

# When There Is Nothing Left But Love Chapter 568-572

## Chapter 568

“So, what are your plans?” he asked softly.

“I plan to tell everyone that my hubby is an excellent man. He is an excellent man that makes every woman fall heads over heels for him,” I joked teasingly.

In the blink of an eye, his lips met mine as he kissed me affectionately. “Say it again,” he demanded as his eyes darkened.

“Hubby!” I beamed with a bright smile.

That night, I became much bolder and eager to take the initiative. In the latter half of the night, Ashton’s spirit seemed to double in vigor. Along with his heavy panting, his movements seemed to become more frenzied.

In a delirious haze, my fingers twisted in the sheets. “Ashton, will you give me a child? I want to have a child with you,” I said with heavy breaths.

Amidst the heat of the moment, Ashton’s movements came to a screeching halt. A flicker of coldness flashed across his eyes.

I froze at his icy expression. “You can’t do it?” I asked in confusion.

Upon my question, the coldness in Ashton's eyes faded away. "I can. I'll give you as many children as you desire," he shook his head with a faint smile.

I grinned in response. The faint recollection of the child echoed in my mind as I felt a slight stab of pain in my heart and body.

Gently, Ashton pulled me into his embrace. "Scarlett, we should take good care of each other," he rasped.

I nodded in agreement as fatigue overcame my body. Right before I drifted into a deep slumber, I could feel Ashton wiping my body tenderly.

Yet, his actions felt like a dream. When I was roused from my sleep, it was already the next day.

The bright sunlight shone through the bedroom windows and cast an array of shadows across the room.

Ashton had vanished from the bedroom. As I lay on the bed for a brief moment, I felt a hint of moistness underneath my body.

Immediately, I roused myself and yanked the covers aside. To my surprise, there was a puddle of blood that stained the bedsheets.

The sight of my blood left me stunned as I quickly calculated my menstrual cycle. In the past four years, I've experienced inconsistencies with my period schedule and volume. Yet, it had never arrived twice in a single month.

I couldn't help but frown as I rose to my feet and changed into a fresh set of clothes. After changing, I gathered the bed sheet and tossed it into the washing machine.

Although it was not a huge deal, the arrival of my period made me feel uneasy. Now that I wanted to have a child of my own, I would have to take good care of my health.

I emerged from the room after a shower to find Ashton in the living room. Flora had left after she prepared breakfast.

Upon hearing my footsteps, Ashton turned around to greet me. "You are awake?" he asked with a warm smile.

I nodded in reply. "Aren't you going to visit the office today?" I asked gently as I sidled closer to rest my head against his shoulder.

"I will be taking a break these two days," Ashton nodded, "And I will be able to take my annual leave after making the final arrangements tomorrow."

Tenderly, Ashton pressed a delicate kiss on my cheek whilst he spoke.

All of a sudden, I thought of the sandalwood box that we had brought home from Cameron. "Ashton, should we open the sandalwood box?" I asked him.

The box had been left unopened in the house for a long time.

Ashton must have felt bored from lazing around the house. He nodded in agreement as he accompanied me into the study.

"Have you opened it before?" I turned to ask him once I found the sandalwood box.

Gingerly, Ashton took the box from my grasp. "I never planned on opening it. It seems like Cameron recognized it because it used to belong to the Murphys," he replied after a brief moment.

Why does it involve the Murphys again?

"How can it belong to the Murphys? The box was always by Granny's side!" I exclaimed in confusion.

Ashton shook his head as he continued to fiddle with the box's latch in an attempt to open it. "I figure that the box can only be opened if we hire a craft smith," he said after a few unsuccessful attempts.

"Don't you have the key to open it?" Didn't Grandpa say that Ashton had possession of the key? How could he lose it?

Ashton sighed softly with a slight nod of his head. "That year, Grandpa gave me advice instead of a key. He was worried sick for you and instructed me to take good care of you. This box was actually a disguise," Ashton said.

Ashton's words left me stunned as I looked at the box in disbelief. It was no longer important if the box remained closed. Yet, I had a realization that Granny was a lot different than I had expected.

Originally, the swimming pool incident involving Rachel was no big deal. She would have recovered after a few days in the hospital.

However, there was a sudden fight that broke out between the workers of Fuller Corporation. The fierce brawl graced the headlines of K City. It was a fight fuelled by hatred and jealousy.

All because of jealousy, it nearly ended the life of countless victims. Additionally, most of these rumors seemed to be directed towards a specific person.

When Ashton received a phone call regarding the unfortunate news, he was still in the midst of investigating the secrets behind the sandalwood box with me.

"What happened?" I asked worriedly when I saw that his expression had darkened.

He set the box aside. "Something happened in the company," Ashton replied tersely.

Although I did not have a habit of prying into the details, the sight of his deep scowl prompted me to open my mouth again. "What exactly happened?" I enquired.

“It seems that people have caught wind of the incident that occurred in the annual meeting last night. They have sinister intentions to use it against the company,” Ashton rose to his feet and prepared to change into a fresh set of clothes as he spoke.

Immediately, I followed close at his heels. Although I did not usually participate in such matters, Fuller Corporation had been lashing out against White Corporation recently. I was sure that Marcus would not stand by idly. The banquet last night was not a private event. Rachel’s incident was a chance for them to divert attention towards the issues of Fuller Corporation’s management.

If the employees of Fuller Corporation are pit against each other, they would fight and bicker amongst themselves. This meant that the blame would fall on the higher-ups. If the problem continues to grow, it will tarnish Fuller Corporation’s image and reputation. Naturally, the company’s stock will fall and cause its downfall.

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This was the so-called butterfly effect that would topple the company.

I trailed after Ashton into the bedroom. There, I quickly changed into proper attire.

Ashton jolted in shock when he noticed that I was prepared to leave the house. “I’ll head to the office to understand the situation. You should just stay at home,” he said with a smile.

I returned his smile with one of my own as I tilted my head back to meet his gaze. “While you are going to the office, I’m going to visit Rachel in the hospital. Although I don’t understand how the company works, I’m still going to try my best to help,” I replied in earnest.

Having heard my bold statement, Ashton’s brow crept up his forehead. “Since you don’t like staying home. Should I consider hiring you as my secretary?” he joked and bent down to kiss my cheek.

I scoffed in response. "Am I only fit to become your secretary?"

"You can be whatever you want!" Ashton chuckled aloud.

I picked up my purse and keys in preparation to leave the villa. After our conversation, we went our separate ways. Ashton left for the company whilst I headed to the hospital.

It took about half an hour to reach the hospital from the villa. When I arrived, I caught sight of Isabelle. She was just about to enter the hospital.

"Ms. Leek!" I called out loudly. Isabelle was much older than me. At the moment, I was unsure how to properly address her.

She did not hear me the first time. It took several tries before she finally turned around to the sound of my voice. "Ms. Stovall!" she said in slight shock when she caught sight of me.

I hurried to her side. "I've left Fuller Corporation for a long time. You shouldn't address me as Ms. Stovall anymore! Why don't you call me by my name?" I greeted her with a beam.

"I can't seem to break my habit," she replied good-naturedly.

I reached forward to press the elevator button. "Are you here to visit Rachel?" I asked her as I noticed that she looked rather downcast.

When Rachel was admitted into the hospital, I should have been more observant. However, Isabelle's expression didn't look like she was here for a simple visit.

"You are here to visit her?" Isabelle rebuked me with a stoic expression as she looked at me.

“So, was it you?” I asked after a brief moment of hesitation.

“Would you trust me if I denied?” Isabelle replied with a bitter smile.

Across the headlines, there was a clear picture of Isabelle pushing Rachel. Even their expressions were shown in plain sight as Isabelle raised her hand to strike Rachel. However, the footage was disrupted and did not record the conversation between them before the incident occurred.

I hesitated for a brief moment before answering her question. “I cannot judge your lies. Thus, I cannot find your reason for pushing her,” I told her in earnest.

She gave me a faint smile and shrugged slightly. “It is hard to explain such matters.”

The elevators doors slid open to reveal a group of patients on wheelchairs as they were wheeled out by nurses. Hurriedly, Isabelle and I stepped aside to make way for them.

After the crowd emptied from the lift, I entered and pressed the button. “Are you here to apologize or clear up the mess?” I turned around to address her.

Isabelle’s grip on her purse tightened. “It depends on the situation!” she said with a forced smile.

I decided not to comment any further.

Isabelle and Rachel did not look like people who belonged in the same social circle, let alone interact with each other. Why would they clash in the meeting?

As the elevator doors opened, Isabelle seemed to hesitate. “Ms. Stovall... why don’t you go ahead? I will meet you soon,” she stammered.

Despite being stunned by her words, I chose not to dally any longer and went ahead.

In the ward, there was a nurse who was changing Rachel's bandages. Due to Rachel's beauty, the nurse constantly sneaked a few glances at her.

Although men are often regarded to be lustful, most women would also be unable to resist if they caught sight of a beautiful woman.

In most novels, it often depicts that the heroine's beauty would cause jealousy amongst the other characters. I couldn't help but scoff in scorn at this foolish idea!

In reality, most women would admire another woman's beauty instead of lashing out with evil intentions!

This proves that novels are not to be trusted!

Hearing my arrival, the nurse looked up with a jolt. "Hello, are you Mrs. Fuller?" she asked.

"Yes, I'm here to visit Ms. Zimmer. I'm sorry for bothering you," I nodded politely.

"It's alright!" the nurse beamed warmly as she gathered the medicinal bottles before she left the room.

Upon hearing the conversation, a look of distaste crossed Rachel's features. She didn't look very eager to welcome me.

"Ms. Stovall, has something happened?" she asked with a frigid expression.

Her reluctance to greet me prompted me to cut straight to the point. "Have you seen today's headlines?"

"I did," she turned to meet my gaze. The coldness in her eyes did not fade.



I nodded as I took a seat and observed her mood. Although the pool water was ice cold when she fell, she had been rescued in time. Furthermore, Rachel had been nursed in the hospital for a day. Her condition was relatively stable.

“Although I am unclear about your motives, I can see the admiration you have for Ashton. Since you regard him highly, you must be aware of the impact your actions have had on the Fuller Corporation.” It was unlikely that she intended to target Fuller Corporation; her main goal must be Isabelle.

## **Chapter 570**

The bad blood between her and Isabelle should be absolutely unnecessary.

Her sharp gaze swept towards me. “Why do you think that I was the one who harmed her?” Rachel asked coldly.

I set my purse behind me as I mulled over my answer. “I have known Isabelle for over seven years. Although we aren’t close, she has worked in Fuller Corporation for a long time, and I fully understand her mannerisms. Additionally, the two of you have no bad blood. Thus, I cannot understand what motivated her to push you.”

“Haha!” she chuckled mockingly, “It seems that most powerful men are blind when it comes to picking their partners. Scarlett, I will not comment on your intellect. However, you underestimate people easily. Besides, you have no idea about my relationship with Isabelle. Why do you think that we don’t have any grudges?”

I reined my temper despite her mocking tone. “So, she didn’t actually push you? Did you orchestrate your own fall into the pool?”

“Shouldn’t Mr. Fuller be the one who decides the truth?” Rachel laughed coldly, “The real reason for your visit is not to question me. Am I right?”

Her accurate assumptions stunned me for a brief moment. Truthfully, I was here to comfort her.

However, Rachel was a woman filled with thorns. Her cruel demeanor prevented me from being friendly to her.

“I cannot bring myself to care about the petty grudges you have with Isabelle,” I said after a brief moment. “However, your actions have brought a negative impact to Fuller Corporation. If needed, I will advise Ashton to fire you from the company. After all, Fuller Corporation is not a place for your schemes or tricks.”

“What makes you think that you have the authority to fire me?” Rachel remained unruffled by my threat. Instead, she chuckled like an arrogant peacock.

“Let’s wait and see!” I replied with the raise of my brow.

With that, I rose to my feet. I had no wish to continue this pointless conversation.

“Scarlett, you are unfit for him,” she called out as I was about to reach the exit.

Her tone was full of disdain and hatred.

“And what makes you think that you are compatible with him?” I asked with a smile.

“I heard that you were an orphan. The reason for your marriage to Ashton was due to your Grandma’s connections. A man of such calibre like Ashton should have a partner that is equally strong. Besides, you come from a lowly background. What is there that you can help him with? All you do is drag him down,” Rachel scoffed haughtily.

In the past, her words would have made me feel insecure and upset. Yet, I was unaffected by her harsh statement.

“Ms. Zimmer, what can you do for him?” I asked her calmly.

“My experience, capability, and looks will help him reach greater heights. By his side, we will be able to achieve so much more. Compared to you, you are nothing but a housewife. You lack the knowledge to help him!” Rachel replied proudly.

Although her arrogance was admirable, she was nothing more than that. I merely nodded my head and smiled in the face of her insults.

I did not attack nor argue with her. “Ms. Zimmer, I look forward to the day when you can replace my position.”

Without sparing her another glance, I turned around and exited the room. Outside the room, I bumped into Isabelle. A startled expression crossed her features when I opened the door.

Her expression was rather troubling. She must have heard what I said.

“Go ahead!” I beckoned her over and stepped aside before she could say anything.

“Ms. Stovall, can you spare me a few moments later?” she nodded and asked tentatively.

“Alright!” I nodded in response.

With that, she entered the ward as I took the elevator down.

The weather around K City was gloomy. Despite the bright sun in the morning, it had begun to cloud over in the afternoon. It seemed like a snowstorm was about to arrive.

In the car, I quickly turned on the heaters and nearly nodded off until Ashton called.

“Are you still in the hospital?” Ashton’s baritone voice was alluring and magnetic as it rang in my ears.

“How are things at the office?” I nodded and asked.

We’d just managed to plan out a holiday! Yet, such an issue has caused us so much trouble again!

“The department of public relations will handle it,” he replied, “What do you want to eat? I’ll come to pick you up.” It seems like he’d just finished his meeting.

I mulled over his offer. Later on, I would have a chat with Isabelle. I don’t think I will have time to eat with him.

“Mr. Ashton, I have plans later. I don’t think I will be able to meet you later,” I replied.

“Is it with someone I know?” Ashton asked.

“Yup!” I giggled in an attempt to tease him.

“Isabelle?”

My jaw dropped in shock. “Ashton, have you been spying on me?”

“Don’t get mad, I’m doing this for your safety. There are many people looking to grasp Fuller Corporation for themselves. I can only let you out if you are safe and sound,” Ashton chuckled.

“I’m not a child,” I argued stubbornly.

“You shouldn’t argue back,” Ashton’s magnetic voice resonated in my ears. His voice was filled with fondness.

With a pout, I remained silent.

Right at the moment, Isabelle emerged from the hospital and paused at the entrance as she looked around. Quickly, I pressed on the horn to alert her of my presence.

## **Chapter 571**

“Ashton, I have to go now. Goodbye,” I said hurriedly.

Without waiting for his response, I hung up the call.

Upon hearing the horn, Isabelle glanced over in my direction. When she entered my car, I couldn’t help but notice her swollen and reddened eyes. It looked like she had just finished crying.

Although I was clueless about the issue between Rachel and Isabelle, it seemed like it was far more complicated than I initially anticipated.

“Let’s go find something to eat,” I suggested, “It’s already close to dinner time anyway.”

“Thank you!” Isabelle exclaimed gratefully as she rubbed her hand over her face.

I nodded and started the car.

Even if I did not question her about the issues, she revealed them through her solemn gaze. Isabelle must have kept these troubling thoughts to herself for a very long time.

Although I did not speak up, Isabelle revealed it to me in a self-deprecating manner.

“Back in the '80s, the country had a program to increase the population's birth rates. My mother was raised in the countryside as a farmer and did not have the luxury of receiving an education. Due to her lack of knowledge, she assumed that her worth as a woman would be fulfilled if she gave birth to a son. After she had me, she continued to get pregnant in hopes of bearing a son.”

Isabelle paused for a moment as she sighed hopelessly before continuing her story. “She gave birth to almost eight children. Although there were boys amongst her children, they seemed to suffer from a horrible curse. None of them could survive beyond their teenage years. A decade later, she gave birth to another girl- Rachel. Because of Rachel's gender, my mother decided to abandon her. Fortunately, Rachel was adopted by a kind couple who had suffered countless miscarriages. Their business grew to become very successful too. As a result, they decided to send her overseas for better education and future.”

“Isn't that great?” I asked with a furrow of my brows. She was adopted into a wonderful family and raised in luxuries. Why would she harbor such a great hatred when she managed to escape her past misfortunes?

“Yes, she was very lucky. My mother continued to get pregnant as she still yearned for a son. After Rachel, she gave birth to another girl. Unfortunately, the girl wasn't as lucky as Rachel. The moment she was born, my mother left her in the mountains. That year, there was a bitter and harsh winter. Thus, the poor child froze to death after seven days,” Isabelle smiled bitterly.

How cruel!

Her words sent a flutter of shivers down my spine as I scowled deeply. Her ignorant mother was terrible!

When she caught sight of my expression, Isabelle's tone wavered with guilt. "I understand that her ignorance has brought harm to so many innocent children. After so many years of endurance, my mother finally gave birth to a son and raised him healthily. Her greatest wish was fulfilled after the sacrifice of other children."

"It's a pity to those innocent children," I sighed deeply in grief.

"My mother has ruined many lives to give birth to a son. It was inevitable that her past deeds would cause her downfall. After she had my brother, her body turned weak and frail. My mother was shocked to her core when she discovered my father's affairs. In order to separate their relationship, she ingested toxic chemicals. Although she managed to survive the poison, it left her body broken beyond repair."

Having so many children in succession must have left a severe impact on her body.

"Last year, my brother was diagnosed with leukaemia. We were never a rich family, to begin with, my mother burned through most of our wealth and possessions in order to afford his medical fees. Yet, the doctor claimed that he would need the blood marrow of a relative to cure my brother's sickness," Isabelle continued.

Hearing her words, I could guess what would happen. "You must have guessed it as well," Isabelle said with a faint smile, "My mother was old and had a weak body; she was unable to donate her bone marrow. My father was out of the picture as well. He had turned a blind eye on us for a long time."

"You couldn't donate because you were pregnant?" I guessed hesitantly. She must have begged Rachel as the last resort.

"At that time, I was facing some struggles in my job. Alongside that issue, I was also pregnant at an old age. Giving birth to my child was already a challenge. How could I donate my bone marrow? Thus, my mother set out to find Rachel's adoptive parents. However, no one expected my mother to go to such extreme lengths. Rachel's adoptive parents could not bear to harm Rachel and turned down my mother's request. In the end, my mother barricaded them at their company and prepared to threaten them with her life. In an attempt to avoid my mother, Rachel's father swerved away and collided with another vehicle. The impact caused his instant death," Isabelle said sorrowfully.

I stopped the car as the traffic light turned red. "I finally understand why Rachel hates you so much!" I turned to her and spoke after a long pause of shock.

## **Chapter 572**

To me, giving birth to a child and not raising her properly was already a sin. Now that the child had grown up and started a new life with a partner and a new family, why would the biological mother still want to hurt her?

Isabelle took a deep breath and smiled wryly, "I know we did her wrong in so many ways, and I don't blame her for hating us, but she's still her biological mother."

I could not believe what I heard. I used to think women like Cameron, Rebecca, and Kristina, were evil, but Isabelle's family sent chills down my spine.

I looked at her and smiled, "There are people whom I find pathetic and despicable. Do you know who they are?"

She looked at me but kept mum.

I started driving when the traffic light turned green. I looked at the road and said, "Rachel has been very kind to your family. I would have adopted a far crueller approach if I were in her shoes."

Isabelle was taken aback as she did not expect I would say something like that.

I continued, "There are people who are born poor, but it has nothing to do with money. They're just poor in spirit and don't know what it means to be humans."



“Like you and your mom, who had committed the worst crime ever by ending her children’s lives. Yet, she never thought what she did was wrong.

“Rachel should count herself lucky to have escaped from such a terrible family and found herself parents who cherished her and took good care of her.”

“And what did you all do? You came into her life and destroyed her happiness. Her father was the man who rescued her from hell, yet your mother killed him,” I said, “And your mother seems to be very proud of what she has done. She thinks she’s doing this out of love for his son.

“It was as if she had forgotten Rachel, too, was her child.”

Isabelle lowered her head and cried. She said in between sobs, “We had no choice. My brother would die if she refused to donate her bone marrow. We’re a family. It’s her duty to rescue her brother!”

Her remark bemused me, and I instantly let out a cold snort. “Since when it was Rachel’s duty to rescue your brother? Has your mother even done her part in raising her?”

“Have you all tried finding her in the past? No. You only appeared and blackmailed her emotionally just because you needed her help. If this is not selfish, I don’t know what else is.”

I parked my car by the road and tried to contain my anger. “You know what your mother did was wrong, yet you still side with her. How could you, Isabelle?”

Isabelle nodded in silence. She responded after a short pause, “But I didn’t know what else to do anymore.”

“Talk to Rachel nicely, if possible. If not, stay away from her and stop making her life miserable,” I advised.

“But my brother...” Isabelle’s eyes turned red, “He’ll die if he doesn’t undergo the operation!”

“But why put the pressure on Rachel? Isn’t there anyone else who’s related to your brother? Shouldn’t you be looking for your father in the first place?” I could not understand this family.

She lowered her eyes and sighed. “We’ve lost touch for years, and my mother was afraid that he might not be able to take it as he’s not young anymore.”

I looked at her and soon realized this issue was much more complicated than I thought.

I thought what they did to Rachel was cruel and despicable, but I bet Isabelle would think otherwise. To her, it was Rachel’s responsibility to save her brother since they were related by blood.

Rachel must be utterly disappointed with how foolish her biological parents were and how Isabelle condoned their actions.

I was afraid I might explode with rage if I were to continue this topic with Isabelle.

So, I decided not to talk about it anymore.

Isabelle and I arrived at the restaurant. Instead of focusing on Rachel’s hapless fate, we talked about other things and

had a pleasant dinner.

Isabelle left after dinner, and I decided to stay in the restaurant a little longer.

Ashton called and said he wanted to pick me home, so I thought I might as well sit here and wait for him.

All of a sudden, Cameron and Zachary came into the premises. There were only a few famous high-end restaurants in K City, so I was not surprised to see them here.