#### **Chapter 121 How Could Work Be More Important than a Wife?**

Chapter 121 How Could Work Be More Important than a Wife?

His lips tightened, and with his uninjured hand, he pressed the answer button, contemplating how to

start the conversation. But before he could speak, he heard the reassuring voice of Rex on the other

end.

"Orlando, you did well this time. You have finally grown up. If you can't make it tonight, it's alright. I

won't blame you."

Orlando squinted his eyes, and he was momentarily unsure why his grandfather said such words.

After all, whenever his grandfather called him before, they always ended up talking about Penny.

But tonight, it seemed like the other party had no intention of bringing her up.

Could it be because of the successful acquisition they just completed?

His grandfather rarely paid attention to the business world. After handing over the Fletcher Group to

him, he had been cooperating with the hospital for his treatment, enjoying his twilight years.

If it wasn't for the successful acquisition they just completed, Orlando couldn't think of anything else he

had done to make his grandfather so happy. So, he naturally responded.

"Grandfather, it's what I should do. I will continue to work hard."

But these words carried a different meaning in Rex's ears.

He had been accumulating anger tonight because he wanted Orlando to pick up Penny, but this person

seemed reluctant and even mentioned working overtime.

How could work be more important than a wife?

Rex had been waiting for Orlando and Penny to arrive, so he could proudly introduce Penny's identity

to others.

These past few years had been unfair to Penny. Even now, there were still many people in Chatville

who didn't know her true identity.

Since she married into the Fletcher family, no one should dare to bully her in the future.

So when Rex saw that Orlando was late, he felt annoyed. But now, upon hearing this good news, he

felt relieved and believed that his grandson had finally turned over a new leaf.

"Orlando, I thought you were just fooling me when you said you would work hard. I was wrong to blame

you. Keep it up from now on."

Orlando breathed a sigh of relief, thinking that his grandfather rarely paid attention to the company and

hadn't mentioned that woman. His anxiety lessened.

"I understand."

After hanging up the phone, a hint of surprise appeared on Rex's face. This was more effective than

any elixir or miracle medicine.

It seemed that by the end of this year, he would be able to hold his grandson in his arms.

He never expected that his conversation with Orlando was completely on a different wavelength.

Orlando's face relaxed when he realized that his grandfather wasn't going to keep pestering him about

Penny. He watched the doctor continue to stitch his wounds.

Outside the door, Penny looked at Noah, who was sitting beside her, and her face darkened.

"What were you thinking? Disappearing for so many years and you came to Chatville to be a beggar?!"

Noah knew he was in the wrong and irritably ran his fingers through his hair. "Have you met my

parents?"

"Philip and Haley have been waiting for you to come back. You're not here, and Susan is taking

advantage of the situation at home. It was you who insisted on marrying her, but now you've left your

parents and wife in Prodale County and run away. Are you still a man, Noah?"

The clothes Noah was wearing were worn out, but they were clean. Upon hearing Penny's words, he

also became angry.

"Can't you just pretend you haven't seen me? I'm really not a man. My parents shouldn't have given

birth to me in the first place!"

Penny saw his resistant emotions and furrowed her brows.

"You still have to go back and see them. They are at home waiting for your call every day. Susan..."

"Don't mention that woman to me!"

Noah continued to irritably run his fingers through his hair and glanced at the hospital room.

"Anyway, I can't afford the medical expenses for that man. You said that I'm a beggar, and now that

you're fine, I'm leaving."

He stood up and was about to leave.

"Noah!"

Penny grabbed his arm, and her brows tightly furrowed.

"How did you become like this..."

When she lived with Philip's family, Noah was a relatively filial son, and he was also shy and timid. How

could he change so much in just a few years?

"Philip and Haley are afraid that you won't be able to find a wife in the future, so they treat Susan so

well. Last time, Susan took Philip's car and left him to walk. Philip collapsed from heatstroke on the

side of the road and told me not to blame her, saying that she was the only one willing to marry you.

The incidents of you embezzling client money and borrowing high-interest loans have spread. In

Philip's eyes, only Susan is loyal to you."

When Noah heard this, his throat choked, and he gritted his teeth. "That despicable woman."

Penny took a deep breath, feeling suffocated by his appearance.

Just as she was about to speak, Philip unexpectedly called.

Seeing the flashing caller ID, Noah's instinct was to escape, but Penny held onto him tightly.

"At least say a word to Philip!" she urged.

"Get lost! Penny, who do you think you are? Your family's affairs are much more complicated than ours.

Mind your own business!"

### **Chapter 122 Overnight, They Became Enemies**

Chapter 122 Overnight, They Became Enemies

In the heat of the moment, Noah didn't bother to control his tone, so his voice echoed throughout the

corridor.

If he had spoken in clear Mandarin, Orlando would have understood what they were arguing about and

guessed Penny's identity. After all, Noah had just called her by her full name.

Unfortunately, Noah dropped out of school early on and spent a few years working on construction

sites in several coastal counties. He befriended people from all over the country who had come from

rural areas to work. In addition, he had always wanted to escape from the impoverished Prodale

County, so he deliberately picked up their accents.

It's not difficult to understand the meaning behind someone's local accent, but when multiple accents

from different counties were mixed together, it became unclear and strange.

So Orlando had no idea what they were arguing about. He could only vaguely hear what Penny was

saying.

As for Noah's words, he didn't understand a single word.

He was fluent in several foreign languages, but he couldn't understand this particular foreign language

spoken by Noah.

Outside the corridor.

Penny fell silent for a moment and almost burst out laughing in anger.

"If it weren't for Philip and Haley, do you think I would willingly bother with you?"

A twenty-eight-year-old man who still hadn't found a proper job, ran away with hundreds of thousands

of dollars from clients, lost over a million dollars in gambling, and made his parents pay off high-interest

loans for him. What face did he have to complain here?

Penny grabbed his arm and pressed the answer button.

"Philip."

But it wasn't Philip's calling, it was her aunt, Haley.

Haley's voice was filled with exhaustion and hoarseness.

"Penny, I didn't want to make this call, but I have no other choice. We don't have Mr. Fletcher's contact

information, and the police won't release Susan. We can't afford that much money. Plus, the demolition

is happening soon. Philip and I borrowed some money from relatives and bought a few houses from

our neighbors, hoping to pay back a portion. But now that the news of the demolition has come out,

their children have come knocking on our door. Philip's leg is broken, and he's bleeding from his head.

He's still in the hospital, and I can't afford the surgery. The money we had before is all with Susan, but

now that she's in the police station, and I can't find her. I have no other options."

Upon hearing these words, Penny's heart clenched.

She felt both angry and powerless.

She had thought that they would let Susan stay in prison for a while. Once a month had passed, Penny

would find a way to gather the money and bail her out.

After all, Susan had a habit of speaking without a filter, and it was only a matter of time before she got

into trouble. Keeping her in jail for a month would serve as a small lesson.

But she never expected that Philip and Haley were not willing to let Susan suffer at all, and would

resort to taking other people's houses.

They had lived in Harmony District for many years, and they were familiar with their neighbors. Despite

knowing that the area was going to be demolished, they bought the houses in advance. Now that the

news of the demolition had come out, it was only a matter of days before the houses would be sold.

How could the neighbors be willing?

Even close relatives needed to settle their accounts. Overnight, neighbors of several decades became

enemies.

How could they do such a thing?

Penny felt a wave of powerlessness and could only try to comfort her aunt.

"Haley, don't worry. I'll send you the money right away. I met Noah in Chatville. You can use the money

to pay for the medical expenses first, and we'll come back tonight."

Noah, on the other hand, had a defiant look and threatened, "Penny, I'm not going back. If you want to

go back, go by yourself. I never want to go back to that family again..."

"Smack!"

Before he could finish his sentence, Penny raised her hand and slapped him hard.

Noah's cheek was hit heavily, and his mouth was filled with the taste of blood.

He looked at Penny in disbelief and touched his cheek after a few seconds.

"You hit me?"

When Penny used to stay at his house, she was a well-behaved and calm girl. Who would have

thought she would slap him?

Noah didn't think about retaliating. After all, she was his cousin, and it would be frowned upon for a

man to hit a woman.

His eyes turned red, and he touched his cheek.

Penny looked at him coldly. "Are you awake now? Susan is the one you want to marry. She

intentionally damaged Mr. Fletcher's car and she has to compensate him with 1.5 million dollars. Philip

and Haley took a desperate gamble for this money, and now Philip is still in critical condition. Are you

really not going back? Noah, if you don't go back, I'll have those thugs come back and kill you right

now."

Noah's body trembled slightly, and his lips were pursed in a display of weakness.

The conflict between the two of them did not escape Orlando's notice.

As he witnessed Penny deliver that resounding slap, he raised his eyebrows slightly.

### **Chapter 123 Do You Enjoy Paying for Others' Mistakes?**

Chapter 123 Do You Enjoy Paying for Others' Mistakes?

The doctor had just finished stitching up the wound and gave some instructions before leaving one by

one.

Penny took a deep breath and ignored Noah, approaching Orlando instead.

"Mr. Fletcher, do you remember the woman who damaged your car last time? She is my sister-in-law

Susan."

An image of a sharp and sarcastic face instantly flashed in Orlando's mind, and he raised his eyebrows

slightly.

"Yes "

Penny suddenly found it difficult to speak and lowered her eyelashes.

"Mr. Fletcher, I will cover the 1.5 million dollars in damages, but I don't have that much money at the

moment. Can you deduct it temporarily from my design fee? I can give you an installment plan for the

remaining amount and slowly pay you back. Is that acceptable?"

With Orlando's projects, the design fee would definitely be more than 150 thousand dollars. If Orlando

was generous, it might be around 1 million dollars.

Although the villas in Royal Green were not extravagant, they were exquisite and perfect for living.

It seemed like Orlando planned to live there for a long time. If Penny put in a bit more effort, maybe he

would be willing to give a higher design fee.

But no matter what, it probably wouldn't be able to reach 1.5 million dollars.

Unless Orlando was willing to be a scapegoat.

Orlando looked her up and down, not immediately agreeing.

Penny also felt embarrassed. After all, Susan's behavior last time was indeed shameful.

"Mr. Fletcher, I will include the interest as well."

Orlando looked at the wound on his hand with a faint tone.

"Do you know how much interest accumulates on 1.5 million dollars every day?"

Penny certainly knew that the interest was not low, but were there any other options at the moment?

Her father did give her a card, but it only had about 150 thousand dollars in loose change. After all,

Cason was in the hospital at the time, so he wouldn't be carrying a card with a large credit limit.

"I know."

"Do you always enjoy paying for others' mistakes?"

Orlando had already stood up from the hospital bed and moved his injured hand, frowning slightly in

pain.

In his opinion, Penny's actions were truly foolish.

Wasn't she still renting a place? She was willing to invest 1.5 million dollars for such a relative.

With 1.5 million dollars, he could buy a three-bedroom apartment in Chatville. Although the location

might not be great, there was no need to rent a place to live.

"Does your husband know about this 1.5 million dollars?"

Moreover, she was already married. Would her husband have no objections to rashly investing 1.5

million dollars for her relative?

That was their joint property, and it might even lead to divorce.

He was just casually asking, but when Penny heard this, she was stunned.

Suddenly, she felt a surreal feeling and opened her mouth, but she was unable to answer.

Orlando didn't want to get involved any further. He was about to leave, but Penny caught up to him.

"Mr. Fletcher, I'm sorry. Please forget what I just said. But I will find a way to give you the money. At the

latest, within a week, I will give it to you. So, could you please inform the police station in Prodale

County and ask them to keep her detained for a few more days before releasing her?"

Philip was in trouble now, and if Haley still wanted to save Susan, she would probably take another

risk.

She had to rush back to Prodale County tonight. If Philip couldn't make it...

Then Penny, who had revealed the news of the demolition to them, would feel like a lifelong criminal.

Orlando paused, and he was unable to understand her tendency to take responsibility for everything.

But as long as he received compensation for his car, it didn't matter who paid for it.

"Alright."

Hearing his agreement, Penny breathed a sigh of relief and then looked at his injured hand.

He had just been injured for her, and now she was making such a request. If it were someone else,

they would have probably been furious.

She felt guilty in her heart and pursed her lips.

"Mr. Fletcher, until your hand recovers, I can do anything for you. If the hotel you're staying in is

inconvenient in any way, I'll be at your service. I can cook, and if you don't mind, I can bring you three

meals a day at the Fletcher Group."

Because she didn't know how else to make up for his injury.

And since it was his right hand that was injured, it would definitely affect his daily life.

### **Chapter 124 Insults Without Being Vulgar**

Chapter 124 Insults Without Being Vulgar

Doing anything for him?

At his beck and call?

Delivering three meals a day to the Fletcher Group?

Orlando wasn't particularly interested in any of those options.

But catching a glimpse of her slightly embarrassed expression, he knew it was her way of making

amends.

Seeing Penny in such a humble state, Noah, who was standing at the door, couldn't bear it anymore.

Penny was a top student and a graduate of Chatville University. Even if this man was wealthy, he

shouldn't be treating her like a servant, right?

"Penny, what are you doing? You, a graduate of a top-tier university, are going to be someone's maid?"

Upon hearing Noah's thoughtless words, Penny tightened her lips.

Orlando didn't know what Noah was so worked up about, but he caught the word insult.

Originally, he wasn't interested in Penny's conditions. But now that he heard Noah's comment, he

casually rotated his injured wrist.

"You should know the hotel I'm staying at."

After all, they had met at the hotel before.

Penny recalled the embarrassment she had felt at the hotel and a blush crept onto her cheeks.

Thinking back to that situation now, she wished she could find a hole to hide in.

She didn't dare to look at Orlando and instead lowered her head slightly.

"Okay."

"No need to deliver it to the Fletcher Group. Be at the hotel at 9 p.m. sharp."

Penny was actually a bit puzzled. This man had been staying at Hills Villa recently to prevent Rex from

conducting surprise inspections. Why did he suddenly want to stay at a hotel again?

But she had no right to ask, so she simply nodded.

"I understand, Mr. Fletcher."

Noah gritted his teeth and pulled Penny behind him, looking up at Orlando.

But because Orlando was 6.2 feet tall while Noah was only 6 feet, he had to tilt his head slightly to look

at him, so half of his imposing manner was lost.

"Let me tell you, no matter which company's CEO you are, you can't bully Penny like this. She is the

most promising person in our family. When she got into Chatville University, we even set off

firecrackers in our county."

As Noah spoke, he proudly looked up as if those firecrackers were set off for him.

"You don't know, do you? I've seen plenty of rich people like you. They go abroad to get a foreign

degree and come back calling themselves foreigners. Haha, unlike Penny, she earned her way to the

top. She was the only one who got into Chatville Academy of Fine Arts."

Upon hearing Noah's words, Penny had been tugging at his arm, feeling extremely embarrassed.

Orlando raised his eyebrows slightly, knowing that Noah's words were probably not pleasant because

he had a smug expression on his face. So, his gaze shifted to Noah.

"And who are you?"

Noah proudly tilted his head, "I'm her cousin."

Noah was too arrogant, holding his head high and enunciating each word clearly.

"Well, quite a match."

Even at this moment, Penny thought that Orlando's insults were surprisingly clean.

He was referring to how well Noah's brain matched the sharp and sarcastic demeanor of Susan.

She pulled Noah back, pretending to be calm as she looked at Orlando.

"Mr. Fletcher, I will repay you the money within a week. Since you can't drive with your injured hand,

shall I give you a ride back?"

"Yes."

After saying this, Orlando took the lead and walked out.

His well-tailored suit accentuated his presence, and even though he had just been in a minor scuffle, it

didn't diminish his elegance.

Noah muttered a few words under his breath behind them, but he didn't dare to leave Penny alone and

could only follow behind them with a dejected expression.

It wasn't until they reached Orlando's car that Noah's eyes widened at the sight of the about 10 million

dollars Rolls-Royce. His mouth hung open uncontrollably, and he instinctively grabbed Penny's

shoulder.

"A Rolls-Royce?"

Penny pushed his hand away, "Wait for me at the toll booth where you got off the highway in Aelfield.

You have to make a trip to Prodale County tonight if you still care about Philip's life."

Noah immediately fell silent, nervously releasing his grip on her shoulder.

Penny got into the car and saw that Zane was no longer there, so she took on the role of the driver.

Almost instinctively, she started driving towards Hills Villa, and the familiar street scenery caused a faint

frown to appear on Orlando's face.

"How did you know I was staying here tonight?"

Penny's heart skipped a beat, and her palms started sweating.

She remembered that this was the way to Hills Villa because she knew that Orlando lived there, so she

almost instinctively drove in that direction.

## **Chapter 125 Acting to the End**

Chapter 125 Acting to the End

"I saw Mr. Fletcher on that road and guessed that Mr. Fletcher must have a house in that area."

She was grateful to have run into Orlando when she walked her dog Niko.

Upon hearing this, Orlando suddenly remembered that Penny's leg seemed to be injured, but she didn't

treat it at the hospital just now.

Throughout the journey, she hadn't shown any signs of discomfort. Was she forcing herself?

Indeed, Penny was forcing herself. Even pressing the accelerator pedal caused excruciating pain in her

foot.

But she had caused such serious injuries to Orlando and delayed their attendance at the banquet

tonight. She had to do something for him, or else she wouldn't feel at ease.

She didn't want to owe Orlando in any way.

"Mr. Fletcher, I only know that you have a house in that area, but I don't know which building

specifically. Can you point it out later?"

Acting to the end.

Orlando leaned back, and his gaze was calmly fixed on her.

Penny inexplicably felt a chill down her spine, gripping the steering wheel tightly. Her palms were

sweating due to the pain.

When she saw Hills Villa, she instinctively stepped on the brakes. It was a reflexive action caused by

her body.

The car stopped at the entrance of Hills Villa, and Penny looked up, meeting his gaze through the

rearview mirror.

His eyes were dark and cold as he said in a detached tone, "Why are we stopping here?"

Penny bit her lip, realizing that she had made a mistake. She felt a cold sweat breaking out on her

back.

"My foot is hurting, and I'm just taking a break."

"Hmm."

Orlando half-closed his eyes, uttering only that word.

He thought she was invincible, but it turned out she knew pain.

Coincidentally, they happened to stop at the entrance of Hills Villa.

Anika Fox had seen Orlando's car before and hurriedly came out upon hearing the sound.

"Mr. Fletcher, has the banquet ended?"

As she was separated by the glass, Anika didn't see Penny.

Orlando, who only had a small window open, responded with a grunt.

Anika was a bit puzzled.

"Didn't Ms. Stuart come back with you?"

Thinking of that woman, Orlando's brows furrowed in annoyance.

"No, I won't be staying here tonight. There is no need to welcome me."

Anika nodded quickly, "Alright, Mr. Fletcher, take care."

Orlando didn't say anything and simply closed his eyes.

"Drive to the previous hotel."

Penny couldn't wait to leave this place, so upon hearing Orlando's words, she pressed the accelerator

almost all the way down.

Caught off guard, Orlando leaned back and glanced at her again.

Penny's face turned awkward, and she could only continue with her previous excuse.

"My foot hurts. Sorry, Mr. Fletcher, please bear with me."

"Hmm, go to the underground parking lot."

Penny nodded and was relieved. She had been worried that if the car window opened, and Anika

called her Ms. Stuart, then everything would be exposed.

They arrived at the hotel.

When she stepped on the brakes, her ankle throbbed with a piercing pain.

After getting out of the car, she took Orlando to the elevator.

The elevator went straight to the top-floor presidential suite. She went to the front desk to get the room

key, swiped it to open the room reserved for him, and then felt accomplished as she placed the card on

the nearby coffee table, showing a respectful attitude.

"Mr. Fletcher, I need to go back to Prodale County tonight. Can I have this room delivered tomorrow

night at 9 o'clock?"

Orlando opened the cabinet in the entrance hall and took out a medicine box, placing it on the coffee

table.

"Deal with your foot yourself."

Penny was taken aback, then she bent down, limping, and sat on the sofa.

The medicine box contained a pain-relieving spray. She leaned forward, causing the strap of her dress

to naturally slide down.

Orlando sat on the other side of the sofa, seeing her slender neck and delicate skin, he furrowed his

brows and averted his gaze.

Penny didn't pay much attention to his gaze and all her energy was focused on her injured ankle.

She took off her small shoes and realized how swollen her foot had become.

It looked like a bruised bun, somewhat terrifying.

Her fingertips trembled slightly as she sprayed the pain-relieving spray and then tried to wrap it with a

bandage.

However, the bandage here was different from the medical bandages she had used before. It wasn't a

medical bandage but a specialized ankle correction bandage.

She spent several minutes trying to wrap it, sweat dripping from her nose, but she couldn't manage to

finish.

Thinking of Noah waiting for her, she put down the bandage and looked up at Orlando.

Orlando naturally noticed her actions and thought she was seeking help. He instinctively started to get

up.

After all, refusing at this moment would seem ungentlemanly.

But what Penny said was unexpected.

"Mr. Fletcher, thank you for the medicine box. I'll leave now, and I'll definitely come by tomorrow night at

9 o'clock. However, since 9 o'clock is too late, can I make soup? I'm afraid other food might disrupt

your rest."

### **Chapter 126 Her Mouth Was Tighter Than a Clamshell**

Chapter 126 Her Mouth Was Tighter Than a Clamshell

Orlando furrowed his brows again, feeling that this woman's mouth was tighter than a clamshell.

"Mhmm"

Penny breathed a sigh of relief, touched by his lack of deliberate troubles.

"Okay, I'll be there on time."

After spraying the pain-relieving spray and giving her ankle some relief, she lowered her head and

neatly arranged the medicine box, placing it back in the entrance cabinet.

As she closed the door, she added,

"Mr. Fletcher, please rest early."

Orlando's expression turned even colder, a feeling he couldn't quite describe.

He was suffocating and uncomfortable.

He loosened his tie, hoping that this action would dissipate some of the inexplicable emotions.

But the action of loosening his tie triggered the pain in his palm, causing him to furrow his brows

slightly.

She was just an unfamiliar woman.

There was no need to care.

Penny didn't pay any attention to what Orlando might be thinking. She was in a hurry to deal with

matters at Philip's family in Prodale County.

But what made her furious was that Noah didn't wait for her there.

Penny was infuriated, but there was nothing she could do about her useless cousin.

She spent a day in Prodale County, first comforting Haley and saying that Susan would come out in a

few days, then she went to the hospital to pay the necessary money. Only after Philip's rescue was

over did she drag her exhausted body back to Hills Villa in Chatville.

But looming over her head was Orlando's 1.5 million dollars, which had to be repaid within a week.

Penny rubbed her brow, too tired to rest. She saw that it was already 6 p.m. and she quickly started to

simmer the soup.

But she was so exhausted that when she was cutting the papaya, she almost cut her hand with the

knife.

Anika watched anxiously from the side.

"Ms. Stuart, just tell me what soup you want to drink, and I'll make it for you."

Penny could barely keep her eyes open due to her exhaustion. Upon hearing this, she reluctantly let go

of the knife.

"Papaya and Sparerib soup. Anika, please help me with it."

Although she promised Orlando to personally cook, she didn't get any rest last night and drove back

alone today. Now she could fall asleep standing.

Moreover, Haley cried in front of her all night, crying so much that her head hurt. Finally, when Philip

came out of the emergency room, he cried along with them.

Penny was helpless and powerless. She couldn't bring herself to tell them about her encounter with

Noah.

She was to prevent the couple from knowing that their son was so indifferent to their life and death and

to avoid further emotional turmoil.

She simmered the soup for two hours and didn't dare to sleep. Once the soup was ready, she packed it

in a pink thermos and headed straight to the hotel.

Anika looked at her and smiled.

"Ms. Stuart, who is this soup for?"

"Mr. Fletcher."

Penny had no intention of lying or hiding anything.

A smile blossomed on Anika's face, thinking that the relationship between these two had finally taken a

step forward.

As soon as Penny left, Anika couldn't help but call Rex and tell him that Penny had brought soup for

Mr. Fletcher.

Rex's face beamed with joy, brighter than if he had eaten a magical pill. Just a moment ago, Orlando

was injured for Penny, and now Penny was going to bring him soup. Wasn't it just a matter of time

before he could hold his great-grandchild?

His eyes sparkled with delight as he happily drank all of today's medicine.

"Orlando has finally come to his senses. That brat, hmph, I knew it. Anyone who meets Penny will like

her."

Anika also liked Penny's character. She didn't fight or compete, but she worked hard and strived for

improvement.

Both of them hung up the phone, feeling satisfied.

At this moment, Penny had already arrived at the hotel. As soon as she entered the magnificent lobby,

she saw someone familiar.

It was Norah Kirk.

Norah was holding Gael Bray's arm.

Penny wanted to pretend she hadn't seen them, but unfortunately, they ran into each other head-on.

Ignoring each other was not an option.

Gael, whose attention was focused on Norah, hadn't noticed Penny yet. He was holding onto Norah's

waist, clearly trying to flirt. Their relationship didn't seem quite normal.

Norah's pupils contracted when she saw Penny, and she wanted to push Gael away, but he got even

closer.

"You've already slept with me, so why are you pretending now? Don't you want to cooperate with me

anymore?"

Norah suddenly felt humiliated, especially with Penny present, making her even more embarrassed.

Penny tugged at the corner of her mouth, pressed the elevator button, and didn't want to get involved.

She had been working with Gael for three years and thought he was different from others, but it turned

out he was just good at hiding.

Norah probably already knew that Penny had fallen out with Gael, so she couldn't wait to approach

him. After all, Gael's decoration team was one of the best in the industry.

As long as Norah whispered in Gael's ear, he would never cooperate with Penny in his entire life.

Maybe he would even join forces with other decoration teams to boycott Penny's projects.

Originally, she just wanted to win Gael over without Penny knowing, but being caught by Penny herself

was extremely embarrassing.

# **Chapter 127 She Was Skilled at Deceiving People With Her Appearance**

Chapter 127 She Was Skilled at Deceiving People With Her Appearance

Even though Penny hadn't said a word, Norah felt a sense of humiliation she had never experienced

before.

Even Gael, who was still trying to flirt, noticed her unusual behavior and looked up to see Penny,

freezing in place.

After realizing what was happening, a hint of anger flashed in his eyes.

"Penny!"

He abruptly let go of Norah and started walking towards her.

Penny furrowed her brows, not understanding where Gael's sudden anger was coming from.

"Mr. Bray."

She politely called out to him, despite the fact that his previous actions were against the spirit of

collaboration. She didn't want to escalate the situation and cause trouble for herself.

"Penny, you've really outdone yourself. I don't know what tricks you used, but Clark Mckay actually

withdrew the contract with me because of you! We've been working together for three years, and I

never expected you to be this kind of person. I thought you were different from other women, but it

turns out you're just a bed companion!"

Penny's face turned cold.

"Mr. Bray, it was you who violated the spirit of the contract first. As for your collaboration with Clark,

that's between your two companies. It's not right to blame me for it, is it?" Gael looked at her coldly and smirked.

"Just when Clark teamed up with others to deal with you, he turned around and supported you. I heard

that you even had a meal together. It seems like you've pleased him in bed."

"Mr. Bray, I thought you were a respectable person. I didn't expect you to stoop so low as to insult

women. Is this your impotent rage?"

"You!"

Gael's anger made his scalp tingle. As soon as he found out about Clark's breach of contract, he

wanted to confront Penny immediately.

But at that moment, Norah came looking for him, claiming to be from the same studio as Penny. Gael

had already wanted to deal with Penny, and now that he had a comrade-inarms who could also sleep

with him, it was a win-win situation. Naturally, he didn't refuse.

He didn't expect to run into Penny here.

A hint of maliciousness flashed in his eyes as he pulled Norah closer.

"Fine, Penny. Since you want it this way, don't blame me for never working with you again. My several

affiliated companies will also refuse your projects. Our decoration team is one of the best in the

industry. Let's see what you'll use to decorate Orlando's house this time!"

His face was filled with smugness as he looked Penny up and down.

"But if you're smart, like Norah here, spend a night with me, maybe I can do you a favor."

Penny sneered and stepped into the elevator.

"Don't worry, Mr. Bray, I haven't stooped so low as to be cheap."

This statement insulted both of them.

Norah had originally wanted to nestle in Gael's embrace and play dumb, but upon hearing this, she

was so enraged that she couldn't help but curse.

"You despicable person!"

But at that moment, the elevator doors had already closed, leaving her feeling frustrated, like punching

cotton.

Norah's face twisted in anger. Damn it!

Then, a glimmer of light flashed in her eyes.

What was Penny doing here at the hotel? And in such a luxurious one too? She had never seen her act

so extravagantly before.

Could it be that Penny, like her, was here tonight to seduce a wealthy man?

Norah sneered. Just as she was about to coax Gael a bit more, she saw someone entering the lobby-it

was Orlando!

Norah had seen him before and had even spoken ill of Penny in front of him.

Now, another opportunity presented itself!

Norah quickly let go of Gael and hurriedly walked towards Orlando.

"Mr. Fletcher, we meet again. I don't know if you remember me."

Orlando's eyes were cool and indifferent, and for a moment, he didn't recall until Norah started

introducing herself.

"Perry and I are from the same studio. We've mentioned it before. Whenever Perry collaborates with a

client, the client's wife always insists on a replacement. Tonight, I happened to run into her at the hotel.

I don't know if she specifically came here to confront you, Mr. Fletcher."

"Hmm."

Orlando's tone was cold as he bypassed her and entered the elevator.

Norah didn't dare to get too close and continued, "I work with her, so I know all about her dirty thoughts.

She's just used to deceiving people with her appearance."

Orlando didn't pay much attention to her words until he arrived at his suite and saw Penny waiting

obediently by the door.

She leaned against the wall, the light above her head casting a halo on her hair. Her skin was pale,

giving her a delicate and cold appearance, but deep down, she was more stubborn than anyone.

At least Norah was right about one thing-she was skilled at deceiving people with her appearance.

Her eyes were exceptionally beautiful. Otherwise, he wouldn't have lost control on their first night

together.

At least Penny's appearance did match his taste.

If only she didn't have that mouth.

# **Chapter 128 Deliberately Avoiding Each Other Would Only Seem Hypocritical**

Chapter 128 Deliberately Avoiding Each Other Would Only Seem Hypocritical

Penny was extremely tired at the moment. If Orlando had arrived even a minute later, she would have

probably fallen asleep leaning against the wall.

So when she heard the sound of the elevator doors opening and closing, her eyes immediately lit up,

and she looked up, instantly adopting a respectful attitude.

"Mr. Fletcher."

Orlando was slightly pleased by the glimmer in her eyes, so his expression softened a bit.

He swiped his card to enter the room, and Penny followed behind, placing the thermos on the coffee

table.

"Mr. Fletcher, this is tonight's soup."

The thermos was pink and looked very delicate.

Orlando hadn't expected that Penny would use a thermos of this color.

She always gave off a capable and professional vibe at work, always getting straight to the point.

A trace of surprise flashed in his eyes, but he only unbuttoned two buttons of his suit.

After Penny finished delivering the soup, she wanted to leave. After all, it was easy for him to think that

she might have other intentions if they were alone in the room.

"Well, Mr. Fletcher, enjoy your meal."

As Penny turned to leave, she heard him say, "Aren't you taking the thermos back?"

Penny wanted to say she didn't need to, but she thought that maybe there weren't any extras available

at Hills Villa for the time being. After all, she rarely stayed at Hills Villa.

And she had a feeling that Orlando's words meant he wanted her to wait until he finished eating before

leaving.

So Penny sat down, maintaining a calm and open posture that even surprised Orlando.

"Then I'll wait until you finish, Mr. Fletcher."

In Penny's mind, Orlando was a client, her soon-to-be ex-husband in legal terms.

To put it bluntly, they had already done more intimate things together, so deliberately avoiding each

other would only seem hypocritical.

It wouldn't be good if Orlando thought she was playing hard to get.

So perhaps staying composed would leave a better impression.

Orlando raised his eyebrows. There was a kitchen in the suite, and his intention was for her to pour the

soup into another bowl.

It was already nine o'clock, and she had delivered soup to a male client. Waiting in the hotel room for

the male client to finish the soup would take at least an hour.

What was she thinking?

Orlando furrowed his brow. He had just been about to ask her to get a bowl from the kitchen, but when

he looked up, he saw Penny had actually fallen asleep on the couch.

Penny was indeed too tired. She hadn't slept all night, driving for hours from Prodale County to

Chatville. Then she had been busy stewing soup. Although she didn't contribute to the soup, she didn't

dare to fall asleep during the process and pushed herself to deliver it. She had also exchanged some

cryptic words with someone downstairs.

Now that she had finally settled down, a strong wave of drowsiness washed over her.

Orlando had never seen anyone fall asleep in less than a minute. Was she pretending?

He approached her and heard her shallow breathing. There were faint dark circles under her eyelids.

He remembered her saying last night that she was going to Prodale County, and he immediately

understood.

Orlando no longer paid attention to her and instead took off his suit, unbuttoning his white shirt.

His figure was clean and neat, with a lean waistline that revealed his slender body.

One could vaguely sense the explosive power beneath his well-defined muscles.

Penny had already experienced his fierceness in bed, but there was obviously no chance to appreciate

it now.

Orlando casually threw his suit aside and went into the bathroom.

When he came out, he saw Penny had pulled his suit over herself, probably feeling cold, and had

covered herself with it.

Orlando frowned and walked up to her, trying to pull the suit out, but Penny held onto it tightly.

A rare trace of annoyance appeared in Orlando's eyes. He couldn't understand how a simple soup

delivery had turned into this.

He took a deep breath and simply shook off the suit, letting her hold onto it.

Just then, Randy Vance called, so he went to the balcony to answer.

"Orlando, do you want to go out for a drink?"

Randy had a smile on his face, holding a glass of wine in his hand. "By the way, I'm working on a new

script recently. If Perry comes to see you, tell me in detail about your interactions with her. Maybe I'll

get some creative inspiration."

"Get lost."

Orlando pretended to hang up, but Randy seemed to sense an unusual atmosphere.

"Your tone seems a bit less gloomy than before. Did I hit the mark? Is that beauty in your bed? Who

said he wanted to save his first time for the night he married into the one from the Bender family?"

Orlando's face immediately darkened, and inexplicably, he thought of his first time with Penny.

That had indeed been his first time, completely following his body's instincts. He hadn't expected to

leave so many marks on her.

What surprised him even more was that the unforgettable night had been spent with a married woman.

His Adam's apple rolled as he dispelled other thoughts from his mind and hung up Randy's call directly.

#### **Chapter 129 The Night Bred Ambiguity**

Chapter 129 The Night Bred Ambiguity

Randy was a screenwriter, skilled at capturing small details and expanding his thoughts from there.

But tonight, he had guessed correctly. Orlando and Penny were sharing a room.

Although they weren't in bed together, for Orlando, this was already an exception.

Furthermore, as he turned and entered the room, he saw Penny's exposed neck, revealing large

patches of skin.

When a woman draped a man's clothes over herself, there was a unique charm to it.

Especially in the dark night, where ambiguity thrived.

Orlando furrowed his brows and went straight into the master bedroom.

He felt that the shower he had just taken wasn't right and he should have taken a cold one.

At the same time, his annoyance grew. Who would sleep in a male client's room without any guard?

Was it just his imagination, or did Penny have ulterior motives?

Orlando's gaze fell on a blanket on the bed, and he thought about how she was still wearing his suit.

He bent down, picked up the blanket, and returned to the living room. Haphazardly, he spread it over

her.

During this process, he didn't look at her face and intentionally created distance between them.

After doing all of this, he didn't care anymore and went back to the master bedroom, lying down on the

bed.

When he didn't have to work overtime, he was disciplined and closed his eyes to rest by ten o'clock.

But when he did have to work for days and nights on end, he never felt tired.

Just as he closed his eyes this time, he heard a sound coming from the living room, as if something

had been kicked.

He intentionally ignored it, blocking out the noise, and fell asleep.

Penny woke up in the middle of the night because she felt a pain in her foot.

She furrowed her brows and rubbed her eyes in confusion.

When she remembered where she was, she quickly stood up.

But because her legs had been curled up for so long, they had gone numb. Furthermore, her ankle was

still injured, so when she moved, she threw herself onto the coffee table.

The glass coffee table toppled over, and the thermos on top, along with a few glass cups, shattered.

Such a loud noise would surely wake Orlando.

With a cold expression, he loosely tied the belt of his robe and opened the door to the master bedroom.

Penny was struggling to get up from the floor, but as soon as she looked up, she saw Orlando standing

next to her with a dark expression on his face.

She knew she was in the wrong, but she didn't have time to worry about the pain.

"Mr. Fletcher, I'm sorry, I..."

Orlando looked at the shattered glass on the floor and then glanced at her exposed palms and ankles,

which were not cut.

Orlando couldn't quite understand why, but whenever he was with Penny, the most absurd things would

happen.

He rubbed his temples with his hand, feeling a throbbing sensation.

After Penny stood up, she felt so embarrassed that she wished she could find a place to hide. Why did

she keep embarrassing herself in front of Orlando?

And why did she fall asleep in a hotel room?

Orlando didn't kick her out, which showed how good his upbringing was.

In his eyes, perhaps there was no difference between her and those women who climbed into bed

recklessly.

Penny sighed.

The other issues were secondary but the most important thing was not to upset the client. If he

terminated the contract in a fit of anger, it would be troublesome.

Although this deal with Orlando was no longer necessary, she had never had a client cancel on her

since she started working.

Moreover, it was Orlando. If the contract was canceled because of this incident, it would be quite

embarrassing.

"Mr. Fletcher, please continue resting. I'll clean up the broken glass and leave."

Orlando looked at her and noticed a hint of exhaustion from her lowered eyelashes. He inexplicably

softened.

"Have you encountered any trouble in Prodale County?"

Penny was taken aback. On such a night, being cared for by someone made her eyes well up with

tears.

"It's already been resolved. I'm just really tired. I apologize."

Her mind had been tormented by Philip and Haley's crying all night, and she hadn't had a moment's

rest. On top of that, she had been infuriated by her useless cousin Noah. On the drive back, her head

was buzzing.

Orlando didn't want to argue with her any further. He turned around and left a parting remark.

"No need to clean up. You can just sleep until morning and then leave."

#### **Chapter 130 She Didn't Want to Owe Too Much to Orlando**

Chapter 130 She Didn't Want to Owe Too Much to Orlando

Penny let out a sigh of relief, feeling utterly exhausted.

However, she still didn't want to stay here until dawn, so she quietly cleaned up the broken glass on the

floor, making sure there were no remnants left. She then opened the door and took out the trash,

forgetting to take the thermos.

But downstairs, she unexpectedly ran into Norah.

Norah looked worn out, limping as she walked, clearly tormented by Gael.

And Penny, due to her injured ankle, also walked with some difficulty.

Norah sneered when she saw Penny. They had similar postures, leaving a hotel in the middle of the

night. It was easy to guess what Penny had been up to.

She had thought Penny was self-contained, but it turned out that she was just like her, secretly selling

herself.

Norah let out a cold snort, crossed her arms, and stood in the elevator, sizing up Penny with a mocking

smile.

"Who were you with tonight? Judging by your appearance, you've been through quite a lot, haven't

you?"

She would be pleased to see Penny's calm appearance crumble, so she spoke bluntly.

"It seems like your sugar daddy is quite satisfied. You must have had a comfortable time tonight. How

much did you earn?"

Penny frowned and ignored her, waiting for the elevator to arrive and then walking out directly.

Norah was infuriated and quickly caught up with her.

"Penny! You better keep tonight's events a secret. Otherwise, I'll reveal to others that you sneakily

accompany people in hotels. Since we're all in the same boat, nobody should despise anyone!"

Her face was filled with satisfaction. She had been worried that Penny would spread the news of her

and Gael's affair at the studio.

But now, Penny was engaging in this dirty business herself. It was as if fate was helping her!

Penny stopped in her tracks. At that moment, she saw a woman walking towards them from outside.

and she had a decent demeanor.

Penny raised her eyebrows and turned to look at Norah.

"Do you know that Gael is married? If his wife finds out about your hotel escapades with him, the

consequences would be unimaginable."

Norah sneered, straightening her posture.

"Mr. Bray said that he didn't care about that tigress at home anymore. He only likes me now. Penny, I

can see that you're jealous of my affair with Gael. After all, you worked with him for three years, and he

never made a move on you."

Penny couldn't understand Norah. When did seducing someone else's husband become a point of

pride?

Women who took pride in seducing men were just as frivolous as men who took pride in sleeping with

many women.

She didn't consider that she might be devaluing herself.

Norah was about to continue mocking Penny when she saw a woman rushing towards them from the

entrance. The woman swung her crocodile-skin handbag and smashed it onto Norah's head.

"You fox! You slut!"

Caught off guard, Norah's head spun for a moment. Furious, she pushed the woman away.

"You crazy woman!"

The woman smirked and raised her hand, slapping Norah.

"If you have the guts to seduce someone's husband, why don't you have the guts to admit it? I am the

tigress you mentioned. So, you're the one who frequently calls him. You slut! Tonight, I'll beat you to

death!"

Meanwhile, Penny took the opportunity to leave the hotel.

Because she had worked with Gael for several years, she had caught a glimpse of his wife before and

recognized her just now. That's why she deliberately asked Norah the question.

Norah was quite clear in her explanation.

Penny smiled and drove back to Hills Villa.

When Orlando woke up in the morning and went outside, he found that Penny was no longer here.

The suit and blanket were neatly folded and placed on the sofa, and the broken glass on the floor had

been cleaned up.

He didn't say anything and changed into a new suit, intending to go to the Fletcher Group.

The lingering scent of her presence inside the room was impossible to ignore.

There was a message notification on the phone, sent by Penny. It was another pending payment.

It was for the coffee table and a few cups that were damaged last night.

Because this suite was prepared long-term for Orlando, everything inside belonged to him personally.

Penny didn't compensate the hotel, but instead compensated Orlando directly.

Orlando raised his eyebrows and clicked the refund.

He entered the bathroom, intending to shave, but when he picked up the razor, he felt a sharp pain in

his palm. Only then, he remembered that his right hand was injured.

He furrowed his brows subconsciously.

Upon seeing the refund, Penny felt a slight heaviness in her heart.

Orlando didn't ask her to repay the money for the umbrella last time, and now this again. If she were in

Orlando's shoes, she would probably be fed up by now.

Penny rubbed her forehead, thought for a moment, and decided to go to the mall. She planned to

choose a pair of cufflinks as a gift to be sent to the Fletcher Group.

However, she still had to compensate Orlando for the 1.5 million dollars. She had already depleted her

savings to buy a house, so she definitely couldn't come up with that money. She could only go to

Cason Stuart for help.

The items Penny damaged last night amounted to more than 35 thousand dollars. She chose a pair of

cufflinks that were worth about the same amount, which alleviated some of her mental burden.

She didn't want to owe too much to Orlando.