

# In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 96

Rebecca felt unjust. Upon seeing Ashton leaving, she insisted she didn't need Joseph's help carrying her up. While limping, she stared at me and said, "Scarlett, you did it on purpose."

I uttered, "I'm sorry, it wasn't intentional." The reason I'd pulled her earlier was that I was panicking.

After Joseph had left with Rebecca, Ashton came out of the office with a first aid kit in his hand. He came and crouched down next to me.

Staring at me, he said, "Give me your hand."

I pursed my lips and extended my hand towards him. All I could feel was a burning sensation due to the cuts and grazes. I wasn't aware when it had started bleeding.

At that moment, Ashton took my hand and looked at it. His brows furrowed deeply upon seeing that it was covered in blood. "Bear with me. This might hurt a little!"

I nodded and bit my lips slightly.

The skin's upper layer was torn apart, exposing the tender flesh beneath it. Feeling the stinging pain from the antiseptic-soaked cotton swab, I retracted my hand instinctively as he was midway cleaning. However, he gripped onto my hand and uttered, "It'll be fine in a while."

I raised my eyebrows. "Just bandage it and get it over with." It would hurt more if he started being meticulous about it.

After he applied the dressing, he looked up and stared at me in concern. "Is your knee hurt too?"

I shook my head, hoping that he wouldn't touch it. Furthermore, it wasn't obvious as I was wearing a skirt.

He ignored my words and lifted up the hem of my skirt. A big red patch revealed itself and it was a real eyesore.

“Don’t you feel pain?” He asked angrily.

I pursed my lips and replied, “Nope!”

Right after, he applied a little pressure on it and that had me gasping in pain. I couldn’t help but exclaim, “Ashton!”

With his head lowered down, he attended to the wound and replied in a soft tone, “I’m here.”

It was obvious that he did that on purpose.

While pursing my lips, I lowered my head without saying a word. He lifted his gaze at me, then made sure the wounds were well bandaged before he tidied up the first aid kit.

He took out all of the breakfast boxes that Joseph had brought earlier. There was pumpkin soup, steamed buns, dumplings, and soy milk.

I had no idea what was going through Joseph’s mind. What made him think we could finish all these? Besides, I had already eaten earlier.

Ashton placed all of the food in front of us, looked at me, and said, “Finish all of these, then lie down and take a nap.”

I raised my head and looked at him. After letting out a deep breath, I uttered, “Ashton, are you raising pigs here? How are we able to finish all these foods?”

He nodded and raised his eyebrows. “Yes, two!”

I...

I had dug my own grave.

“I can’t finish them all.” I paused for a moment, then continued, “Besides, I need to deal with some matters back in my office.”

Without saying a word, he walked towards his desk seat and sat down. Then he made a phone call.

Not long after, Stacey arrived with a stack of documents. She looked at me then shifted her gaze to Ashton. Then she uttered mischievously, "Ms. Stovall, these are the documents which require your signature. We're almost done with the work at AC Credit. Please have a look."

Stacey placed the documents down and blinked her eyes at me in a prying manner.

I knew what she meant. She was trying to pry into whatever was going on between Ashton and me. I packed up the breakfast that was untouched on the table and gave them to her. "Well noted. You surely haven't had your breakfast yet. Eat up!"

Seeing that I'd shoved all the food to her, she shook her head immediately. Then I whispered next to her ear, "Don't decline, just help me."

Stacey uttered, "Ms. Stovall, I can't eat all these."

"No worries, there are many people in the office. Everyone can eat together."

After handing over the breakfast to her, I sat on the sofa and turned my head towards Ashton. He was staring at me motionlessly.

In a moment of guilt, I asked, "What's the matter?"

"What am I going to eat?" he replied with a smile.

I was stunned and looked at him with widened eyes. "You haven't eaten yet?"

He raised his eyebrow and said nothing.

I facepalmed and glanced over at the glass of soy milk that I had taken a sip from. Then I asked, "Do you want to drink that?"

I was just casually asking because he was very particular about hygiene and would never touch other people's things. Not to mention, I have already taken a sip of it.

"Yeah!" he replied and walked in my direction. He sat next to me then emptied the entire glass of soy milk right away.

Seeing that he drank with the straw that had my lipstick stain on it, I was lost for words.

I had a funny feeling in that instant.

“What are you thinking?” he asked while placing his arm around my waist and then gently rubbed my belly with his palm. The corners of his mouth curled up. “It seems like you’ve gained some weight!”

I rolled my eyes and pushed him away. Then I attended to the documents that were in front of me. The audit for Fuller Corporation and Harrison Credit was completed. As for AC Credit, it was awaiting my signature.

He grabbed an audit report and went through it. Then he asked, “AC Credit is in charge of Robinson Group’s audit?”

I nodded while signing the documents I had gone through and then continued with the next pile.

After acknowledging that, he flipped through a few more documents then glanced at me. “Who did you assign for this project?”

I was taken aback for a moment. “Stacey. I was busy back then, so she has been in charge of that. What’s wrong?”

Upon seeing his gloomy expression, I thought something must have gone wrong. So, I went through the files he had read but didn’t find any problems.

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For a while, I was slightly confused.

Seeing that I was waiting for a response, he curled his lips and teased, “Give me a kiss and I’ll tell you!”

“Nonsense!” I ignored him. Since I had reviewed the document carefully, there shouldn’t be any problem. It was probably just his usual dubiety.

He placed the document down, took the ones that I was going to sign from my hand, and said, "I will have a look at these and sign them if everything is fine. Go inside and have some rest."

Ashton's office was so huge that there was even a lounge fully equipped with facilities.

I frowned as I replied, "I'm not tired."

However, he ignored me completely and brought me into the lounge. As the weather was warm, he switched on the air conditioning. "Lie down and have a good rest." Meanwhile, he took my cell phone away.

"Ashton!" How am I supposed to sleep while it's still early? "I woke up late this morning, so I'm not tired."

He looked at me. "Do you need me to accompany you to sleep?"

I was speechless. I climbed to the bed angrily and pulled the blanket over my head. "I'm going to sleep. You can go out now."

I vaguely heard his laughter.

After a while, it was quiet in the lounge. Upon thinking he had left, I removed the blanket and stared at the ceiling. There was still an unpleasant feeling coming from within.

Did Ashton change because of guilt?

Can a loveless marriage really last a lifetime?

It was impossible to sleep with all these thoughts running through my head. Hence, I planned on finding my cell phone. Then I remembered it was placed outside.

After getting out of bed, I headed out. Ashton wasn't in the office at that time.

I looked around and saw someone standing behind the balcony curtains. I grabbed my phone and prepared to return to the lounge when I overheard Ashton talking on the phone. "Is she alright?"

I wasn't sure what was being said on the other end of the call, but I heard him reply, "Alright, bring her for a checkup and have her wounds bandaged well. After that, send her back to Pear Garden."

It was about Rebecca.

That's right, how could I have forgotten? Rebecca was also hurt. Even though he made no mention of her, but she was the person he cared for the most.

As for me, he didn't love me. All he had was just a sense of responsibility.

Ashton wasn't expecting me to suddenly appear. His eyebrows furrowed when he saw me standing there. "Why aren't you resting?"

I flashed the cellphone as I said, "I'm here to retrieve this."

"Since you're going to sleep, there's no use holding on to your phone."

"Alright."

After returning to the lounge, I was slightly absentminded.

Fortunately, pregnant women tend to feel lethargic. I dozed off after zoning out for a while.

It was already afternoon when I woke up. I heard people arguing outside so I got out of the bed. My head was hurting at that point, probably due to oversleeping.

I opened the door and saw Ashton and Joe fighting with one another. They stopped the moment they saw me.

Ashton threw a pile of documents to Joe and uttered coldly, "Stop causing trouble for yourself. I hope you don't repeat the same mistakes again."

Joe picked up the documents and glared at me. After that, he left without saying a word.

I was a little baffled. Is it a bad time for me to show up?

"What are you daydreaming about?" Ashton asked while his slender body leaned against the chair. As he stretched out his hand towards me lazily, he said, "Come here!"

I walked up to him and sat on his lap. "I've slept too much and I don't feel too well!"

He tucked some loose strands of hair behind my ears and pressed his face against my neck. "It's alright. We'll go for a walk later. What do you feel like eating?"

"I'm not hungry." I looked at the clock on the wall. It was already three o'clock in the afternoon. I had slept for three or four hours. No wonder I wasn't feeling well.

He handed me a glass of warm water. "Dr. Ludwick invites us for dinner tonight. Do you want to go?"

Stunned, I took a sip of water and placed the glass on the table. "Did you say yes?"

He lowered his eyes and nodded. "Yes, I want to bring you out for good food."

That was good excuse.

However, as a president himself, he didn't need someone to foot the bill if he wanted to bring his pregnant wife to a nice dinner.

"You decide." I stood up and straightened my wrinkled clothes. "I need to go back to the office."

For the entire day, I hardly did anything at the office apart from sleeping.

At that moment, his phone rang. He nodded in acknowledgment and said, "Go ahead. I'll come and pick you up later."

Back at the office, Stacey didn't look too good. She forced a smile after seeing me. "Ms. Stovall!"

"What's wrong?" I saw there weren't any documents on the table and asked, "There are no documents needing my attention today?"

Stacey lowered her head and said glumly, "AC Credit's documents have been sent back by Mr. Fuller. He wants them to redo everything."

“The audit for Quinn Corporation needs to be redone?”

“Yes!”

“It was Ashton’s decision?”

She nodded. “Yes!”

Now it makes sense... No wonder Joe looked furious at Ashton’s office earlier.

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“Do you know why?” Ashton would not deliberately increase the workload for others for no apparent reason.

“It seems to be AC Credit had missed out on certain aspects during the audit. It wasn’t a serious issue. However, Mr. Fuller was angry,” Stacey muttered timidly.

I did not probe further. Since Ashton had requested it to be redone, it didn’t matter what I have to say. Besides, he would know what he was doing.

I hummed in response. While I was pouring the mineral water to the planters on the balcony, I suddenly recalled something. “Is there any problems in HiTech?”

“No, the market responded very well. However, there seems to be something wrong with OrbitTech.”

I was startled and looked at her. “What’s wrong?”

“There’s a technology company in A City that is preparing to acquire them lately. The matter is still being discussed as there were differing opinions.”

Stacey had been keeping an eye on OrbitTech. I nodded and uttered, “Look up information for the company in A City. Then quickly make an appointment for me to meet with the management at OrbitTech.”

Since Ashton had been paying attention to OrbitTech, it meant that he was planning to acquire them. It seemed that the other party was also anxious to acquire OrbitTech because of their technological expertise.

After our chat, Stacey went back and continued her work. I turned on the computer and did some research on OrbitTech. Even though the company was small but the market value was decent. Clearly, the boss was only good at technical knowledge. Otherwise, the finances of the company wouldn't be in a mess.

While I was reading up on OrbitTech's information, Ashton entered the office. He removed his coat and revealed his tall and slender figure. Without the usual seriousness, he looked stunning at that moment.

"What are you looking at?"

I turned off the computer and stood up. "OrbitTech. Are we leaving now? Did Dr. Ludwick give you the address?"

He nodded and pulled me into a hug. "Yes, let's go. Are you hungry?"

"No!" Even though I didn't remember eating that afternoon. I had not been hungry for a couple of days already.

Ashton's car was parked in the garage. Due to my bad experience with the garage, he went to his car alone while I waited for him at the exit.

It was crowded in the lobby. I couldn't bear standing for too long, hence I took a seat on a bench.

Everyone was rushing to leave the office after working hours and it was inevitable for me to see a few familiar faces. I saw Stacey who had changed into a light yellow dress with her makeup done. After exiting the building, she happily got into a black Cadillac which was stopped in front of the office.

For someone who was about to get married, her face was filled with happiness. I was curious to know what type of man could bring a smile to Stacey's usually rigid expression.

The driver's side window was wound down so I managed to get a look. The man looked like he was in his late twenties. He appeared well-groomed and intellectual.

Suddenly, a car honked and I returned to my senses. Turning my head around, I saw Ashton's car.

I went into the car and glanced at the office entrance again but the Cadillac had already left.

"What are you looking at?" Ashton came closer to me and fastened my seat belt.

"A friend," I replied while looking away.

He did not probe further and drove to the restaurant where Caleb had made a reservation.

After we arrived at the entrance of a high-end Chinese restaurant, Ashton stopped his car. Right after, he took me to the room which Caleb had reserved.

Caleb and his wife had already arrived. Standing beside them were two other people whom we had never met.

After seeing Ashton and I had arrived, everyone introduced themselves to one another. Other than Caleb and his wife, one of the strangers was a middle-aged woman who was a gynecologist, while the other was a young lady who was Caleb's niece. She seemed very vibrant and adorable.

"Mrs. Fuller, I have ordered a salted chicken and their signature soup for you. It tastes pretty good. I hope you will like it." As I was acquainted with Martha, we began to chit-chat once we were seated down.

She whispered to my ear, "You don't know how much you have scared me. I thought you had really aborted the baby."

I was remorseful and said embarrassingly, "I have no intention to hide it from you. I'm really sorry."

She shook her head and smiled. "What are you apologizing for? Things are looking good now, aren't they? Let's not mention the past anymore."

After Caleb and Ashton chatted for a while, he turned to me and said, "Mrs. Fuller, Dr. Linnard is a gynecologist at our hospital. Mr. Fuller requested for me to get a specialist to look after you during your pregnancy."

Dr. Linnard looked at me and smiled. "Mrs. Fuller, you are welcomed to visit me anytime if you have any problems."

With a smile, I poured some juice into my wine glass and toasted with both of them. I looked at Caleb and said, "I might need to trouble Dr. Ludwick in the future. I would like to thank you in advance."

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After some formal exchanges, the atmosphere in the room had gotten more vibrant.

In the meantime, the young lady next to Caleb seemed to be hinting at him about something. Caleb looked at us and said, "Actually, I have a favor to ask from you both. I hope you can agree to it."

In response, I said with a smile, "Dr. Ludwick, we have been working together for many years. Let us know what do you need from us and we will do our best to help."

Dr. Ludwick laughed and thanked us profusely. However, he was embarrassed to make his request.

Seeing as his husband was embarrassed, Martha uttered, "Well, the truth is, our niece has just graduated from university not long ago. Joining Fuller Corporation is her dream. She may be shy but she is really smart. Knowing that Fuller Corporation's hiring requirement is extremely strict, we are hoping if you guys could assign a position for her in the company."

I was stunned for a moment before looking towards Ashton. Fuller Corporation's recruitment had always been strict, and every employee was carefully selected by the Human Resources department.

The strict procedure was not without reason. Firstly, Fuller Corporation was a listed company and the remuneration was way higher than other companies.

Secondly, one could gain a lot of exposure to the industry in Fuller Corporation. After all, employees had to go through extensive training in the company. Hence, ex-employees of Fuller Corporation were highly sought-after by companies of the same industry.

I had to go through the selection process as well to join Fuller Corporation. With George's help, I was able to climb up the corporate ladder. Though, it was not without great effort on my part.

At that moment, the young lady was staring at Ashton with admiration clearly written all over her face.

After Ashton heard what Martha had said, he didn't say anything but serve me a bowl of soup. "Drink more soup, it will calm your nerves and help you sleep better."

I nodded and was curious about how he was going to deal with Caleb's request. He looked at Caleb then shifted his gaze to Martha. "It's an honor to be valued highly by the both of you. As you know, even my wife had to be assessed by Human Resources back then. Fuller Corporation will hold a job fair in June, maybe she could go for a tryout then."

I was speechless upon seeing how Ashton dealt with the matter, seeing as he was unconcerned about doing others a favor on goodwill.

In truth, he was telling the young lady to enter the company based on her own abilities.

After seeing Caleb turned slightly embarrassed and that young lady didn't look too pleased as well, I couldn't help but say, "Ms. Ludwick is a graduate of a top university. With her ability, I believe we'll be able to work together under the same roof."

The young lady seemed better after hearing that. She looked at Ashton timidly and asked, "Really?"

It's normal for young graduates to be hopeful about their future. Ashton was too direct with his approach. Hence, it would be better for him to stay silent in such a situation. Fortunately, he wasn't a man of many words. Seeing as he remained silent, the young lady interpreted his silence as agreement.

After a satisfying feast, the dinner came to an end.

Upon leaving the restaurant, Caleb and Martha were very polite. As I was feeling tired and cold from the night temperature, I spoke less as well.

Suddenly my shoulders felt warm. I lifted my head and saw Ashton covering me with a coat. I was stunned and said to him, "Thank you!"

A black Cadillac stopped in front of the restaurant and a well-groomed gentleman stepped out of the car. He looked at Caleb and Martha, then said, "Dad! Mom! Please inform me half an hour in advance next time."

Martha pulled his arm lovingly and said to Ashton and me, "This is my son, Felix. Initially, he was supposed to join us but he couldn't make it due to some matters. It's great that you bumped into him here. Now everyone can get to know one another."

After a few exchanges, I thought that Felix looked familiar, but I couldn't recall where I had seen him before.

According to Martha's introduction, he was working in AC Credit, and that caught my attention.

Since the dinner was over and there wasn't anything important left to discuss, we all bid our farewells and headed back to our own homes.

After getting into the car, I furrowed my eyebrows and stared blankly outside.

I felt something warm covering my hand. As I turned around, one of Ashton's hands was holding mine and the other was on the steering wheel. I uttered right away, "It's not safe like this!"

He glanced at me smilingly and said, "Are you concerned about me?"

Not at all!

"I'm in the car too, with the baby in my belly!"

His eyes darkened while he held my hand tightly and said, "Don't worry. Even if I die, I'll protect you and the baby."

I did not reply to him further. At that point, all I could think about was Felix. It was also a black Cadillac that had appeared at the office's entrance earlier today.

However, I was at a distance at that time and couldn't see that man's face clearly. I couldn't help but frown and a sense of uneasiness came over me.

# In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 100

We did not speak throughout the journey and I was quite sleepy upon arriving at the villa.

Ashton carried me out of the car, and we headed straight into the bedroom. He laid me on the bed and said, "Don't fall asleep yet. Go and wash up first."

I was slightly groggy and couldn't help but laze on the bed. I pulled the blanket over and was planning to fall asleep then and there.

Ashton saw through what I was trying to do and he carried me from underneath the blanket. We went into the bathroom and he said softly, "Wash up first. Or else, you will suffer tomorrow."

I agreed and hung myself onto him groggily. As I was stretching my hand to grab the toothpaste, suddenly he took it away.

He applied the toothpaste onto my toothbrush then passed me a glass of water. "Brush your teeth properly." He sounded as if he was teaching a child.

With the toothbrush in my mouth, I murmured, "I'm not a child."

He laughed and said, "There's no difference."

After I forced myself to wash up, I seemed to be slightly more awake. I lay on the bed with Ashton next to me. He hugged me in his arms with his chin resting on my neck. "Let's have a good sleep tonight."

I raised one of my eyebrows. "Are you saying that to yourself?"

He starred at me and smiled. "I'm saying that to you. It's normal for it to have a reaction when it sees its owner."

He can be turned on anytime, anywhere!

I pursed my lips and pushed him away. "You stink so bad. Go wash up."

He smiled menacingly and asked, "Where does it stink?"

"Everywhere!" Just when I shut my eyes and was preparing to fall asleep, his voice traveled next to my ear. "Scarlett, let's live together in harmony from now on? Hm?"

My chest hurt as if my heart had sunk. I pursed my lips without saying a word. Can we really live a good life?

"Ashton, do you love me?" I knew that question was silly but I just had to ask.

He placed his hand on my face and touched my earlobe with his fingers. "What about you?"

Me?

I was a little apprehensive as it had been such a long time. It was love at first sight when I met Ashton. I relied on that feeling during the later days. However, much time had passed without him reciprocating my love. At that point, I realized I wasn't as persistent as before and even planned to leave him.

Maybe, I didn't love him as much as I thought.

Seeing that I was silent, his eyes darkened, and said, "It's alright, we'll take it slow. We will be madly in love with each other in the future!"

I didn't say anything and pushed him slightly. "Go shower. I'm tired."

I should have let go earlier, rather than dragging on for so long. It was eating away at me.

He landed a kiss on my forehead before going into the bathroom.

I stared blankly at the ceiling.

His phone that was on the bed started to vibrate. Initially, I wasn't planning to pick up the call but it kept vibrating. Hence, I answered it.

"Ash, can you come and accompany me? I'm scared to be alone." Rebecca's voice was weak and pitiful.

After taking a glance at the bathroom, I uttered, "He is in the shower. Call back later!"

"Scarlett!" She sounded very displeased. "Why did you pick up Ash's phone? What are you both doing?"

I was distressed by her voice. "He is in the shower! Call back later!"

"Scarlett, you're so shameless." Sometimes I felt that Rebecca had run out of tricks. Besides scheming, crying, and throwing tantrums, there was nothing else to her. If it weren't because of her good looks, a girl like her wouldn't pose as much of a threat.

"Yes, I'm shameless. Why not you, Ms. Larson, as his mistress can call him all you like later? So I don't have to fulfill his sexual desires while I'm pregnant." I wasn't disgusted by her, but the clingy behavior that was displayed. It was too tiring.

Before Rebecca was able to scream her head off, I hung up the phone.

I threw the cell phone to one side and pinched my eyebrows. When I looked up, I saw Ashton standing at the bathroom door, his expression gloomy.

I didn't shy away but instead, I said, "Your phone kept vibrating, so I answered it. Rebecca wants you to go over and keep her company."

It was already midsummer but somehow, I felt cold lying in bed. I couldn't help but snug under the blanket.

"Oh, what did you reply?" he asked. Sporting a casual look, his voice was devoid of emotion. It seemed as if he was genuinely asking without any further intention.

"I told her to call you back later." I hid under the blanket and indeed, I felt warmer like that. Shutting my eyes, I was ready to sleep.

He let out a soft chuckle. Lying next to me, he brushed the hair that was on my forehead to one side.

I opened my eyes and stared at him.

He said with a smile, "Scarlett, I'm your husband. Another woman called in the middle of the night to ask me to keep her company. Shouldn't you be arguing with me?"

Stunned, I got up from the bed, looked at him, and uttered, "Then don't stay here tonight. Go stay somewhere else."

He was taken aback. Then rubbed my forehead, and said helplessly, "You're my wife. Even if we are arguing, we should still remain in the same house."

I knew I wasn't able to banter with him any further. Hence, I hummed in acknowledgement and lay down on the bed again.