In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 1811

/ In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 1811 All A Show

Slowly but surely, a frown appeared on Nathaniel's face. He stared without saying a word, and I had no clue what he was thinking about at the time.

However, I didn't bother to try deciphering it. Instead, I held on to the opportunity to vent out all of my emotions. Then, I fell back against the wall while staring blankly at the floor.

The truth was that I was trying to figure something out. I was wondering when Ashton began planning everything, but Nathaniel couldn't know that. With my head down, I looked like an angry wife who had just been chased out of the house.

I only had a slipper on, and between sobs, I muttered, "He doesn't love me anymore... He doesn't love me anymore..."

A few moments later, Nathaniel's phone rang. He returned to the living room to pick the call up. After that, he rushed out of the door. I stopped crying as soon as he closed the door.

For the entire time, I kept my expression blank as I got up from the floor, put on my slippers, and went to wash my face. When I was done with all that, I grabbed some food from the refrigerator and cooked for myself.

Pretending to cry was a tiring task, and I actually got hungry after Ashton left.

I think that was the time I truly appreciated movie stars and understood how tough their job was.

I couldn't help strategizing as I ate away. It was crucial I figure out how Nathaniel would treat me after this incident because it'd determine what my next move should be.

If I'm right, this incident is one of the defining moments in this war. Nathaniel had, in a way, recalled his army, and this may be my shot to infiltrate his army's base.

At that moment, I knew how Ashton felt, and I believed that all I had to do was to help him in any way I could.

We were on the same side and were fighting the same war. The only difference was that he was fighting from the corporate angle, while I was attacking from the emotional side.

Being certain of all that made me feel better than I had in a long time. That, in turn, got my appetite to return, and I finished everything I cooked.

When I returned to the second floor, I noticed that the door to the room next to mine was left open. The decoration suggested that it was a study, and Nathaniel's laptop, the one he used yesterday, was sitting right there. It was resting peacefully on the desk.

My eyes glowed, but I made a beeline to my bedroom and slammed the door shut.

I've learned my lesson after going through all that. In that house, anything that was easily accessible was of no value to me. They were only there to allow Nathaniel to trick and mock me.

There was no point in making any moves, so I ended up crawling back onto my bed and napping.

I was half asleep when I felt someone holding me from behind my back. That instantly scared me so much that I woke up. I sat up and turned on the lamp on the nightstand.

When I saw Nathaniel there, I scrunched my nose and pulled the blanket away. Then, I walked toward the living room in a fit of anger.

Nathaniel chased after me. After a while, he caught up when we were by the door and gripped my wrist. The man then asked impatiently, "It's the middle of the night. Why are you acting up?"

"Let me go. Let me go!" It took me everything I had to finally break free. I turned around after that and dashed out the door to walk down the stairs.

When I was out of the house, I walked right into Nathaniel's car and opened the door.

As suspected, he left the keys in the ignition because we were in a secluded place.

Nathaniel chased over at that moment. I ducked quickly and got into the car. After that, I fired up the engine. Ignoring Nathaniel's protests, I turned the steering wheel before I stepped on the gas without hesitating.

However, Nathaniel managed to open the door at the last second and got into the passenger's seat.

"Stop the car," howled Nathaniel, who had dropped his gentleman's facade. "Did you hear what I say, Scarlett Stovall? Stop the car now!"

I gripped the steering wheel and completely ignored him while speeding down the road as fast as I could.

The route down the mountain was steep, and there were many turns. Almost every turn I made was dangerous, and the tires screeched every time I did so.

I wasn't suicidal, but at that moment, I was playing the role of a woman who had just lost the man she loved. On top of that, the man in question hated her. Hence, something would seem off if I didn't act like I hated the world or do something extreme. Nothing was more convincing or more perfect than speeding down the road like that.

It took some time, but we finally reached the last turn. I deliberately let go of the steering wheel and acted like I was welcoming death's embrace.

Nathaniel quickly reached over to grab the steering wheel. His voice brimmed with fury when he roared, "Have you gone nuts?"

Unfortunately, the car was moving too quickly, so there was no way he could turn the car around in time.

The sports car instantly lost control and ran through the railings at the side of the road before it flew into the air. It fell down the mountain after that.

In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 1812

/ In Love, Never Say Never
Chapter 1812 Fake Attempted Suicide

As the car hovered in the air, I laughed like a maniac and said, "Yes, I have gone nuts. To me, losing Ashton is equivalent to losing everything. There is no point in living anymore."

An intense pressure attacked the car at the very next second, and the airbags got activated. It smashed my head mercilessly.

The car only stopped after it ran into an enormous tree in the forest.

Before I lost consciousness, I heard Nathaniel spewing his threats through gritted teeth. "If you die, I will kill your kids, John, and all of the members of the Stovall and Moore families. Their blood will be on your hands!"

The moment I regained consciousness, I sensed a light so bright that I couldn't even open my eyes. I thought that morning had rolled by, and the light was the sun, but when I opened my eyes, I saw the familiar chandelier hanging on top.

A-Am I home?

I wanted to figure out where I was, so I scanned the surroundings. I turned around, and that was when I saw a familiar figure standing by the window.

In my annoyance, I turned around to ignore him.

Seconds later, a crisp and clear voice came. "Are you really so angry that you won't even look at me?"

I frowned. How did he know that I am awake?

"You really are stubborn," commented Nathaniel.

However, I ignored him and acted as if he was nothing but air.

"I'll kill Ashton."

"Don't you dare!" I blurted those words before I realized that it was all a part of his scheme. Irritation and regret instantly filled me.

Nathaniel smiled in a taunting way before he walked to the side of the bed and stared icily at me. He pointed out, "You've died once, so in a way, you don't owe him anything anymore. You don't need to love him now."

I stubbornly replied, "Sorry, but that is not possible."

"That's fine. I'll help you... if you'll let me, that is," said Nathaniel, who had suddenly become strangely patient. It seemed like he was worried about triggering me, so he lowered his voice and added, "The scores you gave us earlier no longer count. From now on, I will compete against the Ashton Fuller in your memory and will fight for your heart."

What is he planning now?

I glared over and was a little suspicious. When I spoke again, I pretended to be upset. "There are no do-overs in life, so why should I give you another shot at this?"

"You will," insisted Nathaniel and smiled. That smile was so sincere that it looked out of character on him. "Time can erase everything, and I will give you a happy life. Scarlett, if there is any part of you that wishes to move on with your life, please give me another chance. I won't disappoint you."

I had to admit that Nathaniel was pretty good at pretending to be Prince Charming. His fake, loving smile oozed with sincerity and anticipation, and he looked like an idiot waiting to be slaughtered. To be honest, he appeared extremely ugly at that moment.

That ugly smile, however, made me see hope. I felt like I could see my reunion with Ashton in that smile.

Thus, I kept staring quietly at him without rejecting his offer.

The prolonged silence answered the question Nathaniel asked me. That got him to smile as though he were a teenager meeting his first love. He hovered beside the bed for a long time before he finally left.

He claimed that he needed to take care of me, so he moved into the Fuller residence.

Since he wasn't hurt at all, he could stay by my side and tend to my every need.

He was going to help me with every single thing, including something as private as showering, but I was firm in rejecting him. We ended up compromising by having a nurse help me.

I was on bed rest for three days, and Nathaniel would be away for some time every single day. He spent more and more time away as the day went by.

The fifth morning rolled by soon after, and I woke up as I always had. I hadn't even turned on the lights before I noticed that a man was sitting on the couch.

I assumed that he was Nathaniel, so I didn't pay much attention to him. Therefore, I turned around and pretended to still be asleep.

It didn't take long before I felt the mattress sinking down on the other side. The situation made it seem like Nathaniel was trying to take advantage of me, so I slapped his hand away. Then I complained, "I told you that I don't want to be forced."

"Letty," said someone with a deep voice. Ashton!

"Honey," said Ashton. He held me so tightly in his arms that it was as if he wanted to attach himself to me.

Is this a dream? Tears rolled uncontrollably down my cheeks. At that moment, the only fear I had was that I wouldn't remember his embrace. Hence, I rested there without moving a muscle.

"You are so silly. How could you have forgotten about our secret? I'm so sorry. I really shouldn't have told you the truth so soon."

In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 1813

/ In Love, Never Say Never
Chapter 1813 A Fleeting Moment Together

He buried his head into my neck, and his unshaved beard grazed my cheek a little. At the very next second, a drop of warm tear dripped onto me, igniting all the emotions I worked hard to suppress.

"Ashton!"

I was so overwhelmed that I didn't care if it was all a dream. I didn't care that I might wake up and lose him again, either. As soon as I turned around, I threw my arms around him and buried my face in his chest. His familiar scent came to me, and I greedily took it all in.

The room was dark, so there was no way to see anything clearly. I had to tap on him a few times and pinch myself a little. The pain confirmed what I already know. I wasn't hallucinating!

"You're really here!" I couldn't be bothered to behave anymore, so I draped my arm around him.

My hand caressed his face in the dark, and my mind conjured an image of his face.

"You must've really let yourself go." I was grinning sadly when I uttered those words to joke about his uneven beard. The mere thought of Ashton looking strangely mature had me giggling a little, though.

Ashton put his hand on the back of my head and led me closer to his chest. Only then was he able to sigh in relief. "I honestly thought that you were trying to commit suicide, so I haven't been sleeping the past couple of days."

My heart ached for him when I heard that. Hence, I gestured for him to release me from his embrace and said, "Now that you've seen me, you know that I'm fine. Go home and rest up, or exhaustion will kill you before Nathaniel could make his move."

"Ten minutes. Give me another ten minutes. I'm too tired and need a quick recharge. Can I just stay for a while?"

He was obviously stalling, but his tone was so sweet and helpless that I couldn't bear to push him away. In a way, I had no choice but to let him do as he pleased.

He described it as a quick recharge, but he didn't rest for long before he shared, "When I heard about how you got hurt, I went and stayed guard at the exit closest to the ER. I had everything planned, and if you had died, I would've marched right in to kill that a*shole. After that, I would take my own life so that our souls could reunite.

"I worried, even after they told me that you had survived. That was why I messed things up for Nathaniel every day and made it so that he had to leave to handle the issue. It took me some time, but I eventually created a small window of opportunity to come to visit. I'm sorry. This is my fault for not making you feel secure enough.

"I think the antidepressants you have been taking are messing with your memories. Letty, I want to tell you this in person. I trust you, and I will always

trust you. What I did that day, and how I behaved... It was all to trick Nathaniel, so please... please don't ever think about hurting yourself again."

He looked as though he had been wanting to say all that for a while, and he seemed more relaxed after he got them all out. That prompted him to switch to a more comfortable position and held me tightly in his arms.

"Also, the last time..."

At that point, I was already crying, so I couldn't continue listening to what he had to say. Hence, I interrupted him with a tease. I even had both my hands on his lips before I said, "Oh my, Mr. Fuller, you are so naggy. The thing is, Ashton, you have to know that your wife's acting still is just as good as yours. I timed both the shooting incident and the car accident perfectly and knew that I would survive both. Don't worry. I'm not suicidal. I have too much to live for. Just promise me this one thing, okay? Don't be distracted by what I do and focus only on destroying our enemy."

Ashton didn't reply to anything. Instead, he made some incoherent noise.

"Will you promise me?" I sensed that something was off as soon as I was done speaking. That was when I realized that my hands were still on his lips, so I put them down to let him talk.

Ashton sighed and replied, "I think it's more probable that I die from being too worried about you."

I refuted, "It's like the old wives' tale said — dying for a beautiful woman is the most worthy cause there is, so you're not allowed to complain about it, even if you die."

Ashton chuckled and replied, "I wouldn't even dream of complaining." His hug tightened a little, and his tone was filled with reluctance when he said, "I have to go now."

The joy in my heart dissipated instantly. I hugged him back and nodded. "Okay..."

I said those words, but I couldn't get myself to put my arms down.

We held each other in silence for another minute before Ashton finally took the initiative to let go of me. He got out of bed after that and left without saying another word.

I placed my hand on his side of the bed. The warmth he left behind was slowly fading away, and I felt as though the mattress had suddenly become too empty.

I was lost in my thoughts for a while and kept replaying everything in my mind. A thought flashed past my mind, and it made me tremble. Before I knew it, I had already turned around and had hastily turned on the lamps.

The bright lights illuminated the room, and I turned around to see that the sheets on the other side of the bed had crumpled up. That was the proof that Ashton was there earlier.

In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 1814

/ In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 1814 Shopping Spree

I lost all desire to sleep and ended up sitting numbly on the bed until morning rolled by.

Sharing that moment with Ashton had given me a huge boost, and I was able to get off the bed for the first time after I was discharged. At seven o'clock in the morning, I hopped out of bed and went to make breakfast.

I saw Nathaniel walking up the stairs as soon as he got back. He must've hurried back down those stairs when he realized that I wasn't in my room because I saw him walking to the phone immediately after. He stopped punching the numbers into his phone as soon as he saw me leaving the kitchen.

Meeting his gaze, I calmly gestured to the two plates I had with me and asked, "Would you like to have breakfast together?"

The furious expression on Nathaniel's face faded away and was replaced by warmth and disbelief. He nodded and replied, "Yeah."

For a moment there, we were so quiet that only the sound of slurping and gulping could be heard. I noticed that Nathaniel was eating slowly, but he would sneak a peek at me every now and then.

That got me to roll my eyes at him and nonchalantly asked, "Will you stop messing with those things?"

"Huh?" He seemed taken aback. It took him some time before he realized what I was talking about, and that stunned him. When he came around, he asked, "Will you accept me if I do as you asked?"

I shrugged and replied, "I don't know, but at the very least, I'll hate you less."

Nathaniel's expression stiffened. To my surprise, he actually said, "Then I'll think about it."

That was not the best result, but at least it was not the worst response, either.

We were quiet for a moment there, but he later broke the silence by saying, "I invited Emery out on your behalf. If you're free after this, you should take a walk with her. It'd help you recover."

His kind gesture surprised me, but he fished out a card over at the very next second. Then, he pushed that card over and informed, "It's not password-protected."

I shot a look at the card, then at Nathaniel before I pointed out, "Money can't buy love."

"I know," replied Nathaniel as he cut his sausage up. "The problem is that your card is lost, and it'd take some time before a replacement is made. You can't exactly have your friends pick up the tab this entire time, right?"

I teased, "How thoughtful of you."

"I am so much more than that, and you will learn, bit by bit, just how great I am," replied Nathaniel with a straight face.

I had no intention of listening to him bragging nonstop, so I kept the card and replied, "Then I'll just keep this card. Let's eat up."

Nathaniel's lips parted, and he looked as though he had more to say. That prompted me to signal him to keep quiet when eating.

Only then did Nathaniel stop talking.

After breakfast, I took up on Nathaniel's offer and went to the most luxurious mall in the city center with Emery. That shopping spree must've cost a fortune because I never bothered holding back.

However, Emery felt bad about it, so she dragged me into a cafe and put a pause on my shopping spree.

"With a tip like that, the waitress can go on a year-long vacation," said Emery as she stirred the cup of coffee she had with her.

Annoyed, I complained, "It'd be a shame to not spend this money, anyway. You know, I think I'll withdraw some funds from this card and donate it to a third-world country. This money is tainted with blood, anyway, so donating it will at least get some good out of it. You should take everything we bought earlier. Keep whatever you like and donate the rest." I had just finished speaking when Emery's phone rang. She picked it up, but mere seconds later, she handed the phone over and said, "It's for you."

She mouthed the words — "It's Nathaniel" — as she gave me the phone.

I answered the phone impatiently and growled into it. "What? Was I supposed to report back to you or something?"

I had only been out for less than three hours, so I was annoyed. I just can't get a break, can I?

Nathaniel chuckled and informed, "I'm just calling to remind you to come home earlier tonight. We'll have guests for dinner."

I didn't bother showing any mercy and was quick to say, "So what? They're your guests, not mine, so why should I bother showing up? Who do you think I am? An escort?"

It was possible that Nathaniel liked being yelled at because I could've sworn that I sensed his amusement. It was almost as though the more I yelled at him, the happier he was.

I heard him chuckling soon after. In a devious tone, he reminded, "I saw the bank statement, Scarlett, and you spent quite a bit of my money. Isn't it only right that you do something for me in return?"

This is all a trap!

"You're the one who gave me the card, so why are you demanding that I pay you back now?"

Nathaniel calmly shared, "Does that mean you don't plan on paying me back?"

"You..."

I was so angry that I hung up the call and gritted my teeth. If I could, I would've thrown that stupid card right to his stupid face.

A conman. He is such a freaking, good-for-nothing conman!

In less than a minute, my phone vibrated. The text Nathaniel sent over read: I'll be waiting at home. See you there.

"F*ck you, you a*shole!" Anger was burning so wildly in me that it prompted me to cuss aloud. Many turned their attention over when they heard me. Even Emery was taken aback. "Didn't you say that Nathaniel is in love with you? Why did he make you so angry?"

In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 1815

/ In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 1815 The Note

I didn't really know how to explain the situation, so I handed the phone back to Emery instead. After that, I said, "It's a long story, but I'll need to return all the items we bought earlier."

"There's no need to be in such a hurry. Shopping is supposed to be a relaxing event, and if we rush over like that, the entire experience won't be relaxing,"

replied Emery. Her words were calm and philosophical, and she looked graceful when she sipped some coffee.

The way she acted made it impossible for the burning rage inside me to survive. In a way, I had no choice but to follow her suit and enjoyed the exquisite coffee.

Just then, a couple of rich men's wives entered the cafe. One of the more observant wives saw Emery and me sitting at our table, which was out in the open. The observant wife came over to say, "Hi, Ms. Moore and Mrs... Ah, sorry, I mean, Ms. Stovall. What a coincidence. Do you both like this cafe as well?"

Emery was practically a professional when it came to small talks. She grinned and replied, "Yeah, this place is quite nice, and the environment is great."

One of the cafe's main attractions was its serene environment and silent ambiance.

Most could tell that Emery had no intention of sharing the table with anyone.

Unfortunately, the woman who greeted us was socially blind. She walked to the seat beside Emery and sat right down. To make matters worse, the former showed no hesitance when she said, "Please move further in, Ms. Moore. We have too many people here."

Emery's expression took a sharp change, and she looked infuriated. Still, she was forced into the innermost part and couldn't even stretch her legs.

I suffered the same fate as she did.

With ladies squeezing in from both sides, it was impossible for me to even catch a breath. Emery and I turned to one another, and I imagined I looked just as hopeless as she did at that moment.

We were signaling to each other and were about to sneak away when someone gently nudged my right foot.

I instinctively shifted my gaze over and realized that the woman sitting on my right had put her hand over. She had a note with her at the time. The second she realized that she had gotten my attention, she dropped the note onto my skirt.

While all that was playing out under the table, the mysterious woman leaned in as though everything was fine. She acted like she had been paying close attention to the gossip shared.

I didn't bother analyzing anything and was quick to hold that note in my palm. After that, I stood up and shouted, "Enough! Goodness, you people are noisy. Move aside, I'm leaving."

Emery turned to me and stared as though she was looking at an angel from heaven. Her eyes shone with appreciation and respect as she stood up soon after and helped me. "You heard her. Get the hell out of here, you socially blind idiots!"

Our outbursts frightened the others and forced them to make way for us.

We left the cafe right then. Following the restroom signage above my head, I then dragged Emery with me.

The first thing I did was to check every stall and make sure that no one else was inside. Only then did I reveal the note to Emery.

"Where did you get that from?" asked Emery nervously as she stopped fixing her makeup.

I answered honestly. "It's from one of the ladies who barged in."

"Ah, everything makes sense now. I was wondering how a rich woman from K City could be that socially blind. It turns out that it's all just part of their plan," murmured Emery. "Go on. Read the note."

I unfolded the note to read the content. "Map received. The analysis is in progress. Call the following number if an emergency occurs."

The map was a huge clue, and I could more or less guess who the note was from. "Benson sent them."

"Benson? As in Alexander's brother?" asked Emery.

I nodded and replied, "Yeah. Nathaniel brought me to an island once, and that island is where he manufactures all of his products. I memorized the general location and had Alexander share the location with Benson."

Emery nodded without saying anything else.

The situation had me thinking for a while and prompted me to say, "Emery, borrow me your phone. Nathaniel's bank account might contain some information that could help Benson with his investigation. I'll send him a photo of the card Nathaniel gave me."

I did all that and memorized the emergency number before flushing the note down the toilet. After that, Emery and I left the restroom as though everything was fine.

We didn't want to raise any suspicion, so we browsed another mall and made some small talks with some friends before we headed home.

Emery didn't stay after dropping me off. She claimed that Summer was asking for her, so I didn't make Emery stay, either.

In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 1816

/ In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 1816 An Awkward Meal

When I reached home, I saw a few luxurious cars parked at the gate. I assumed they belonged to Nathaniel's guests, so I didn't pay much attention to them.

However, I soon learned that it was a mistake. The moment I entered the place, I saw Cameron and Zachary sitting there.

"Mom? Dad? What are you doing here?"

I had just placed the bags aside when I heard John saying, "Emma and I are here, too."

I couldn't make heads or tails of what was going on and had to ask for help by signaling John.

John wasn't free to say anything, but he discreetly gestured for me to look in the direction of the staircase.

I followed his line of sight and saw Nathaniel walking down the stairs in a casual outfit. As he did so, he said, "I asked everyone to come over because I know that you miss hanging out with your family. Did I guess right?"

He had made his way to me by then. His eyes looked straight into mine as he added, "I know you lost a lot in the past, and I will get everything back for you."

I was exasperated when I saw how strangely confident he seemed, but I didn't complain or anything.

Nathaniel was there when things between John and me fell apart, so I had no idea why Nathaniel thought that he could fix that broken siblinghood.

The truth was that things between John and I were fine, but we still had to keep the pretenses up.

That made everything super awkward. Nathaniel tried his best to behave like an easy-going guy, but his obnoxiousness still made him talk as though he was a king ordering his subordinates around.

"The two of you are Scarlett's parents, so you should move here. That way, the whole family can be together. And come on, John, man up, and stop throwing a tantrum. Let's forget about all that unhappy past after having a meal together. When the sun rises again, you and Scarlett will return to being siblings who love and respect each other."

No one responded to Nathaniel's words, and the aura of the place became so overwhelming that it was hard to breathe.

It reached the point where I simply couldn't handle it anymore. I didn't want Nathaniel to keep making things so awkward for everyone, so I smashed a plate and yelled, "That's enough! I will solve the matter between me and my family. You don't need to be our middleman."

I ran to my room and slammed the door. Fury burned in my veins as I stood in front of the window.

Nathaniel entered the room soon after.

He carefully closed the door and walked toward me. There was a pause when he stood behind me, but his hesitation didn't last long. Soon enough, his long arms stretched over as he tried to hold me in his arms.

Yet, I moved to the side to avoid his hug.

As a result, his arms hung awkwardly in the air. All his stunned gaze saw was my furious glare when our eyes met.

Nathaniel retracted his arm right away and shoved his hands in his pocket before sighing deeply. "I honestly don't know what you're so angry about."

It was only natural that someone like him would not understand what was going on. Anyone with even a smidge of conscience and morality would be able to empathize with the situation. No one could pretend that nothing had happened after learning that someone close to them had chosen to aid an inhumane criminal like Nathaniel. It was only natural that it'd take some time to fix a broken trust, and they couldn't accept someone like Nathaniel as one of their own

Hence, Nathaniel wasn't doing anything for my sake. He was humiliating my family and me.

There was a difference between being an upstanding man and a horrendous demon, and he could not switch from one to the other with just a simple gesture.

The silence dragged on for a while. Nathaniel eventually showed his displeasure toward the glare he was given. He furrowed his thick brows and asked, "Isn't a family reunion what you wanted all along?"

What I want is for you to never exist! I want you to disappear!

Nathaniel could never understand the pain he caused. I could tell that he still stubbornly thought that he could change everything. It was just like how he assumed that he even had the slightest shot at replacing the love Ashton and I shared for over a decade.

I glared over without saying a thing. At that moment, it felt as though I was looking at a foolish clown.

Nathaniel sighed exasperatedly. He sounded annoyed when he asked, "You still miss Ashton, don't you?"

I refuted, "Well, what do you expect? I have loved that man ever since I learned what love is, so there is no way I can just pretend that he was never a part of my life. Getting over that relationship will take time, and I don't even know how long. Besides, you promised that you would help me move on, but you keep talking about him. Seriously, if you're that bothered about my past with him, you can just get out of here. You don't need to stay here and look at this face."

Nathaniel suddenly chuckled. His eyes didn't shine with a murderous glow, but loneliness and self-mockery were abundant. "You'd only talk to me... or at least yell at me when I mention Ashton."

In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 1817

/ In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 1817 Argument

Nathaniel was right about that. Ashton had occupied every inch of my mind and heart.

Good. Suffer in jealousy and boil in pain, Nathaniel. You deserve it.

I didn't say anything even as I stared heartlessly at him.

That was what he deserved.

"You make me feel like I deserve this pain," said Nathaniel while tilting his head down. He looked so pitiful at that moment.

The light only managed to illuminate a part of his face, but his long eyelashes were still visible. They were thick and beautiful, proving that the Hall family's genes were superior.

Unfortunately, his beauty was his only good attribute. Everything else was horrible.

It didn't take long before he started muttering, "It's fine. This is not your fault. I'm doing this out of my own free will."

Nathaniel paused for a moment. His spirit glowed with determination once more, and when he looked at me, his eyes shone with compromise. "I'm at fault. I didn't do a good job and haven't learned how to be a decent man. Will you teach me how to be that man? Tell me how I can grow to be the man you can love."

Right at that moment, I learned just how ridiculous a man could be when he was in love. Nathaniel was lying to himself and was in denial. He used to be the man who wanted to be my one and only, but now... Now, he was so pitiful that he simply wanted me to look his way.

All that crushed the last bit of sanity I had left in me.

I crossed my arm and secretly massaged myself to warm myself up. Then, I turned over calmly to say, "You can't do what I ask of you, but keep making random gestures that I never wanted. You may claim that you love me and may say that you're doing everything for my sake, but all I see is how you did all that to present yourself as the hero. In short, we are too different, and there is nothing I can teach you."

Nathaniel's expression changed once more. At that moment, I could almost see the black and terrifyingly chilly aura exuding out of him.

Is he angry? Are my words too harsh and unbearable? Good! Suffer, you jerk. It won't be fair until this jealousy slowly consumes your sanity and teaches you what it feels like to suffer from insomnia and a complete loss of appetite.

The agonizing silence dragged on. Nathaniel broke that silence by spitting his words through his gritted teeth. "Ashton never loved you, but you keep changing your stance and belief for him. On the other hand, I have done nothing but compromise for you. Yet, you repay me with this sort of insanely strict treatment. That is not fair, Scarlett!"

I found those words to be hilarious. He was the criminal who ignored the value of others' lives and thrived on wreaking havoc. Yet, he wanted equal treatment.

If being fair was essential, then what was Nathaniel going to do about the ruined lives he was responsible for? Ashton's life, my life, the bullet that Joseph had endured... What could Nathaniel even do to begin making up for all that?

The funniest bit, however, was that I noticed Nathaniel couldn't stop talking about Ashton. That proved that Nathaniel wasn't in love with me. He was just like Rebecca, but he was more extreme, insane, and possessive. His desire to prove that he was better than Ashton was overwhelming as well.

Unfortunately, I couldn't share all my thoughts just like that. I had no choice but to be patient and play my part, so I said, "Okay, that's fair. You're right, and I am sorry. I am partially responsible for the mess today, so we're even now.

"Still, I wish that you will stop inviting my family over without consulting me first. Our family has a tradition, and it will be impossible for them to accept you. Please don't do anything to force them to do anything. I owe them too much as it is, and I don't want to trouble them again."

"Okay, I can do that. I promise I won't get in touch with your family again," agreed Nathaniel. He looked more at ease at the time.

I murmured an affirmative reply before uncrossing my arms and letting them rest naturally at the side. I had to make my body language show that I had temporarily lowered my guard.

"It's just... Scar..." said Nathaniel all of a sudden. He got his hand out of his pocket, but he had a diamond ring with him when he did so.

That ring had a pink diamond, and the diamond was so polished that it shone with different colors.

"In return, I'd like you to put this on. For me," requested Nathaniel while showing me the ring.

A ring was a sign of a lifetime of commitment, and it often represented as one of the most romantic gifts.

For a moment there, I was stunned in place. I didn't even know when he started thinking about being with me for the rest of our lives, so I stood there. My brain couldn't even come up with a single word to say.

"Put it on so that it'll remind me to never give up on us and to do everything you ask," shared Nathaniel.

I challenged, "Do everything I ask? Even if I tell you to drop dead?"

"Yes, even if you tell me to drop dead," replied Nathaniel as persistence shone brightly in his eyes.

"Okay." After that, I grabbed the ring and put it on. "Satisfied?"

In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 1818

/ In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 1818 Secret Meeting

Glee glowed in Nathaniel's eyes, and his lips instinctively curved into a smile. That was when I realized that he had a ring on him as well.

At first, I didn't think he knew what it meant to have the ring on, so I deliberately ignored it. I actually felt guilty and worried that he was forcing me to kick Ashton out of my heart. That was why I looked away and pretended to not have noticed anything.

"Alright then, let's go and have some food now. I'll take you to a meeting tonight," said Nathaniel. I couldn't tell if he was deliberately teasing me, but the hand he offered me was the one where he had his ring on.

He looked rather at ease, though, so I didn't have my guard up. I simply reached out to hold his hand and walked down the stairs with him. By the time we reached downstairs, John and the others had already left.

Nathaniel and I had a quick meal. I went to take a shower after that and changed my clothes. Then, he brought me out.

My previous experience in the poor village taught me to hold no hope for the trip that night. It was probably just a quick inspection, and he likely only brought me over because he worried that I would flee otherwise.

However, the car soon drove up to a luxurious resort, and I realized that I made a wrong guess. Again.

I remained confused when we got out of the car, and Nathaniel had to circle around to me. He draped his arm over my shoulder and led me into the long corridor. As we walked, he said, "I will show you how sincere I am."

It made no sense, and I wondered what game he was playing at the time.

As we ventured down the corridor, I noticed that no other guests were present there. A few servers would show up every now and then, but no one else was within sight. The land in K City was expensive, so that resort likely wouldn't last long if business remained that stagnant.

Nathaniel knew every inch of that private room, though. He had an earpiece on and was talking into a microphone. All it took was one word from him to get a beefy bodyguard to stand by the door. Security cameras were installed everywhere, and they recorded everything that happened there.

The bodyguards must know Nathaniel because they didn't budge, even as Nathaniel brought me over. Their eyes remained alert, and they looked almost as stiff as a robot.

The room's decoration differed from the rest of the place. It had modern furniture, and the design was minimalist yet luxurious. A few paintings hung on the wall, and they were obviously the work of famous painters because they truly stood out.

We had to walk past another door and take a turn before we reached our destination.

A long table and a few chairs were the only things in that room. Every single seat was taken, and among them were a few elderly individuals who had a scowl on their faces. Sitting right across them were a bunch of younger men and women, and Ashton was one of them.

We were the last ones there. Nathaniel let me take the most prestigious seat and stood at the side to apologize. "Sorry, there was a slight delay, and we were late."

He then had a server get another chair over and sat beside me.

My first instinct was to shoot a look at Ashton. He rested one arm on the table while having his other arm at the backrest. A quick glance would suggest that he was relaxed, but the way his fingers tapped against the table revealed that he was anxious.

Nathaniel noticed that as well. His tone was hostile when he barked, "Oy, who said that you're allowed to be here?"

An elderly man with a head of white hair spoke up before Ashton could. The former pointed out, "You have been missing lately, and Ashton has been managing everything, so the few of us made a decision. We appointed him as Leslie's temporary replacement."

Another elderly man, who was balding, spoke up as well. His tone was off, but he insisted, "This is only right. Everyone knows how skilled Ashton is. Besides, Leslie was so young, and he only died because someone leaked the information to the police. There were so many loose ends, and we wouldn't have regained our footing if Ashton hadn't worked so fast and so well. Nat, you don't wish to deal with minor matters like these anyway, so just outsource it to Ashton. He can do it well."

When the guy said that the information was leaked to the police, he probably meant the incident where Ashton was shot. If that were true, then everyone there was Nathaniel's business partner.

At first, I thought that Ashton was simply ambushed. I didn't know that someone had died. It means that this whole thing is much more dangerous than I initially imagined.

In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 1819

/ In Love, Never Say Never

Chapter 1819 Venturing Into Domestic Market

Looking at the current situation, Ashton seemed to have won a lot of support in the company through Nathaniel's blackmailing, which could be considered a blessing in disguise.

A faint smile played on Nathaniel's lips as he threw a question back at the two condescending old men. "What are you trying to say?"

Although he maintained a calm demeanor without making a fuss, the chilling aura he was exuding seeped silently into the bones of every person in the room.

As soon as he spoke, the few people who had been aggressively demanding him to hand over power immediately stopped talking.

No one dared to be the first to speak up.

Right then, a sharp voice of a woman rang out. "Mr. Warner and Mr. Chadwick were merely speaking the truth. You can go ahead and indulge yourself in romantic bliss, but don't delay the group's progress."

It was then that I noticed the only other woman at the table. She was the perfect embodiment of an ice queen, with attractive features and a far more imposing aura than Freja. Her dark-red lips gave her the impression of a femme fatale.

She shot me a cold look when she caught me staring at her, but then she shifted her gaze away immediately afterward.

Nathaniel seemed fazed by her words, judging by his lips curling into a mocking smile. "Okay. I accept all your opinions. I'll spend more time on the group's affairs in the future."

Everyone fell silent, looking dubious but making no move to reply.

Seeing the lack of response, Nathaniel leaned back in his chair and crossed his arms in apparent nonchalance as he said, "Let's discuss your thoughts on venturing into the Chanaean market."

Hearing this, Desmond Henley, who had remained silent while sitting next to Nathaniel, cleared his throat. "Let me say a few words. I think that the risks are too high alongside great uncertainty. The Chanaean police are far stricter than those in any other country. We'll lose everything should things go wrong, so it's not advisable to take risks."

Vincent also voiced his agreement, "We joined the group back then on the premise that we won't venture into the domestic market. We should be content ourselves with earning money from foreigners and having peaceful lives. Don't leave us nowhere to turn to in the future."

The elderly Theodore was naturally on their side as he nodded vigorously to their words. "That's true. Look at those who are doing businesses in the gray areas in the legislation. Hardly any of them can afford to conduct affairs openly like us. Men cannot be too greedy."

Nathaniel nodded his head before turning to look at the indifferent woman. "Do you agree with them?"

Without missing a beat, she replied nonchalantly, "I abstain my vote."

"All right, then. I hereby announce that Ramona Sutton will take charge of the domestic market. My assistant will liaise with you later. Any questions?" Nathaniel ignored Ashton as he directly made the decision.

After he finished speaking, the faces of the elderly men darkened as they fidgeted uneasily in their seats.

"Whatever." Ramona got up and left right after she said that.

After that, Ashton followed suit.

There was only a young man with no right to speak left in the room, exchanging glances with the senior members. Despite being furious at Nathaniel's decision, they did not dare speak their mind.

However, the young man was more perceptive than the others and knew who was in charge, so he immediately plastered on a flattering smile. "Mr. Hall, Chanaea is such a big market, and it's way too stressful for Ramona to manage on her own. Perhaps I can share the burden?"

Nathaniel gave the man a once-over and nodded soon after. "Okay."

"Wonderful! I'll be sure to do a splendid job!" The man broke into a huge smile, not forgetting to hand me a name card as he added, "Mrs. Hall, you're the only woman that Mr. Hall has ever brought to a meeting with the higher-ups. I'm Teddy Barker. Don't hesitate to look for me should you need my help in the future."

Nathaniel shot him a death stare. "Do you have a death wish?"

"Mr. Hall is so protective..." Teddy beamed as he hurriedly put away the name card. He then placed his hands together in an apologetic gesture. "My apologies to you both for the slip-up. Please be magnanimous and don't harbor any grudge against me."

In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 1820

/ In Love, Never Say Never Chapter 1820 Dispute

"Get lost!" At Nathaniel's bellow, Teddy hurriedly gathered his things and left without making a sound.

Only when he had left did Nathaniel turn to look at me. "Are you all right?"

I shrugged to indicate that it was not a big deal, but that did not stop me from roasting him. "He does look like a teddy bear dog."

It was originally said as a joke to liven up the atmosphere. However, several senior members seemed to take offense at it, as they left the room one after another the moment those words left my lips. I raised my brows in self-mockery. "They don't seem to like me very much."

Nathaniel's lips curved upward slightly. "They don't have to. It's enough that I like vou."

"Speak properly, will you? That's cheesy." I ducked to avoid his face as he drew closer.

Nathaniel seemed to be in a good mood as he let it slide. He got up and led me out through a different door to a viewing platform at a high point of the villa.

The winter night of K City had always been chilly, especially on that night, as there were signs of incoming snow. Feeling the strong breeze on the mountain top, I instinctively wrapped my arms around myself as I stomped my feet to keep warm.

Nathaniel was still quite gentlemanly, seeing as he immediately draped his jacket over me.

I stood still when my body was finally warmed up. Then I began to survey the surroundings.

We seemed to be standing on the highest point of the viewing platform. Looking down, I noticed that other than the brightly lit villa in the distance and the dim lights of the viewing platform on the mountainside, the rest of the surroundings were pitch black.

While blowing warm air onto my hands, I asked, "What are you up to?"

For some reason, Nathaniel let out a chuckle as he walked over to a wooden bench at the side and sat down. While still maintaining his silence, he tilted his head to look at the sky with a blissful expression.

It's already late. Did he bring me here to have a heart-to-heart chat? He's pretty good at making my life difficult, isn't he? But of course I'll willingly go along with it if it were Ashton.

To avoid making him think that I was easy-going, I stubbornly stood at the side, fidgeting as I waited for him to grow weary of me and leave.

"What do you think of Ramona?" Nathaniel asked abruptly.

As I expected. He really knows the perfect place to talk. I petulantly replied, "Pretty. Can't afford to offend her."

He smiled. "You're my woman, and she's merely a subordinate. It is she who cannot afford to offend you."

"What are you trying to say? Are you telling me that I can bully whoever I want, and you'll back me up?" I said with a grin.

And become a heartless and vicious evildoer who is scorned by the whole world, just like him.

I did not say the last sentence out loud, of course. After all, it would be exhausting to argue at a place like this.

Nathaniel admitted without hesitation, "I suppose you can put it that way. You wouldn't want to be the person that is always being bullied, would you? In a world where only the fittest survive, you have to let others fear you to protect yourself."

"That's pure sophistry," I spat, unable to bear his words any longer.

"You always think that I'm wrong, but you never tell me what you think is right, and you refuse to communicate with me," he complained, sounding like a grumpy old lady.

I could not deny that he was good at reasoning, but I had no excuse to avoid it, so I argued back, "Your perception is fundamentally wrong. The cruelty that you speak of only exists in the uncivilized world. There is harmony and warmth in the world we're living in now. Of course, provided that there aren't any troublemakers like you. You don't have to bully others to protect yourself. As long as you protect yourself without hurting anyone, you can still live a good life."

"Do you think what you said will come true? So many people all over the world have died of various man-made causes. Even when they've done absolutely nothing, they still end up dead. This is the consequence of only knowing not to hurt others." Nathaniel narrowed his eyes with an unusually contemptuous look.

To him, the lives of those people were meaningless.

"Those were accidents, and it only happened to one out of millions of people. It's because of people like you who don't follow the rules and do whatever you like that such incidents happen. You're one of those culprits. I don't understand how you can sound so righteous!"