasped Ashton's pants and stopped him. "Ash, I have lost my child! When Parker passed on, he told me I would live a blissful life as long as I have you by my side! What am I supposed to do when you're no longer around? I-I can't rely on anyone else... My life is miserable without you!"

The moment she spoke about Parker, Ashton leaned over and helped her up. "You need to take good care of yourself because you still have a long way to go in life."

I couldn't be sure of the emotions behind his words because he enunciated his reply callously.

Nevertheless, his words of encouragement were the best remedy Rebecca could ever ask to pull herself together. She held him firmly in between her arms as she started wailing again. "A-Ash, I don't want anything else... Please forgive me for the things I have done! A-As long as you're willing to forgive me, I'm willing to forsake other things in my life... I'll behave myself and treat your wife with respect as though she's my beloved sister!"