

When There Is Nothing Left But Love Chapter 893-897

Chapter 893

I did not deny his words.

He left after talking about the topic for a little longer.

After he left, I remained by Ashton's side. It was a relief to see that his pale complexion had regained some color.

As Ashton had not regained consciousness, I could only keep him company. All of a sudden, the loud ringtone of my phone echoed insistently from my purse. I glanced down at my screen to notice that Sasha's mother had called.

"Mrs. Brooks, what happened?" I asked her patiently after picking up the call.

Immediately, I was greeted by the anguished wails of Sasha's mother echoing across the phone. "Mrs. Fuller, I know that it's wrong for me to beg for your help in such a shameless manner. I should not have contacted you in the first place! However, I'm utterly cornered. I have no idea what to do anymore. Renee's chemotherapy has just begun, and the cost of the procedure has taken away all of our savings. The poor child has been tormented in such horrible ways, and the doctor allowed us to change hospitals. Will you help us? We must have committed terrible sins in our past lives. As a result, our punishment has been delivered to this poor child. Renee is only four years old! I..." her ramblings was cut off into loud sobs of despair.

What should I do?

Although most of us would get to grow old, some were destined to face tragedy the moment they were born. It seems like a person's life really is dependent on their fate!

I mulled over my thoughts as the sounds of her sobs filled my ears. When I did not offer a response, she must have confused my silence as a form of rejection. "Mrs. Fuller, you must think of us as greedy beasts. In the past, you've helped us countless times. I should not be coming to beg for your help. Thank you!" she sniffled in despair.

"Continue the treatment!" I replied dully, "I'll transfer the money into your account. Make sure to be with the child along the journey. I believe everything will get better soon!"

That's right; things will get better in the future!

"Mrs. Fuller, thank you so much. Thank you! I will try my best to repay your gratitude!" Mrs. Brookes exclaimed. She was overwhelmed with joy at that moment.

Without another word, I hung up the call and transferred the money. Maybe the issue with Sasha would remain unsolved forever. Yet, I could not turn a blind eye to the fate of an innocent child. Although I was uncertain about the future, I would not stand by idly whilst I had the power to help others.

The sight of Ashton on the bed made me sigh. Let's just hope that good karma will come back to me.

Three days had passed when Ashton finally regained consciousness. When he awoke, he seemed muddled and confused. "Are you alright? Are you hurt?" Ashton asked blearily as he clutched my hand tightly.

"I'm fine. I was totally unharmed!" I smiled and enveloped him in a warm hug

After he ran a careful gaze over my body and determined that I was unscathed, Ashton let out a huge sigh of relief. "Don't put yourself in danger for my sake next time. I want you to live a long and happy life!"

"Don't say that..." I sniffled. Tears threatened to spill from my eyes when I heard what he said.

For the first time, Ashton revealed his vulnerability to my gaze. Gently, he clutched me in his arms as I hugged him. I hoped that my touch would be able to convey my feelings and bring him comfort.

Over the years, we had learned how to rely on each other. Although our future may be filled with countless obstacles and difficulties, I was determined that we will no longer separate.

Naturally, we would not be present during the investigation of Murphy Corporation. The partnership between Fuller Corporation and the Taylors had officially commenced. Once again, I met Holden at the joint signing event. He had even booked a luxurious cruise ship to celebrate the event's success. At the same time, it displayed the Taylor family's immense wealth and power.

Although the October weather in Moranta was not particularly chilly, Ashton insisted on draping his blazer over my off-shoulder dress. Coincidentally, I spotted Holden on the deck. He had a wine glass in his grasp as he stared out into the vast sea. At that moment, he seemed to be deep in thought.

I remained behind Holden as I observed him quietly. Likewise, I turned my gaze to the sea and the night sky. The sky was illuminated with dozens of twinkling stars. Holden turned around, and a flash of surprise crossed his features when he caught sight of my figure. He must have felt my presence.

He lifted his wine glass in my direction with a cocky raise of his brow. "I'm surprised that you have the time to be outside here. Why isn't Mr. Fuller with you?"

"He has his own matters to attend to," I replied with a faint smile and made my way to his side.

He nodded and turned his gaze back to the ocean. Against the beautiful scenery, Holden did not seem as obnoxious as I remembered. "Have you ever looked up at a luxury cruise ship from a raft?" he asked.

“Nope,” I denied with a shake of my head, “A raft is incapable of moving in the ocean. An enormous cruise ship is unable to access lakes or rivers too. Thus, it is impossible for them to meet, let alone gaze at a cruise ship from a tiny raft.”

“There is always a probability that it might happen.” Holden gave me a side look as a faint smile tugged on the corners of his lips.

“Maybe...” I shrugged my shoulders.

“In the past, I’ve seen it before. At that moment, I decided that I would flip my fate and stand on a cruise ship in the future! Right now, I’ve managed to achieve my dream,” Holden said with a beam as he gazed at the ocean.

“However, it wasn’t as enjoyable as you imagined, right?” I finished the remnants of wine in my glass and spoke.

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Upon hearing my comment, he burst into hearty laughter. “Are you kidding me? Why wouldn’t I be happy when I’ve reached the pinnacle of my life and achieved everything I used to dream of? The so-called superstitions about the rich being envious of the poor because of their love and friendships are false! Instead, the relationships amongst the rich should be envied. We can entice any women that we want! Isn’t that amazing?”

I merely shrugged and chose not to refute his statement. “So what were you sighing about?” I asked as the city line began to shrink from view.

“Of course I was only trying to find a conversational topic to talk about. I’ve heard that we are very similar. Thus, I couldn’t help but think of the shared topics of interest that we may have,” he smirked and turned to me.

“What are you talking about?” We don’t have any similarities at all!

“Ever since I was young, I’ve grown up alongside my mother. She struggled with her work, and I was constantly berated by others. People like to criticize the weak by thinking highly of themselves. Ever since that moment, I promised that I would repay their cruelty by a thousandfold and give them a taste of their own medicine if I ever managed to climb to a higher status. Right now, I’ve managed to achieve my dream!” Holden said as he leaned languidly against the railing.

“You shouldn’t group us together,” I replied with a frown, “My childhood was not as terrible as you’ve imagined. Thus, you don’t have to find a common ground between the two of us. After all, I have no wish to share any traits with you nor to comfort your so-called embarrassing or tragic childhood.”

“It’s alright. I do not want your sympathy. I merely wanted to find someone reasonable to express my emotions. Ah... I’m feeling much better now,” he said dismissively.

Ugh... how contradictory of him to say so! I shrugged and prepared to excuse myself. All of a sudden, a stunning woman made her way towards Holden. She had a wine glass in her hand as she gave him a sultry smile. Ah... Of course, a reception wouldn’t be complete without a beautiful escort.

Holden seemed pleased to receive the woman’s attention. Instead of rejecting her advances, he wrapped a hand around her waist and pulled her closer. “Darling, I won’t be rejecting anyone who approached me.” He whispered in her ear and chuckled, his warm breath caressing her earlobes.

“It’s alright. We’ll get what we want anyway!” She smiled enchantingly in response.

I watched them leave with a slight frown across my face. In the world of adults, money and relationships seemed to be heavily intertwined. At the same time, it felt like the two topics were worlds apart too.

When I re-entered the banquet hall, Ashton had just finished his discussion. “It’s quite windy outside. Why did you head out?” he asked with a grin as he made his way towards me.

“I just wanted to enjoy the scenery!” I gave him a warm smile.

“Let’s go. I’ve prepared an interesting show.” Ashton flicked my nose mischievously.

“Is it going to be a surprise?” I raised my brows.

“Why don’t you see for yourself?” He gave no further explanation as he tugged me towards the VIP cabin located on the top floor.

He then led me into one of the cabins. As soon as I entered, I could hear the high-pitched gasps of a woman accompanied by the heavy pants of another man.

The corners of my mouth twitched as I looked at Ashton. “My, my, Mr. Taylor, you have very refined interests!” he said aloud.

The voices belonged to Holden and the woman he’d hugged earlier.

Nonetheless, Holden’s deep voice continued to echo through the room without a care about our presence. “Mr. Fuller, just a moment, please,” he said good-naturedly.

Just as Ashton was prepared to pull me away. Our path was blocked by pair of men dressed in black suits. Harshly, they hauled a man with an unkempt appearance into the room.

The man had bruises scattered across his swollen face as he was shoved to the floor. It looked as if he had just suffered a horrible beating. Upon closer look, I couldn’t help but scowl in recognition. It’s Shane!

There was still a cacophony of lewd noises echoing behind the screen as Shane looked around his surroundings with a wide gaze. Catching sight of Ashton, he scrambled forward and clung to Ashton desperately regardless of the noises. “Ashton, please! I admit that I made a mistake! Please don’t kill me! I’ll do anything as long as you spare my life!” Shane blabbered in panic.

"F*ck, I can't even do anything here! Why is it so noisy?" Holden's voice drifted through the screen before he emerged. He was dressed in his boxers and had just put on a shirt which he buttoned up as he spoke. A cynical look painted his face when he caught sight of Shane. Without hesitation, his foot connected harshly against Shane's body, shoving him away. "I'm starting to get annoyed with the irritating noise."

Although Shane was in clear pain, he bit his tongue and remained silent out of fear. Quickly, he got into a kneeling position to confess his mistakes. There was a terrified look across his features.

The sight of Holden, who was barely dressed, made me scoff aloud. All of a sudden, my vision turned pitch black. Ashton had covered my eyes with his palm. "Don't look!" he said in a deep voice.

"Put on some clothes before coming out!" he ordered Holden in an authoritative tone.

"Why are you so concerned with my lack of clothing?" Holden replied with a click of his tongue, "What are you afraid of? It's not as if she hasn't seen my body before."

"Just go get changed!" Ashton insisted firmly.

"Or do you want me to get someone to assist you?" Ashton said curtly when Holden continued to refuse.

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With a raise of his hand, two men entered the room and stalked towards Holden. "Mr. Taylor, please excuse us," they said as they escorted him behind the screen. Following that, a string of foul curses and screams could be heard.

"Ashton, what is wrong with you? Am I a nuisance to you when I'm undressed? Why do you have to force me to get dressed? Are you afraid that your woman might fall for me when she sees my body? Just admit it if you are jealous and insecure of my physique!"

I glanced worriedly at Ashton and noticed his troubled expression. His moody expression was impossible to read. Behind the screen, Holden continued to curse and grumble. I couldn't help but admire his bravery as he spluttered in protest.

After a brief moment, Holden was finally fully dressed. As he emerged, his dark eyes were fixated furiously on Ashton. Holden's spiteful gaze made it seem as if Ashton himself had changed his clothes with force.

However, Ashton did not spare him another glance. Instead, he turned to address Shane. "Why don't you explain yourself!"

Right at that moment, the woman stepped out from behind the screen. She was already fully dressed and exuded an enchanting aura. Languidly, she leaned against the screen and looked at Holden. "Mr. Taylor, did you forget about me the moment you got dressed? Don't forget about our agreement!" she said.

Her sharp gaze swept towards Shane as she spoke. Immediately, Shane's hands balled into furious fists as he seethed in anger.

It was blatantly obvious that the woman was involved with Shane.

"Although I've agreed with your deal, your boyfriend has invoked the wrath of someone he shouldn't provoke! Additionally, he nearly caused the death of Mr. Fuller! You should ask Mr. Fuller if he's willing to overlook the grave sins committed by your boyfriend!" Holden spoke airily as he took a seat.

Having heard his words, I frowned. The woman who hooked up with Holden was Shane's girlfriend? Earlier, the woman was flirting shamelessly with Holden...

That alone was unacceptable, at least to me. Furthermore, Shane was still present the entire time. This was a great insult to him!

The woman's face turned beet red upon Holden's statement. However, she remained extraordinarily calm. She must have gotten used to dealing with such shady situations.

"Mr. Taylor, it seems like you are acting recklessly on purpose!" she turned towards Holden and remarked with a smile.

Holden merely shrugged nonchalantly. "I'm not going against my word. After all, I promised to leave your man alone. However, Mr. Fuller made no such promise. Now that you've kept me company, why don't you offer your services to Mr. Fuller?"

Although she was ridiculed by his comment, she did not lash out. Instead, she turned to Ashton with a charming look that gleamed in her eyes. "Mr. Fuller, I..." the woman began sweetly.

"I have no wish to mingle with trash like you! You'd better keep your distance!" Ashton warned darkly before she could say more.

"Your lust is insatiable!" Ashton then turned to Holden and condemned him with a solemn expression.

"Well, let's just say that I don't like turning people down," Holden replied as he scratched his nose in an unbothered manner.

Ashton scoffed at Holden's unbothered attitude. "Take this opportunity and leave while I'm still in a good mood! If you don't, I'll feed you to the sharks!" he ordered her mercilessly.

The woman flinched in shock and terror. After a lingering glance at Shane, she fled from the room with her tail tucked between her legs.

"Mr. Fuller, you should change your horrible attitude towards women. In the future, your wife might run away with someone else if you keep it up," Holden teased after the woman's departure.

Ashton shot him a stern look before he opened his mouth. "Go ahead and ask!"

Following that, Ashton pulled me aside and waited for Holden to interrogate Shane.

Holden pursed his lips; there was a glint of annoyance that flickered in his eyes when he looked at Shane. "Go to the kitchen and bring it back! It will serve as a wonderful surprise," he instructed the henchmen.

I was clueless about his intentions. "Why don't you admit your mistakes?" Holden asked in a tone that was deceptively kind, "Don't force me to play the role of a villain."

Shane lifted his head as he looked around the room. "Mr. Taylor, what do you want me to say? What do you want me to confess? I swear that I'll blurt it out immediately. I'll say anything that you want to know!" he asked Holden quizzically.

"Haha!" Holden burst out laughing. A trace of mockery crossed his handsome face. "You want to act clueless? Fine by me. This means that I get to have my fun."

The henchmen that Holden had ordered earlier returned with an object in their hands. "Let's give Mr. Shane a little punishment!" Holden said and leaned against the chair.

I couldn't help but stare at him in utter disbelief.

Quickly, Ashton pulled me into his embrace. "Don't look!" he repeated. Once again, my vision was obstructed as Shane's crazed screaming pierced the air.

"If you like, you can continue to act like a fool. I'm fine with that! After all, I have all the time and energy to play along with your antics! Take your time!" Holden called out over his screams.

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I pushed Ashton's hand away and was greeted with the sight of Shane sprawled across the floor. It was clear that he was in significant pain as he convulsed on the ground. "I'll speak, I'll speak! Take those things out!" he shrieked in pain.

Holden looked towards the two henchmen, and they quickly stripped Shane's pants. The sudden removal of his clothes left him trembling as he was partially naked.

"Speak!" Holden ordered with a stoic expression.

"It was Abe; he ordered me to trail after Mr. Fuller. The goal was to transfer Moranta's foreign trading rights under Mr. Fuller to Abe. On the day of the accident, I was the one who sabotaged Mr. Fuller's car. It was a mistake on my behalf! I should not have acted that way! Yet, I had no choice! Abe would have killed me if I did not obey his commands!" Shane cried out; his body trembled as he spoke. He must not have expected Holden to act in such a perverse manner.

"So, the few hundred thousand that you've lost in the casino belonged to Abe?" Holden asked as his eyes narrowed.

Shane nodded fearfully; he was shaking like a leaf.

"When the incident occurred, did the police find out who the corpse belonged to?" I asked after a brief moment of hesitation.

Holden frowned; he must have thought that my question was out of the topic. However, Shane jolted in shock as he looked at me with a widened gaze. "It was Abe. He was murdered by Armond's henchmen. After his death, he was even covered in sulfuric acid," Shane murmured tentatively.

With a scowl, I turned towards Ashton. Shane's words were full of contradictions and uncertainties. He shouldn't be trusted so easily!

Ashton pondered for a brief moment as he clutched a glass of water in his hand. "Have you located Abe's coordinates?" Ashton asked Holden.

"He vanished after the accident," Holden shook his head.

How is this possible? Why would Armond murder Abe? The possibility of Abe's murder seemed impossible. Aren't they in an alliance? Why would they turn on each other?

Once again, I asked Shane to reclarify the truth. "Are you sure that the corpse belongs to Abe?"

Shane nodded his head in earnest. "That night, Abe was the one who blocked your path. After he dragged Mr. Fuller out of the car, the killer in the other car killed Abe without any remorse. If you don't believe me, you can inspect his corpse. They shot Abe in the chest and even stabbed him to ensure a proper death. After they had confirmed his death, they poured sulfuric acid across his corpse. I witnessed all of these myself! I swear that I'm not lying!"

The room fell silent upon his proclamation. "You've performed well today. I'll be generous enough to spare your life. However, you'd better maintain your loyalty. If you try to pull a trick to deceive me, I'll end your life!" Holden ordered coldly.

With a single glance at his henchmen, they quickly escorted Shane out of the room. This left the three of us alone in the room.

I couldn't help but question curiously as they remained silent. "Why did Armond kill Abe? I know that they have had a complicated relationship ever since what happened in Venria. But even if Abe had acted out of line, Armond could not have killed him in such an indifferent manner. Furthermore, we are living in a society ruled by strict laws. Even if Armond had countless men working under his command, it is impossible for him to get away with this murder due to the scrutiny of the police force. How could he blatantly kill Abe?"

"You should handle the matters at the police station. I will send someone to settle the company's affairs in Moranta," Ashton addressed Holden.

“Hold on a second, Mr. Fuller. It looks like you’re going to leave the mess for me to clean up whilst you return to your country?” Holden frowned.

“If you want the Taylor family to be destroyed, I am more than willing to stay!” Ashton said coldly, “Armond is already plotting his next move. He wants more than just the control over Moranta’s foreign trading rights!”

“What are you implying?” Holden turned and asked him with a solemn gaze.

Ashton shot him a knowing look before clutching my arm as he pulled me along. “Let’s go; we should hurry back.”

Although I still felt confused at their exchange, I trailed after Ashton obediently.

As we walked out of the room and past the cruise cabin, I caught sight of a fight that had broken out between a couple. Upon closer look, I realized that the couple was none other than Shane and the woman.

“I must have been blind to fall for such a disgusting woman like you! Do you think that Holden is better than me? He’s nothing but a brat!” Shane cursed at her. In just a split second, his palm landed on the woman’s cheeks a few times heavily.

She must have endured countless slaps under his wrath as her face had been beaten to the point that it looked swollen. Her elegance and alluring aura had been reduced to a disheveled appearance.

Despite so, the woman seemed to be no stranger to his violence. After he landed a few more blows, she remained as motionless as a puppet and bore the brunt of his relentless abuse.

I couldn’t help but frown when I saw his display of cruelty. Hurriedly, I stepped forward to put a halt to Shane’s actions. “If I were you, I would have left this place in embarrassment. Did you really think that your useless information was enough to save your measly life after you nearly caused Ashton’s death? If it weren’t for her help, you would have ended up as a corpse in the ocean. Why don’t you utilize your own skills and capabilities instead of relying on a woman like a leech?”

Chapter 897

My unannounced appearance stunned Shane. Just when he was on the verge of losing his cool, he saw Ashton behind me and he got on his knees immediately. "Mrs. Fuller, you're right. I'm at fault. I will never do it again!"

I doubted him. After all, a leopard would never change its spots. I watched his girlfriend's face closely. Somehow, I pitied her. I couldn't believe she would fall for a guy like him.

"Break up with him. He does not deserve you," I said to her.

I knew that no matter what I said, it would be useless. Despite that, I had to say something. That woman looked at me, puzzled. There was no longer any trace of the alluring expression that she wore earlier. Rather, she looked miserable and pale. "Thanks," she muttered after a while.

I shook my head nonchalantly. "No, I just can't bear to see this jerk raised his hand on you."

Ashton pursed his lips. "Let's go." I stood up and followed him. After a distance away, I took another glance at her. Then, with a heavy sigh, I made my way down the stairs.

"Not everyone walks the same path. Everyone is different. You can't control it," he said with a warm smile as he held my hand.

I turned to him. "Are you trying to say that I shouldn't be a busybody?" I said, with a little pout.

He responded with a gentle grin before he rubbed his nose and said, "You are overthinking it."

I huffed, and we stayed silent until the cruise ship docked. I was surprised to see a familiar face when we disembarked. "Joseph, when did you arrive?"

"Today."

I considered him a friend. Naturally, I missed him after such a long time. As soon as we got into the car, we had a good catch-up.

On our way to the hotel, Ashton had a horrible cough. I asked worriedly, "Are you feeling unwell?" He was finally discharged from the hospital, but the doctor advised that he needed to rest. However, he just couldn't turn down Holden's invitation because it was an important event.

"I'm fine. Don't worry." I watched him silently as he leaned back in his seat and shut his eyes to rest.

Upon our arrival at the hotel, I was suddenly feeling so exhausted that I crashed on the bed while the two men chatted in the living room. What was supposed to be a nap became a deep slumber.

Ashton came and woke me up after he showered. As he stood by the bed, I could smell the scent of soap on him. "Go wash up. You can go back to sleep after that," he said tenderly.

I stood up and rested my head in the hollow of his shoulder. "Sorry, I was too sleepy. These past few days are just mentally exhausting. I definitely need a good rest when we get home."

He stroked my hair idly. "Shall I help you wash up? You can continue your sleep, then."

A sly grin crept onto his face. I knew he was up to no good, so I immediately made my way to the bathroom.

The moment I stepped in, I furrowed my brows at a bottle of Vitamin A next to the sink. It was odd to see supplements around him lately, yet I tried to think positive. This is perfectly normal. Everyone takes care of themselves more as they get older.

After I got out of the shower, I showed him the bottle and asked, "Have you been taking this lately?"

He reached out and took a glance at it before nodding.

"Why Vitamin A? Are you feeling any discomfort in your body as you get older? Why are you taking all these supplements?" I asked inquisitively.

He closed the book in his hands, laid it carefully on the side table, and fixed his blazing gaze on me. "My dear wife, are you despising me now?"

I was flabbergasted for a moment. Then I shook my head and chuckled. "Of course not. You are Prince Charming. You look classy and young as ever."

He raised a brow, then pulled me down onto the bed. He took the towel that I wrapped around the top of my head and wiped my hair gently from behind. "Stay away from Holden." His voice was soft.

"Why?" I was surprised by his sudden change of topic.

He pursed his lips. "Is he hot?" Although he was being nonchalant, I could sense a hint of jealousy.

With a small smile, I turned my head to him. "I've watched a variety show a few days ago. One of the female singers said that she was not interested in the twenty-five-year-old guys because they are boring. I guess Holden is around that age, no?"

His expression darkened. "Don't watch that kind of show anymore."

I pouted. "I kind of agree with her though." I tried to reassure and win over my jealous hubby.

It had been three days since we returned to K City, and Ashton was busy day and night. Going back and forth between the office and home became a routine for him. I visited him at work because I was concerned about his health since he had just recovered.

When I went down to the lobby, I saw Stella, who I hadn't seen for almost six months. She looked like an entirely different person under such sophisticated makeup and stylish attire. I wouldn't recognize her if she hadn't approached me first.