

When There Is Nothing Left But Love Chapter 558-562

Chapter 558

Oh dear, I shouldn't have mentioned his name. It looks like John hasn't visited her in a while.

Without asking any further, I reminded her to take care of herself before hanging up.

Ashton held my hand and reassured me, "Don't brood over it. Have a good rest when we get home, alright?"

I nodded. Then, I looked at him and commented, "In books, it often portrays that a man would do anything for the woman he loves. Why don't I see that happening in real life?"

John liked Hannah. After so many years with her by his side, he was already used to her company. Yet, why did he have to leave her to fend for herself when she was in her most vulnerable state?

Did he not know that an emotional wound hurt more than a physical one?

With one hand on the steering wheel, Ashton gave me a side glance. He challenged, "Hmm, although there are ghosts and gods in books, do we see them in reality?"

I shook my head.

Chuckling softly, Ashton emphasized his point. "Well, it shows that we can't trust everything in books."

Feeling resigned, I kept quiet.

It was late in the night by the time we returned to the villa.

The sky in K City started to turn darker. Earlier, Sally mentioned that it was likely to snow again. After all, the city would experience a few heavy snowfalls every year.

Sure enough, it snowed heavily on New Year's day.

The white snowflakes reflected light, and it brightened the rooms.

I woke up early the next morning, but to be precise, I could not get much sleep. "Do you feel unwell?" Ashton sleepily mumbled.

"No, I'm okay. Hey, it's snowing outside. Be careful when you go out, okay?" I reminded.

Nodding, he looked at the time before getting out of bed and heading to the bathroom.

In the meantime, I headed to the balcony. As it was snowing heavily, there was a thick blanket of snow covering the plants in the yard.

It did not seem like a good idea to go out today.

At that moment, someone enveloped me in a warm hug. I took a whiff of the familiar scent and knew that it was Ashton. Turning to look at him, I asked, "Ashton, is Jared going to pick up Summer in the next few days?"

He nodded while gently rested his chin on my shoulder. "Summer is having her school holidays. Since we are too busy to spend time with her while she's at home, we might as well let her have fun with Jared."

Although I knew that he was right, I still felt uneasy at the thought of being apart from a child who had been under my watch all this time.

Abruptly, the thought of how Summer and I would be spending more time apart in the future popped into my mind. Feeling worse than before, I peaked at Ashton and muttered, "Ashton, let's have another child. Can we do that?"

He froze for a second before he looked me in the eye and smirked. "Sure! We shall create one tonight."

Instantly, my face grew hot, and I tried to avoid his eyes in embarrassment. Nudging him, I tried to change the topic. "You should get changed. Otherwise, you will be late."

"Which boss out there is afraid of turning up late for work?" Hugging me tighter, he planted a kiss on my cheek and mocked.

After squirming in his arms for a while, he finally got changed while I went to wash up. Even after I was done, he was still in the bedroom.

"Your annual break is coming up soon. Shouldn't you try to finish your work as soon as possible? Didn't you say that you were going to bring me out? If you keep doing this, when will we be able to have a date?" I whined.

He laughed, "I can go out with you any time."

Ignoring him, I headed downstairs. Flora had already prepared breakfast, and Summer was already awake because of the body clock she had adopted in R Province.

Noticing that Ashton and I were there, the child turned towards us and exclaimed, "Mommy, my school holidays has started! When will we be going back to R Province? I really miss Michael."

I was taken aback by her request. In a half-squat position, I replied, "Summer, I don't think I can bring you back to R Province this time. I already promised Mr. Crest for him to bring you to W City."

My reply clearly made Summer upset. In a dejected voice, she muttered, "But before we came over, I promised Michael that I would return to visit him."

Speechless, I turned back to Ashton for help.

He walked to Summer and suggested, "Summer, how about this? Mr. Crest can follow you to R Province for a few days so you can meet with Michael. Afterward, you shall follow Mr. Crest to W City. This way, neither Mommy nor you will have to break your promises."

The little girl lowered her head as though she was in deep thought. Moments later, she reluctantly agreed, "Alright, sure."

Staring at us, she then continued, "Wait, why can't we go there together?"

"Well, I'm busy with work, while Mommy isn't feeling well enough to travel so far. You are still young. As you grow up, books can't be your only companion, and you have to travel around the world to broaden your horizons. Similar to what you've read, not only do you have to read and educate yourself, but you also have to experience the real world for yourself. This is why we gave Mr. Crest the responsibility of guiding you around," Ashton explained.

Though Summer could not fully comprehend what he was saying, she thought he sounded logical. Therefore, she nodded and acknowledged.

Gaping at Ashton, I mused at how sly he was.

After coaxing Summer and having breakfast, Ashton lounged on the sofa in the living room, seemingly in no hurry to leave.

Meanwhile, I was preparing to leave the house, and I ordered Flora to look after Summer. Scowling at Ashton, I grilled him, "Aren't you heading to the office?"

“I was waiting for you!”

“But I’m not going to Fuller Corporation,” I uttered in surprise.

“I know,” he knowingly replied. Walking towards me, he explained, “But I can drop you off at the hospital before heading to my office since it’s along the way.”

“I can drive myself there. It isn’t that far away anyway!”

“I don’t think it’s safe for you since it’s snowing heavily outside,” he insisted.

Determined to send me there, he left no room for argument.

As such, I followed him out helplessly. Oh well, I’m not up to anything shady either.

After Ashton pulled up to the hospital’s entrance, he retrieved a few boxes of tonic from the car boot.

I raised my brows in astonishment. “When did you prepare them?”

He cheekily revealed, “I requested for Joseph to do this for me last night.”

From his actions, I could tell that he wanted to accompany me to visit Cameron.

I paused for a moment, then trailed behind him. A warm fuzzy sensation bubbled within me. His meticulous gesture touched my heart, but my response did not seem to portray so.

Six hours had passed since Cameron was out of the surgery room, and her anaesthesia had already worn off.

Nonetheless, as a patient who had been under the knife, she still required rest for the next few days.

Zachary, who stayed by her side the whole time, was sleeping in the corner of the room.

On the other hand, Cameron was lying in bed, staring blankly at the ceiling as there was nothing for her to do.

When she heard footsteps, she turned to see Ashton and me together.

Stunned, she eagerly tapped her bed frame repeatedly to wake Zachary up. With a bright smile, she exclaimed, "Both of you came!"

The commotion woke Zachary up. Sitting up, he stared at us in a daze. Then, he got to his feet and sleepily commented, "It's freezing outside, and it's akin to a snowstorm out there. You didn't have to come."

Ashton smiled while placing the tonics he prepared on the bedside table. "It's not that cold while it's still snowing," he replied.

Observing how exhausted Zachary seemed, he continued, "Mr. Moore, have you eaten breakfast?"

The older man shook his head in response. "Nope."

Stretching his back, he grumbled, "Ah, I'm growing old. My back is starting to ache already."

That made Cameron felt bad. Looking at him with concern, she persuaded, "I'm fine now. Go home and get some rest in the meantime. Anyway, the caregiver will be here soon, and if I have any problems, she will take care of it."

Unconvinced, Zachary asserted, "That won't do. I will feel more at ease by your side."

"You are so old, yet you behave like a child," Cameron could only helplessly mumble under her breath.

At the same time, I caught sight of Ashton sending a message to Joseph. He must be busy with work.

With that thought, I tugged on his clothes and whispered, "You can get going to your office. I will be alright to stay here alone."

Immediately, he kept his phone and responded, "There's nothing urgent for me to handle."

He then glanced at Zachary and offered, "Mr. Moore, why don't you head home to rest? Scarlett and I will be here, so you don't have to worry. Besides, there's no need for so many of us to be here."

Zachary took a moment to weigh his options. As though wanting to hear my thoughts, his gaze landed on me.

"Go home. Ashton and I will stay here," I spoke out.

Glancing at Cameron, who seemed to be in a better state and a good mood, he nodded. "Alright. I'll leave and come back in a bit."

Cameron quickly gestured for him to leave.

As soon as he was out the door, Ashton pulled me to sit by the bed. "Both of you can chat. I'll head out to ask for a water refill since it looks like it's running out soon."

Without waiting for my response, he left.

Silence enveloped us.

Although it was quiet, it was not uncomfortable for me as I was accustomed to it.

In contrast, Cameron awkwardly tried to open her mouth several times, unsure of what to say. After a long while, she finally uttered, "He treats you well."

I knew she was talking about Ashton, so I nodded in agreement.

The room plunged back into silence after that line.

Still trying to kill the awkward atmosphere, Cameron cautiously voiced, "I heard Jared would be bringing Summer to W City to visit the Crest Residence. Is that true?"

There was nothing wrong with the question, but I felt slightly irritable. Looking down at my palms, I nodded.

She paused and continued, "Both you and Ashton are not getting any younger. Why don't you try for another child?"

Like a reflex, I shot her a glare. It alarmed her, and she nervously stuttered, "I... was worried about you."

I could not help but sigh.

How did things turn out like that? When we speak to each other, we always have to pick our words carefully.

On the other hand, if that was not the case, how else can we get along with each other?

Fortunately, Ashton entered the room with a nurse to change Cameron's IV drip at that time, thus breaking the tense atmosphere.

At the same time, he also brought some porridge. "Ms. Anderson, please have some porridge. Later in the afternoon, I'll order something more appetizing for you."

Cameron gratefully nodded and thanked him.

Since they had not spent much time with each other, they fell silent as they had no common topic to discuss on.

At that moment, Hannah arrived with several bags in her hands. She was usually a quiet person, but today, she rambled on and filled the silence once she entered the room.

Just like that, she chatted with Cameron for the next few hours.

Considering that Cameron was still a patient, she got tired and fell asleep after conversing for such a long time.

Following that, Hannah hurried home to look after her child.

Chapter 560

It did not take long for Zachary to return to the hospital too.

Taking it as a cue for us to leave, Ashton and I left. Since I had nothing on my schedule, I could only follow Ashton to Fuller Corporation.

In the car, Ashton peeked over at me several times. He finally spoke when we stopped at a traffic light. "Are you okay?"

With a slight delay, I replied, "I'm not feeling stellar for sure, but I don't know how to explain the relationship between my mother and me. It's somewhat sad that we have to be wary of the way we behave around each other."

"Have you decided to let it go?" He pursed his lips and asked.

Matching his gaze, I sighed. "What other choice do I have?"

He agreed.

"This is why we should have another child together. After all, you can't simply disown your family." Then, I paused and continued, "Grandma would be happy to know that I found my biological parents."

Nodding, Ashton held my hand and smiled. "Yes, she would be."

At Fuller Corporation, Ashton parked his car by the entrance and pulled me into the office.

Since I've returned to K City, I've been involved in various rumors.

That somewhat makes me a familiar face around here.

As such, when we walked into the building together, everyone who saw us would greet, "Hello, Mr. Fuller and Mrs. Fuller."

I had to keep the smile on my face until we reached the elevator, where I finally let out a sigh of relief. "It's hard work to be Mrs. Fuller," I complained.

Ashton mused, "You'll get used to it."

I shrugged. What else can I do about it?

As Ashton had to rush to a meeting, Joseph waited for him in front of the elevator with several documents in his hands. Not wanting to leave me hanging, Ashton said, "Wait for me in my office. If you are tired, you can take a nap. I will find you as soon as my meeting is over, okay?"

I nodded in response and watched him enter the conference room with Joseph. It was getting busy there since the big break was coming up.

"Ms. Stovall!" Someone behind me called out. I froze momentarily and turned to see a familiar face. However, I could not recall the person's name.

"Hello!" I greeted with a smile plastered on my face.

Seeing how polite and distant I seem, the woman chuckled. "Ms. Stovall, I'm Isabelle. I was working for Fuller Corporation in J City and was transferred here recently. I'm in the Finance Department."

It rang a bell in my head. Previously, I met her when I was working on a project with Caleb.

Naturally, I broke into a grin. "Wow, it's almost five years since I've seen you. I'm sorry, I couldn't recall your name for a split second."

She waved her hand and warmly responded, "It's alright! It's been a long time, so it's only normal for you to forget. Did you come here with Mr. Fuller?"

Nodding, I pointed to the conference room. "He's in a meeting, and I'm just walking around."

“Ah, I see. I’m working downstairs, and I came up to pass Mr. Fuller this year’s report from the Finance Department. When the meeting is over, will you be available to have a meal with me?” she probed.

Then, she awkwardly added, “I’ve been here for a few months, but I haven’t made many friends. Since we’ve known each other for a while, I thought maybe we could have a meal and hang out together.”

Amused, I readily accepted her offer. “Sure. You can pick any date. I can suit your timing as I’m not working.”

“Really?” She exclaimed with a grin on her face. “Alright, we will fix a date another time. For now, I have to bring this document in.”

I gestured for her to go ahead. Watching her rush to the conference room with the report in her hand, I could not help but smile.

At the same time, the conference room door opened, and Rachel walked out. After exchanging greetings, I saw the two women going their own ways.

I was planning to head to Ashton’s office, but I heard someone call my name again.

“Ms. Stovall!”

Frowning, I stopped in my tracks and turned back. I did not respond.

It was Rachel. She was tall and slender, with a feminine aura and beautiful facial features. Like I said before, she was one of the prettiest women I had ever met.

As she walked towards me, I realized she was almost a head taller than me in her high heels.

“Ms. Stovall, do you have some time now? Would you like to have high tea with me?”

I did not even bother to consider her offer. Looking at her, I rejected, "I apologize. I don't have the habit of having high tea."

"You can always cultivate the habit," she commented with her eyebrows raised.

"It's alright."

With that, I turned and headed into Ashton's office.

At least the lady knew when to back down because she did not follow me in.

Ashton was a good man, and that was something I knew ever since we got married. He was always loyal to his wife, family, and country. This was something I had to thank George for.

Although the older man never specifically taught Ashton how to love others, he showed the younger man what it meant to love.

Anyhow, I was not blind enough to let the admiration Rachel had for Ashton go unnoticed. Everyone could tell that she was ambitious, and no ordinary man could control her.

Only those who were more successful than her could draw her attention, just like Ashton.

Chapter 561

While she admired him, it did not mean she could attain his heart.

To keep myself entertained, I randomly picked up a book to read but unknowingly, I fell asleep after some time.

When I woke up from my nap on the sofa, I found a blanket over my body. The room was dim, as though someone had adjusted the lights.

Scanning the room, I did not spot Ashton. He is probably still in the meeting. For some time, I continued to lie there before I willed myself to sit up. It was chilly, and I wrapped the blanket around my body tightly for more warmth.

While I was still in a daze, someone pushed the door open.

It was Joseph. Seeing that I was awake, he quickly fussed, "Mrs. Fuller, are you hungry? Do you crave anything? I will order it for you this instant!"

"What's the time now?" I curiously asked. Looking out of the windows, I noted that it was already dark outside.

He promptly responded, "It's eight."

"Is Ashton still in the meeting?" I frowned.

"The international conference ended, but there is still more to discuss over the AI. Mr. Fuller wants you to have a bite first," Joseph reported.

"Has he eaten?"

"No." Joseph shook his head.

With some thought, I requested, "Can you order two sets of steak and two glasses of milk? I would like it to be hot. Additionally, please get one portion of dessert too."

Then, I paused to look at the man standing by the door. "Mr. Campbell, have you eaten?"

Although he was stunned that I was referring to him, he answered honestly, "No."

Clicking my tongue, I changed my order. "You poor thing. In that case, please order three sets of steak. If you want anything else, please feel free to order them for yourself. Mr. Fuller will be paying for it."

Laughing, he nodded and left.

Following that, I went to the bathroom to wash my face and pick out one of Ashton's clothes from his closet in the lounge to wear.

By the time I came out, Joseph was already there with the meal boxes.

I glanced at the clock again. It's getting late, but Ashton is still in the meeting.

Huffing, I decided to make a trip to the conference room.

Joseph followed behind me without the intention of stopping me.

At first, it felt normal, but halfway there, I realized that something was not right.

Turning to look at the man trailing behind me, we exchanged looks, and he meekly chuckled.

Something must be up. "How many people are there in the meeting?" I probed.

“Two!” He chimed.

“Who are the two?”

“Mr. Fuller and Ms. Zimmer,” he revealed.

“Rachel?” I raised my brows.

Joseph nodded, confirming my guess.

Ashton’s meeting dragged on for so long because he had to meet with Rachel.

Standing before the conference room, Joseph opened the door even before I raised my hand to knock. It caught me off guard.

Soon, I heard the heated discussion that was going on.

“I don’t agree!” Ashton exclaimed.

“Mr. Fuller, we are using AI to make life easier for humans and to push for the world’s technological progress in this area. If we worry about how it will evolve and pull the plug on it, there is no point in adopting it in the first place,” Rachel protested.

Ashton looked like he had lost his patience. However, when he lifted his gaze and spotted me, his expression eased a little. Without bothering to rebut, he approached me.

Rachel also turned to look in my direction, given the sudden change in his attitude. At the sight of me, a frown appeared on her face.

She was clearly displeased.

Meanwhile, Ashton could not be bothered about the others in the room. He looked at me tiredly and hugged me.

Taking a deep breath, he moaned, "You are finally here. My energy is about to be depleted."

Looking at Rachel, I hugged him and declared, "Alright, I'm here to help you recharge. Come, let's go."

Joseph was quick to pick up on the cue to leave.

On the contrary, Rachel stayed in the conference room, with an unhappy expression plastered on her face. She demanded, "Mr. Fuller, we are not done with the meeting. How is it alright for Mrs. Fuller to barge in like that?"

With his arms still around me, Ashton growled, "It is way past the working hours, and it's time for you to go home. We can look through the things we have yet to settle tomorrow."

Evidently, she was frustrated and wanted to continue, but Ashton stopped her.

"Ms. Zimmer, I know that you don't have to worry about your parents or loved ones since you live alone. However, I'm not like you. I have a wife and a child, and I want to spend time with them after work. Thank you for all the effort that you put in at work. Regarding your overtime hours, Joseph will settle all the overtime pay with the Finance Department. You really should head home since it's getting late."

He left no room for discussion.

I could not care less about her either. My stomach grumbled, and I nudged Ashton. "I asked Joseph to order some steak. Aren't you hungry? Let's go have dinner."

With a bright grin, he cooed, "My wife knows me best!"

Afterward, we headed back to his office without looking back to watch Rachel's reaction.

Joseph had already taken his portion to his own office, and I was left alone with Ashton.

Cutting the steak, he looked at me and apologized, "There will be no next time."

His abrupt statement made me confused. "What do you mean?"

"I meant that I would make sure my meetings will not run so late in the future," he clarified while placing a piece of sliced steak on my plate.

I shrugged. "It's okay. It was part of your duties at work." Recalling what I heard in the conference room, I changed the topic, "Do you not plan to expand on the AI project?"

Chapter 562

Based on the current trends, if Fuller Corporation could improve the AI technology, it would put them on another level.

Ashton put down his knife and explained, "It's not the time yet. For the AI to develop successfully, it will need another ten years. Everything we are doing now is to prepare for the future. If we impatiently push forward with the project, it may backfire in the end."

He had his own perspective on this matter. Since I was not a professional, I was in no place to question him.

By the time we finished dinner, it was already ten, and Summer was already sleeping when we were back in the villa.

Jared then called us to confirm the plans to take Summer to W City, which we had previously informed her about.

Before washing up and heading to bed, I packed some of her essentials to bring tomorrow.

The next day, Jared came by earlier, and Ashton did not head to work. When I woke up, I heard murmurings downstairs. After washing up, I went downstairs and overheard the two men discussing Marcus's business.

From the big picture, there was no need for Ashton to force Marcus to a dead-end. However, Ashton seemed agitated whenever someone brought up the matter.

Frustrated, he stopped Jared from trying to persuade him any further and snorted, "You don't have to worry about this."

With his brows raised, Jared reminded him, "In this country, you may be able to suppress White Corporation. However, did you forget how powerful the White Corporation is in M Country? Once Marcus returned to M Country, we may end up losing most of our businesses there, and it will threaten our survival."

"Do you think that I'm only capable of destroying him in this country?" Ashton's face hardened.

His words took Jared by surprise. "Are you going to do something about White Corporation in M Country too?"

Taking a sip of water, Ashton calmly explained, "If he returns to M Country and doesn't cross the line, I can consider allowing him to live in peace overseas. Otherwise, he will not be so lucky."

As a businessman, Jared could pick up on what Ashton meant. "However, if Marcus can get his hands on the illegal loans in our country but somehow gets out of it and returns to M Country, you can easily expose this matter to other large corporations in there. It will be akin to wanting his life, isn't it?"

Ashton did not respond. Instead, he gulped down half a glass of water and looked at his watch for the time.

After a moment of silence, Jared sighed. "I don't understand. Why do you have to drive Marcus over the edge?"

Ashton narrowed his eyes but continued to remain silent. Obviously, he did not intend to answer.

At that moment, he turned back and saw me standing by the staircase. His lips instantly curled into a smile on his previously gloomy face. He gestured for me to join them.

Obediently, I joined them, and Jared ended the conversation too once he saw me.

At the same time, Flora walked out of the kitchen and chimed, "Madam and Mr. Fuller, breakfast is ready."

Nodding, I scanned the room for Summer. Thinking that she was still asleep, I asked Flora, "Flora, is Summer still in bed?"

The older lady pointed to the yard. "No, she is up and playing with Snowfluff in the yard."

Sure enough, the little girl soon came running into the house from the same direction.

Clinging onto me, she wistfully said, "Mommy, Mr. Fuller said that we shouldn't sleep in, so I've never done that."

I could not help but caress her face and awkwardly chuckle. "Summer, you listen well."

As we brought Snowfluff to the groomer's yesterday, its fur coat was soft and silky. It felt pleasant when it rubbed itself against my leg.

Looking at me with puppy eyes, Summer pleaded, "Mommy, can I bring Snowfluff along with me?"

I was dumbfounded and took some time to think before I explained, "Summer, Snowfluff is a pet and can't take the flight with you. If you check in with it, it will be harmful to its health. Therefore, I strongly recommend that you don't bring it along with you."

"But..." Children have a pure heart. They tend to be attached to those they get along well with for a long time.

Unable to stand how disappointed Summer was, Jared interrupted, "There is a special cabin for us to bring pets onboard the plane. When we get to the airport, we can book a spot in the first-class cabin. Then, we can head to the plane with Snowfluff after we settle the formalities."

At once, Summer's eyes lit up. "Can we really do that?" She cheered.

He nodded.

The girl was overjoyed, and she threw herself at Jared.

Sighing, I rubbed my temples in disapproval. He sure is a rich man. Those costs hundreds of thousands, yet he easily agreed to it.

From the other end, Ashton spotted my actions and walked towards me to tease, "It is a good thing for her to be supported by the rich!"

I...

Men really do go all the way for their daughters.

I merely shrugged and did not continue. Turning my heels to the kitchen, I prepared to eat breakfast.

Once we were done with the meal and Summer's belongings were almost fully packed, Jared assured me, "Don't worry. I will take good care of Summer."

I nodded. I never doubted his care of Summer anyway. After all, she was his biological child, and he would probably pay utmost attention to her.

After we sent Summer out, I could not help but groan, "It's true that we can't keep our little girl with us forever."

"She's only going out for a play trip. Why are you taking it so seriously?" Ashton crackled.