

When There Is Nothing Left But Love Chapter 783-787

Chapter 783

When I stepped out of the house, Nora lowered her sunglasses and said, “Your dressing today makes you look like a virtuous woman. It’s basically the ideal outfit to wear to meet your partner’s family for the first time. When I have to meet Mr. Murphy in the future, I’ll use your dress as a reference.”

When I got into the car, I could not help but laugh. “I just tied up my hair, put on a dress, and did some light makeup. How does it make me look virtuous?”

She started the car as she said, “You don’t understand. Many elderly folks like girls like you, who look neat, gentle, and quiet because they look like good wives.”

Noticing the antique tea set and premium tea in the back, she said, “You already know what Grandpa likes after only meeting him once. No wonder the old Mr. Fuller picked you to marry his grandson!”

I smiled. “If I told you that I was just lucky, would you believe me?”

She nodded, then bobbed her head to the rhythm of the music that was playing. She replied loudly, “Of course, I believe you!”

All along the way, the music was upbeat. I had already been in a good mood, and listening to rock music only made me feel even better.

It was evening by the time we reached Lavelian Village. Nora drove the car into the village and parked outside an antique-looking villa.

Channing stood with his walking stick at the gates of the villa, seemingly having waited for a long time.

When he saw Nora's car approach, he could not hide his happiness as he walked down the stairs to welcome her.

As soon as she parked the car, Nora got off and ran toward Channing to hug him. She said playfully, "Grandpa, didn't I say that you should just wait at home? I know how to drive in. It's cold at night. What if you catch a cold?"

Channing grinned from ear to ear as he replied, "This girl. Didn't you say you would arrive in the morning? Look what time it is."

Nora pouted. "I was asleep in the morning! By the way, I brought a friend with me."

As she spoke, Nora pulled me forward. "Grandpa, this is my friend, Scarlett."

Channing smiled as he looked at me. "I know her. We met in the village's hotel. You're working at Murphy Corporation, right?"

I nodded and smiled lightly. "Hello, Mr. Oberick!"

He nodded in reply. "Hello!"

When we were done with our introductions, Channing instructed his workers to prepare the food, then brought us into his house. There were only a few people in the villa, with only two caregivers and one housekeeper.

The kitchen seemed to have prepared the food a long time ago and had already set them on the table. As we entered, the caregiver smiled and said, "They've all been heated up!"

Channing nodded and said, "Get a glass of beet juice for Nora."

Then, he turned to me and asked, "What would you like to drink, Ms. Stovall?"

I smiled politely and replied, "I'm fine with anything, Mr. Oberick. I'm not picky."

He laughed. "Why don't you try Nora's favourite beet juice as well then?"

I nodded. "Sure, thank you!"

Just then, the sound of an engine came from outside. It sounded like a car had just parked by the door.

Nora had only just picked up her chopsticks and had not even taken a bite. She turned to Channing and asked, "Grandpa, did you invite someone else?"

He was taken aback for a moment, then he shook his head and replied, "No. Who would come and visit an old man like me in the middle of the night?"

The housekeeper then entered the room and said, "Mr. Oberick, a Mr. Fuller wish to see you."

Nora tutted and looked at me. "Ashton?"

Confused, I shook my head and replied, "He should be busy now. I don't think he'll come here."

However, I was not very certain of my words. Since Joe and Rebecca are in A City, he should be taking them around to view the city. I don't think he'd come here to accompany me for dinner, right?

Channing smiled and turned to the housekeeper. "What a good timing. We've only just sat down. Invite him in quickly!"

The housekeeper nodded and left, then soon came back.

Behind the housekeeper followed a slender, handsome man with an outstanding appearance. It was Ashton.

Nora could not help but laugh. "Mr. Fuller, are you afraid that I'd abduct your wife? I don't think you'd be so petty as to not even let me take her out to play for a while, right?"

After Ashton greeted Channing, he turned to Nora and replied, "Scarlett doesn't sleep very well and gets insomnia easily. You two can go ahead and chat. I won't interfere!"

"Please take a seat!" said Channing as he pulled out the chair beside him. He then turned to Nora and scolded, "Nora, where are your manners?"

Ashton laughed. "I was the one who came here uninvited. Sorry to disturb you."

Recalling what Nora had just said, Channing then looked at Ashton and asked, "Nora said that you were here to see your wife. Isn't your wife Ms. Zimmer? Why..."

"Grandpa, you're confused!" said Nora, "What do you mean by Ms. Zimmer? She's just a fake. The granddaughter-in-law who was chosen by the old Mr. Fuller is here!"

She pointed at me and smiled. "You gave Grandma's bracelet to the wrong person. She's going to be angry!"

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Taken aback, Channing looked at Ashton, puzzled.

Ashton was not the least bit upset. He quickly got up and bowed in apology. "Sorry, Mr. Oberick. I'd always wanted to explain what happened at the hotel then, but I didn't get the chance to. I'll officially make amends to you today."

Then, he took out the bracelet that Channing had given Rachel and returned it to him. "Actually, Scarlett is my wife. We just had some conflicts on the day that we ate in the hotel. We can't accept this bracelet."

Since it had come to this, I stood up and bowed in apology as well.

Channing seemed to still be a little stunned. He looked at me in a daze and said, "You guys..."

Just then, Nora spoke. "Don't you understand yet, Grandpa? They had some conflicts before, which resulted in that big mess. But Mr. Fuller's right. Grandma left that bracelet behind, so you can't just give it away so casually. If you want to give them a gift, you can get them something else. The bracelet contains your memories with Grandma, so you shouldn't just give it away."

Channing smiled as he opened the box to look at the bracelet. He then looked at Ashton and me, who were still standing, and said, "It's fine, you two can sit down. At least we resolved this misunderstanding."

When we had taken our seats, he continued, "It's normal for married couples to fight once in a while."

Ashton and I quickly nodded in response. Nora then looked at me and whispered, "I didn't think that your handsome icy husband would be so humble in front of the elderly!"

I smiled faintly. Ashton's charms were not only because of his appearance and how commanding he was. His granitelike sternness with his subordinates and his disinterest in outsiders were all just habits of his.

Deep down, he was actually a gentle and loyal person. He was patient with children and respectful and filial to his elders. Those were the qualities that made him charming.

As Channing looked at the bracelet in his hands, he sighed a little. “Just as you guys said, I shouldn’t give this bracelet away. However, it’s actually something that your Grandma told me to do. We’ve been friends with the Fullers for decades, and this bracelet was originally given to our family by the old Mrs. Fuller. Sixty years ago, when everything was in a mess and we were busy trying to escape war to stay alive, we met the Fullers, who were poor just like us. Unlike now, we had to worry about everything back then. We had no food, so it was normal for us to eat tree bark. We were lucky if we even got to eat some bran.”

Channing could not help but sigh, then continued, “This silver bracelet may not look much now, but back then, it meant a lot to our friendship when we were gifted this. The old Mrs. Fuller had initially given this to us so that we could sell it for money to buy some food.”

He then looked at Nora and continued, “But your grandmother refused to do that. No matter how hungry we were or how tough our lives were, she treasured this bracelet. When we went to Venria to aid the war, she still did not sell it no matter how tough she had it and even when she had to take care of your father. When everything ended, we could have lived a good life from then on. But she’d been malnourished for too long, so her body had given up on her slowly. She’d always wished to take this bracelet to the daughter-in-law of the Fullers, but she’d passed away before her wish was fulfilled.”

Channing was choking up by the time he was done speaking. He lowered his head and wiped away the tears in the corner of his eyes. “I know this bracelet is not as valuable as those gold or jade ones, but it holds the memories of people of my generation. So we want to give it to you, in hopes that it will serve as a reminder to the two of you that no matter how tough life may be or whatever difficult problems you might face, the two of you will still have mutual understanding and continue to live well together. Once you have lived through certain phases in life, wealth no longer has much value. What’s really valuable is the relationship that you have with each other.”

Ashton took my hand in his and interlocked our fingers, then said, “We will!”

The things that he wanted to pass on to us were simple and heart-warming. There were many wealthy people in the world, but not many could find peace in their hearts.

He hoped that even after facing the mess and filth in the world, we would still be able to face our lives with ease. Having such a mentality would be more important than anything else.

Channing's eyes held a hint of longing and reluctance as he stroked the bracelet. After a while, he handed it to me. "I'm old. I've been through the hardship that I had to and enjoyed the blessings of living a good life too. So many things happened in my lifetime, and everyone I miss is already gone, so I've nothing left to worry over. All I want is to grant my wife's wish. Keep this bracelet and let it pass on from generation to generation."

My heart was warm, and my nose started burning. As I took the box into my hands, I nodded at Channing and replied, "Mr. Oberick, we'll definitely pass it down to the younger generations."

He nodded and broke into a smile. "Good. The future lies in the hands of young people like you."

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I nodded while opening the box. In it, laid a pair of bracelets. I took one out and said to Nora, "Grandma would be happy if we bring one back. As for the other, Nora, would you be willing to realize Grandpa's wish with me? If we pass the bracelets down as a family heirloom, we would be one big family."

Nora was taken aback at my suggestion. She then turned to Channing.

Channing was bewildered too, then laughed heartily. "Nora, it seems you got a good friend!"

Nora laughed at his remark and accepted the bracelet. "It would be my honor. From now on, we are one big family."

The mood lightened at dinner.

The day had turned dark when dinner was over.

Everyone sat chatting while sipping tea in the living room when Nora asked, "Scarlett, you told me that you have something to ask Grandpa. What is it?"

I almost forgot about it if she didn't remind me about it. "Mr. Oberick, I have something to ask you."

Channing was happy that he had more of an appetite than usual. He sat casually on the couch and grinned, "There is no need for you to be that courteous. Ask away."

"I wanted to ask you about Winona Stovall. You mentioned her the other day when we had a meal together."

Channing sat up straight after hearing Winona's name. "How are you related to her?"

I replied, "She adopted me."

He nodded with understanding. His gaze flickered between Ashton and me in silence. "It's not surprising George would allow you to marry Ashton."

"Grandpa, can you tell us already? The suspense is killing me!" urged Nora.

After a pause, Channing answered, "I don't know Winona well. The only reason I know her was because of George. She was originally from K City but moved to R Province due to some reason. That was all I know about her."

"Does my grandma have any relatives?" It had been so many years, but she had never told me anything about it.

“Surely she has them. She came from K City, so her relatives would be there. However, I fear that her relatives may have passed away since many years have passed.”

After that, I stopped asking as Channing didn't seem to know much.

Moreover, all these were in the past. Grandma never told me anything about her. Maybe she really didn't want anyone to know about it.

Lavelian Village was quiet at night. The autumn in September wasn't cold but chilly.

Since Channing's health wasn't in the best condition, he needed to retire to bed early. The caregiver supported him as he made his way towards his bedroom.

Right then, Nora clung onto my arm and said to Ashton, “Mr. Fuller, we have decided that Scarlett would be sleeping with me tonight. You can't stop us!”

Ashton narrowed his eyes at me. Despite not saying anything, his meaning was obvious.

I facepalmed. “Alright, it's late. Let's all sleep early!”

The housekeeper led us to the second floor towards our respective rooms.

Nora pouted, “Scarlett, how could you forget about me when you have a man now? You can be with him anytime you want, so why can't you keep me company just for one night?”

I turned to glance at Ashton once again to ask for permission. After all, she had a point there, and I was highly persuaded.

“Ashton...”

“You know I can’t sleep alone when I’m outside,” Ashton said without waiting for me to finish my sentence.

“It’s not too late for you to call Armond.”

Nora glared at him. “Hey, Fuller! How could you be so mean? It is only for one night. I’m not going to eat her up or anything.”

“Well, I can’t leave her!” Ashton said unabashedly.

Nora was dumbstruck at his shamelessness. Refusing to speak to him any further, she retreated to her room. “Ashton, maybe she just needs someone to talk to?” I turned around and said.

Nora seemed like a carefree and mischievous girl on the outside, but she could be lonely on the inside.

Hearing that, Ashton nodded with understanding. He cupped my face and gave me a gentle kiss. “Go on then. Don’t stay up too late.”

I nodded with a grin. “Ashton, you’re the best!”

“You’re even better, Mrs. Fuller!” He smiled gently then motioned me towards Nora’s room.

As Nora’s door wasn’t locked, a slight push had it opened right away.

Her entire room was in princess pink, and it looked cute. Meanwhile, Nora was sleeping face down on her princess bed.

Hearing some slight movement, she assumed it was the caregiver. “Could you check if the guests next door needs anything?”

Chapter 786

I smiled faintly as I stood by her bed. "Are you intending to chase me out then?"

Hearing my voice, Nora instantly sat up straight, then turned to me. "Ashton is finally willing to release you?"

I grinned and sat beside her. "Just like what you said – we'll have a lifetime together, so I thought I'd come here and stay the night with you!"

Nora squealed and jumped with joy. "Scarlet, you're the best! I knew it! You're the best in this whole wide world!"

I flicked her head gently, trying to calm her down. "How could you determine that in such a short time? Go take a shower so we could sleep early."

"Let's shower together!" She narrowed her eyes at me.

I laughed as I pushed her towards the bathroom.

Once she finished shower, she hugged me and lay on the bed, staring blankly at the ceiling.

I knew she was troubled by something. "Are you thinking about Armond?"

She focused her gaze on me and said, "Of course not. There are other things on my mind too, you know."

“What is it, then?”

She hesitated and sighed, “Aren’t you curious why I was brought to Venria?”

Now that I thought about it, I was. Even though the Oberick family weren’t extremely rich or prestigious back in A City, Channing was still a well-known person. Naturally, he would protect his granddaughter well. So how was Nora brought into Venria, and what’s worse, almost losing her life in the process?

“As a matter of fact, I didn’t know how my parents passed away. Grandpa said they were caught up in a car accident. I was only two months old at that time. If it weren’t for me, Grandpa would’ve left with my parents too,” Nora said emotionlessly.

I wasn’t good at comforting others, so I listened intently.

She leaned against me and continued, “It has always been Grandpa and me for as long as I can remember. There was some money left from my father’s mine. Grandpa used it for investment, so I was never without money. Even though Grandpa loves me a lot, I still want a complete family like the rest.”

Then she looked at me and continued, “Scarlett, I know you understand how I feel.”

I nodded in agreement. Back in R Province, I was envious of Macy. Her parents treated her well, and I had always thought about how my future would be if I found my biological parents one day. Then I realized the reality wasn’t as perfect as I imagined it to be.

After a brief pause, she carried on, “I told you before that I didn’t have many friends. Since young, I was acquainted with a lot of people, and they either hoped that I would buy things for them, or they’re using me for something else. Even if I knew their intentions, I still treated them as my friends because I was scared of being alone.”

She seemed to have a deep fear of being lonely.

Looking at her, I didn’t know what to say, so I just hugged her. “All will be well.”

“Before leaving for Venria, I was acquainted with a girl. When we met for the first time, we hit it off like old friends. She treated me well, and so I treated her like my best friend at that time. But I didn’t expect her to trick me into the mountains. Maybe it was a blessing in disguise since I get to meet you.”

After a while, she said to me, “Scarlett, did you know that I was really touched when you gave me the bracelet? That was the first time I’ve received any gift – a gift that sincere.

“I was wondering if that moment was an accumulation of good luck from the past twenty years of my life.”

I smiled faintly as I held her. “You will have more good luck in the future.”

She nodded. “When are you and Ashton leaving for K City?”

I gasped, “Why did you ask so suddenly?”

“I have thought things through. I’m going to K City with you to make a living. I have decided that I will be wherever you are. My Grandpa is old now, so he wanted me to have someone I could rely on. Ashton is like a brother to me, and naturally, you’re my sister-in-law. Don’t you dare think that you can cut ties with me.”

I laughed, “Alright. No cutting ties. But Nora, who’s going to take care of your Grandpa in A City if you’re leaving for K City?”

She replied, “There are housekeepers and caregivers in the Oberick family. My uncles and aunts could also take care of him. Besides, I will visit him often as well!”

She added after a slight pause, “I’ve always wanted to go to K City for the longest time, but I couldn’t because I was always alone. Therefore this time, I will definitely go with you!”

“Don’t tell me you’re going to K City for Armond’s sake?” After all, the Murphys headquarters were in K City.

She said with a blush, "That was part of the reason but not entirely so."

The night deepened, and after some more random girl talk, she fell asleep.

The next day, the sky was cloudy as if rain could fall at any moment.

Nora was sleeping soundly. I didn't want to wake her up, so I cautiously got out of bed and headed for the balcony. I took in the view outside and confirmed that it was raining.

I couldn't help but glance at Nora. The weather was indeed suitable for sleeping in.

Chapter 787

I discreetly exited the bedroom and headed towards Ashton's room. The door to his room was left wide open, and his bed was neatly arranged. There were no signs of the man in that room.

I went downstairs and saw the caregiver preparing breakfast in the kitchen. She turned around when she heard some movement. "Ms. Stovall, you're awake. Breakfast is ready, and they're on the table. Feel free to dig in."

I nodded and didn't see anyone else around. "Did you see Mr. Fuller?"

She grinned, "Mr. Fuller had left in the early morning, saying he had something urgent to attend to in the city. He didn't want to wake you up early, so he asked me to inform you that he will be having dinner with you tonight, so don't be back too late."

I nodded in silence. I presumed that he would be nervous about his project.

After breakfast, I strolled around the yard and saw Channing digging a patch there.

I greeted him as I approached, "Good morning, Mr. Oberick!"

He stopped digging when he saw me. "You're awake. Have you had breakfast?"

I nodded and looked at what he was doing. "Mr. Oberick, are you planning to plant some flowers here?"

He laughed, "Fall is almost here. I want to plant some leek, so I could harvest them in the winter."

Seeing that I was all alone, he asked, "Is Nora still asleep?"

I smiled and answered, "Let her sleep in a while longer. She slept late last night."

He sighed, "She doesn't sleep at night and doesn't wake up in the morning."

His affection could be heard in his tone, despite his grumbling.

It was already late evening when they arrived at the city from Lavelian Village. Armond, who was waiting by the villa's entrance, glared at Nora. He was waiting to have dinner with her.

I returned to the villa as well. Ashton had mentioned in the morning that we would have dinner together. Hence, I figured it would be best if I prepared it myself.

There were many fresh ingredients in the fridge.

After half a day of preparation, three dishes and a soup were done. I glanced at my phone and called Ashton.

He didn't pick up his phone despite me calling him multiple times, so I decided to text him instead.

I looked at the time, and it was almost eight, but I didn't hear any car coming back. Thus, I called him again, but still, no one picked up.

With that, I decided to call Joseph. He picked up the call after the phone rang for a few seconds. "Mrs. Fuller!"

"Joseph, is Ashton with you?"

Joseph seemed to know my reason for calling. "Mr. Fuller is still in the conference room. I'll ask him to return your call once he's finished."

I muttered an agreement and hung up. Staring at the dishes on the table, I sighed.

After waiting for him for another hour, I couldn't stand it, so I picked up my phone to call him again.

At that moment, I heard a car engine sounded from the yard. I jumped up immediately and looked at the cold dishes on the table in despair.

However, I was glad that he was back. Immediately, I went to the door to welcome him with a smile.

Yet, it was only Joseph at the entrance.

I looked behind him, and there was no sign of Ashton. "Joseph, where's Ashton?"

Joseph passed a box to me and answered, "Mrs. Fuller, Mr. Fuller had a business dinner to attend to, so he couldn't make it. But he asked me to bring you this. He said it was from a restaurant famous for seafood, and it tastes fresh and tender. Please try it."

I was dumbstruck as I stared at the hairy crabs on the box's packaging. "What time will he be back then?"

Joseph shook his head. "I'm not sure about that. You should eat something first."

I might as well. After I accepted the box of hairy crabs, I went to look for a pair of scissors and a plate. Then, I dug in once I plated the crabs.

Joseph needed to return urgently, and so he left. I went to clean up the study when I was done with dinner.

Not long after Joseph left, a car engine sounded from the yard again. However, this time I wasn't expecting Ashton.

I got up and headed for the balcony for a glimpse. It turned out to be Nora and Armond. They were back from dinner.

Nora glanced in my direction and saw me on the balcony. "Have you had dinner?"

I nodded. "I did. What about you?"

"We just finished, and we also brought you some desserts. I will bring it over to you later." Armond passed an exquisite box to her after parking the car.

She headed to my house with the desserts in tow. At the same time, I headed downstairs to open the door for her.

She was dressed in a tan overcoat. "It's so cold, and you're only dressed so little?" she asked while studying me.

"I'm fine. It's not that cold."

I accepted the dessert and glanced at her. "Matcha cheese. You went to Whitelight lane?"

She nodded. "Try it. Armond said K City has a lot of matcha cheese desserts. Maybe the residents of A City had different tastes, so not a lot of people buy them. I figured you would like them, so I brought some back for you."