

## **Chapter 31 Penny Is Awkward**

### Chapter 31 Penny Is Awkward

Lydia hadn't expected to hear that.

She was a bit surprised that Penny even knew that Orlando was married.

After all, few people in the upper class knew this, and those who did even disdained Orlando's nominal

wife.

They all thought that as just a common family, the Stuart family was not qualified for this business

marriage with the Fletcher family.

"Do you mean the woman who hasn't even shown her face?"

Lydia scoffed, "You probably don't know that she hasn't even attended the New Year's meal of the

Fletcher family these years, and no one in the Fletcher family has admitted her identity. Therefore,

she's Mrs. Fletcher only in name."

In fact, even many people had doubted whether Penny was too ugly to show her face.

Lydia's words were true. Penny was indeed transparent in the Fletcher family, and Rex was the only

one who cared for her.

Hearing that, Penny was not angry but just said, "No matter whether Mrs. Fletcher has attended the

New Year's meal or not, her marriage to Orlando is a fact. As long as the marriage certificate is there,

other women who try to attract Orlando's attention should be morally condemned, shouldn't they?"

Lydia realized that she was no match for Penny in the argument.

She knew that if they continued this topic, Angie would become a homewrecker who coveted someone

else's husband.

Lydia blushed with anger and sneered, "Aren't you the same? You're indeed beautiful, but don't think

that Orlando will be interested in you just because of that. He has loved my cousin for ten years."

"I don't think Mr. Fletcher is such an affectionate man."

As soon as Penny had finished speaking, a man's indifferent and cold voice came from the door.

"Then what kind of man should he be?"

Penny was a bit awkward, and she thought in confusion, "Didn't he go to the meeting?"

Orlando stood there calmly. As Lydia had not closed the door when she entered, he had heard the

whole conversation between the two.

When Penny realized it, her expression was a little unnatural.

Lydia's face, however, lit up with joy, and she went over to Orlando with a snort.

"Orlando, aren't you going to have a meeting?"

Orlando gave her a faint glance, and his voice was as cold as snow.

He said casually, "Ms. Perry is right. After all, I am married. And, we're boss and employee, so you'd

better call me Mr. Fletcher in the future to avoid any misunderstanding."

Lydia hung her head reluctantly and muttered, "I see."

After a deep glance at Penny, Orlando took the watch on a shelf beside him, put it on, and turned to

leave.

Penny stood in place and thought in regret, "Why did I argue with someone like Lydia? Looks like I

have offended my client."

With a sigh, she picked up the bag that had been left in place and went to the innermost side to change

her clothes. After that, she took the key and went straight to Royal Green.

After wandering around Royal Green and examining the general surroundings, she drove away.

She had made a mental note of the layout of Royal Green and other gardening designs around it, but

she had not even inquired about the owner's hobbies.

Orlando was indeed unpredictable, and she really knew nothing of his hobbies.

As she passed by a mall, Penny remembered that today was Lana's birthday. Therefore, she parked

her car and planned to buy a gift for her.

Unexpectedly, as soon as she walked to the diamond necklace area, she saw Colin.

There was a beautiful woman beside Colin. The two seemed to have quarreled, and the woman

slapped Colin hard in the face.

Penny stopped walking, regretting that she had stepped into the mall.

She thought, "No wonder there aren't many people around. It seems that this place has been cleared

by someone, and I happened to bump into their quarrel. What an embarrassing thing!"

"You scum!"

The woman cursed and ran away crying, carrying her bag.

Penny felt very awkward. When she was about to pretend not to have seen anything and sneak out,

she was stopped by Colin, "Penny, I didn't expect to meet you here. Are you here for shopping?"

Penny could only stop and brace herself to greet Colin, "Mr. Levine."

There was a slap on Colin's young and handsome face, but he didn't mind it. With a careless look, he

said, "I heard you made a deal with Orlando. Congratulations."

"It's all thanks to you, Mr. Levine. Thank you for your recommendation."

Colin rubbed his head. "It's not a big deal."

"Well, it may not be a big deal to you, Mr. Levine, but it's a timely help for me. I should treat you to dinner."

"I don't need that. If you really want to help me, there's a chance now."

"What?"

Penny looked a bit surprised. Then she saw Colin sigh with a troubled expression.

"As you have just seen, I was dumped by my girlfriend. Now I want to hire you as my girlfriend to meet someone. Anyway, you don't know her, so just pretend to be my girlfriend. It won't take long, at most half an hour."

Hearing that, Penny didn't know how to refuse.

"After all, the deal with Orlando is indeed thanks to him, so just consider it as a way of repaying his favor," she thought.

With that in mind, Penny nodded. "Okay."

Seeing her consent, Colin casually grabbed the necklace beside him and handed it to her. "This is your reward."

Penny wanted to refuse, but Colin waved his hand. "As long as you help me solve this problem, I will introduce more clients to your studio in the future."

Penny found it even more difficult to refuse.

However, when they arrived at a restaurant, she finally realized that it was his mother whom Colin had asked her to meet.

Colin's mother was called Nancy Fletcher, and she was Orlando's aunt.

## **Chapter 32 Nancy Is Satisfied with Penny**

Chapter 32 Nancy Is Satisfied with Penny

Penny stood at the door of the restaurant, feeling a dilemma.

Colin was right behind her and said softly, "The woman sitting in front of the floor-to-ceiling window over

there is my mother. She is not easy to fool, and if I can walk out alive today, you will be my savior."

The corners of Penny's lips twitched, and she unconsciously bent her head to hide her face, but Nancy

had already looked over.

Upon noticing her gaze, Colin stiffened.

"Sorry to offend you."

With that, he took Penny by the waist and led her towards Nancy.

Nancy's gaze was sharp, and she glanced up and down at the two of them.

In a gentlemanly manner, Colin drew out a chair for Penny, and his eyes were smiling.

"Mom, this is my girlfriend, and she is an interior designer. Just call her Penny."

Penny's mind was blank, and after sitting down, her rationality slowly returned.

"Judging from Nancy's expression, she probably doesn't know me," she thought.

Penny breathed a sigh of relief and then said to herself in her heart, "Fortunately, I'm about to divorce

Orlando and will soon have nothing to do with the Fletcher family. But now, in order to repay Mr.

Levine's favor, I have to pretend to be his girlfriend."

Therefore, she greeted, "Nice to meet you, Ms. Fletcher."

Penny's facial features were very exquisite and strong. Coupled with her fair skin and unique

demeanor, she was clearly different from those pretentious and pettish girls that Colin used to like.

Nancy withdrew her gaze and was very satisfied with Penny.

"I thought you would casually find a woman to fool me. Colin, you've really grown up."

Colin did plan to casually find a woman to meet Nancy, and he even went to one of his ex-girlfriends for

help. Unexpectedly, while buying her a gift, he made a mistake and was slapped on the spot.

Fortunately, the slap was not very heavy, and the fingerprints on his face were not visible for the time

being.

"Mom, Perry is very outstanding. You should know Royal Green, the new house Orlando bought, right?"

She's the interior designer of it. Therefore, don't worry, I really haven't been dating those dubious women anymore."

Nancy knew that anyone who was chosen by Orlando was very capable.

The more she looked at Penny, the more satisfied she became. "Here's a gift for our first meeting."

Nancy took a bracelet from her wrist and handed it to Penny.

Penny didn't dare to accept it at all. "Ms. Fletcher, thanks for your kindness, but I can't take it. I didn't

bring any gifts with me today."

Nancy glanced at Colin a little angrily and said, "Colin did not even buy you a gift, did he?"

She then looked at Penny's outfit and saw that although the fabric was good, the design was simple,

and the bag in her hand was also cheap.

She put the bracelet directly around Penny's wrist and said, "Take it. This is what I have prepared for

my future daughter-in-law. Don't feel stressed. I know my son well. He's still young and immature. If you

are afraid that you two will not make it to the end, that's fine. Even if you break up with him one day, the

gift I gave you is still yours."

Penny pursed her lips and decided to give it back to Colin later.

Nancy looked at her son with relief.



"It seems that I have made the right decision to put you in the Fletcher Group."

"Mom, I came here today for this. I was too busy at the Fletcher Group to spend much time with Perry.

Therefore, I don't want to stay at the Fletcher Group anymore. Can you tell Orlando about this? I

promise, as long as you help me this time, I'll give you a grandson within two years."

Nancy put Colin to work at the Fletcher Group, not just to exercise him but to keep him away from

dubious women.

Now that she knew Colin had a good girlfriend, she naturally did not want him to lose Penny because of

his busy schedule.

Her gaze turned to Penny, and her tone was gentle.

She asked, "Perry, can you help me keep an eye on Colin?"

Penny nodded. Although her expression was faint, it was extremely sincere.

"Please don't worry, Ms.

Fletcher. Colin is actually a very honest and righteous man."

Upon hearing this, Nancy chuckled and said to Colin, "Fine, you don't need to go back to the Fletcher

Group later. Just go out and date Penny to deepen your relationship."

Colin's eyes lit up, for his goal today was achieved.

After a happy meal, Colin said goodbye to Nancy. Then he grabbed Penny's wrist and left with her.

He did not let go of her until they were in the car. "Sorry, my mother really doesn't like my previous

girlfriends, and she has only shown a relatively good face to my ex-girlfriend. That was why I wanted

her to act with me in front of my mother."

Penny took the bracelet from her wrist and said, "Here you are.

"I really can't accept it. Judging from its color and patterns, it should be very expensive. And, Ms.

Fletcher has also said that this is for her future daughter-in-law."

Seeing her so persistent, Colin took it over and said, "Don't worry, I'll introduce more clients to you in

the future. I'll also hand over the houses under my name to you to design. By the way, where do you

live now? Let me drive you back."

Penny gave him the address of her apartment.

What neither of them knew was that on their way back, Nancy had arrived at the Fletcher Group and

was sitting in Orlando's office.

"Nancy, why did you suddenly come over?"

Nancy sat down on the sofa, and her eyes were still smiling as she thought of the girl she had just met.

"It's indeed the right decision to put Colin in your company. I'm very satisfied with his new girlfriend."

Orlando was surprised that Colin had a new girlfriend now.

He couldn't help but frown, and Nancy continued, "I have just met the girl for the first time, and I didn't

ask too much. I heard from Colin that the girl is now designing a house for you. Have you had any

contact with her? How about her family background and working abilities?"

### **Chapter 33 Orlando Is Confused**

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Orlando's hands flipping through the documents froze. He slowly raised his head and looked at Nancy

in confusion.

Nancy chuckled, "Does Colin even hide it from you?"

Nancy knew that Colin was a little afraid of Orlando, but she had not expected that he would not even

dare to tell Orlando that he had a new girlfriend.

"He said he was too busy to spend time with his girlfriend. I think since you chose that girl's design, she

should be very capable. Also, she has a pleasing appearance."

"Are you talking about Perry?"

Orlando frowned and thought, "Isn't she married?"

Nancy smiled and said, "Yes. It's the first time I've been so satisfied with Colin's girlfriend. Since she

works with you, for my sake, don't make things difficult for her, in case she may become our family in the future."

Orlando's face slowly turned cold.

"Don't worry. I won't embarrass her."

Seeing Nancy get up, Orlando also stood up and walked her to the exclusive elevator.

Nancy remembered something and suddenly stopped walking. "Orlando, Colin has already had a good

girlfriend, so you should also think for yourself. We haven't seen the daughter of the Stuart family and

don't know her appearance. Since your grandfather likes her, that means she's quite a nice girl. Why

don't you try to get along with her?"

"Nancy, there is no possibility between me and her."

Nancy knew that he had always done what he said, so she put her sunglasses back on.

"Then take care of yourself and don't always skip meals. Your stomach disease is already very serious."

Orlando smiled helplessly. "I know."

After seeing off Nancy, he turned around and returned to his office.

Zane happened to come in with coffee, and, noticing that Orlando's face was a bit cold, he couldn't help

but ask, "Did Mr. Levine cause trouble again?"

Orlando sneered, "He didn't cause any trouble, but he took a liking to someone else's wife."

The corners of Zane's mouth twitched, and he thought, "I only know that he changes his girlfriend very

frequently. Why did his taste suddenly change this time?"

Orlando's eyes were cold, and he thought, "I know Colin is always not sensible, but why did that

woman mess around with him?

Doesn't she keep saying that she loves her husband very much?"

Orlando lowered his eyes and saw the text message he had sent to his nominal wife last night.

With a frown, he set an accurate time and informed her.

[Orlando: Let's meet at twelve o'clock.]

Penny's phone rang as soon as she got out of Colin's car.

She took it out and remembered that she was about to discuss her divorce with Orlando.

"Thank you, Mr. Levine."

Colin rolled down the front window and said with a bright smile, "See you, and we are friends now."

Penny felt funny and smiled back at him.

After Colin had left, Penny walked to the gate of her apartment complex. As soon as she stepped in,

she heard a weak voice from behind her.

"Penny."

Penny stopped and looked back. Then she saw Lana standing under a nearby tree, her face pale.

Penny finally knew why she hadn't seen Lana just now, for the place where she stood happened to be

a blind spot.

"Lana? Why did you leave the hospital?"

Lana coughed slightly, feeling very confused.

She thought, "Who is the strange man who just drove Penny back?"

Although the man is driving a limousine and looks very handsome, I'm pretty sure he's not Orlando.

A long time ago, I caught a glimpse of Orlando from a distance and felt that such a person was just like

a noble gentleman in the painting. He's really unforgettable.

The man just now is not bad, but there is still a gap between him and Orlando."

Thinking of this, Lana said, "I asked Dad to help me get discharged. I want to go home and rest. Penny,

are you not going back to the Stuart's mansion for dinner tonight? Did you forget that today is my

birthday?"

Penny had never been very clear about Lana's attitude towards her. She could understand Helen's

hatred towards her, but she couldn't figure out why Lana was so respectful to her.

"No, I didn't. I'm going back to the Stuart's mansion tonight, but I have something else to do now. I'll go back after I get it done. Here's a gift for you."

She took out the necklace she had bought. In fact, Colin had bought one for her, but she did not think it was right to give away the gift she had received.

Therefore, she bought Lana a necklace in the same style.

Lana opened the box in surprise. "Thank you, Penny. I like it very much!"

Seeing her face blush, Penny was worried that she might catch a cold. Therefore, she drove her car

out and said, "Get in the car, and I'll drive you back home now."

Lana nodded and sat down in the passenger seat.

"Penny, Dad may mention the Fletcher family again tonight. You'd better get yourself ready."

Penny pursed her lips. In fact, she had already guessed it. "I know."

Lana paused for a moment and then couldn't help but ask, "Penny, do you really not like Orlando?"

## **Chapter 34 Penny's Compromise**

Chapter 34 Penny's Compromise

"Yes."

Penny responded casually. As she did not like talking about this, her attitude was somewhat cold.

A gleam of joy flickered in Lana's eyes as she rejoiced at Penny's answer.

Penny parked the car in the courtyard of the Stuart's mansion, and she had intended to leave right after dropping Lana off.

However, it happened that Cason was watering flowers in the courtyard, and Talon was with him.

Penny frowned at that, and Lana had already gotten out of the car and run over.

"Dad, Talon."

Cason was explaining the company's affairs to Talon, and when he saw Penny's car from a distance, he stopped.

Penny could only get out of the car to greet him, "Dad."

Cason handed the kettle in his hand to a servant and sighed softly, "Welcome back home. Get in."

Helen has made a lot of delicious food tonight, and I also have something to tell you."

However, Penny still had to go to meet Orlando, and there was not much time left now.

Therefore, she said, "Dad, I have something else to do now. Let's talk about it later."

"It's about the company."

Cason raised his hand and patted Talon's back with a serious and satisfied expression.

Penny suddenly felt a bad foreboding.

The next moment, she heard Cason continue, "Talon hasn't had any serious job in recent years, so his

mother asked me to let him intern at the company. I've read his report, and I know he's been working

really hard lately. What do you think?"

Penny didn't speak, and her eyes were calm, for she had already guessed it.

She thought, "Well, Helen is really a smart woman. Now she wants to put her son in the company. In



the future, she may even find a way to let her son inherit everything from the Stuart family."

"Penny, it's rare for us to get together. Let's get in and have a nice chat. Dad was just talking about you."

Penny looked over at Talon expressionlessly. Talon was smiling brightly, and his tone sounded like he was Penny's real brother.

From the moment Penny entered, however, his gaze was riveted upon her, and his eyes were dark.

He and Lana each stood by Cason's side and occasionally said something to please Cason.

Although Penny was not far away, there seemed to be an invisible wall between them.

She was like an outsider who had suddenly intruded, and she felt very out of place.

Penny was silent for a moment, feeling an indescribable loss.

Then she said, "Dad, I really have something else to do."

As soon as she had finished speaking, the smile on Cason's face gradually subsided. "Penny, I know

how nice Lana has been to you all these years. Today is her birthday, and she insisted on getting

discharged early in order to celebrate it at home. Do you have to leave now?"

His tone was grave.

Lana quickly took Penny's hand and said, "Penny, let's get in."

After saying that, she turned to Cason. "Dad, don't be angry. Penny just doesn't know how to express herself."

Penny slowly broke free from Lana's hand.

Then she said bluntly, "I have an appointment with Orlando to discuss divorce at exactly twelve o'clock."

Her tone was very casual, and as she lifted her eyes, she saw Cason raise his palm with a furious expression.

"You!"

However, he still didn't slap Penny in the end. With a black face, he drew a few heavy breaths. Then he covered his chest and fell back.

Lana and Talon quickly supported him. "Dad!!"

Helen, who was in the house, heard the noise and came out to see the scene. She was so scared that she quickly called for the family doctor.

She then pushed away Penny, who was about to help Cason.

The next moment, she pointed to Penny's nose and scolded harshly, "If you're not willing to come back,

just stay away from us forever. Your father has not had a good night's sleep these days for the company. How could you treat him like this?"

Penny's face was tense, and the family doctor rushed to the scene amid the chaos.

After being pressed against his chest several times, Cason finally woke up and waved his hand feebly.

Penny looked at him, and her eyes grew red. "Dad, I..."

Before she could finish speaking, she was interrupted by Cason. He took a few deep breaths and then

said, "Penny, your mother passed away early. I have neglected many of your feelings, which have

caused your present estrangement from me.

"If you really want to divorce Orlando, I will not stop you, but at least do that after the company's

second funding is over, okay? Please."

Penny lowered her eyes and finally nodded in compromise.

Helen snorted coldly when she saw how reluctantly Penny was, "Don't you know who Orlando is? It's a

blessing that you can be his wife, okay?"

Penny somehow found it hard to breathe, as if her heart had been clasped by a hand.

She did not want to stay here and spoil their fun.

Therefore, she whispered, "Dad, have a good rest, and I'll come see you later."

"Do you still want to divorce Orlando?"

"I'll discuss with him to postpone the divorce."

Cason finally breathed a sigh of relief. As if exhausted, he did not say another word.

Penny walked out of the courtyard and checked the time. It was already ten past twelve.

She couldn't help but think in worry, "Is Orlando still at the Fletcher's mansion?"

Will he agree to postpone the divorce?"

## **Chapter 35 You Don't Have to Stay Here**

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Penny got in the car in a disturbed mood. When she arrived at the Fletcher's mansion, she was twenty

minutes late.

The maid opened the door and saw Penny, a trace of displeasure flashing across her eyes.

She said, "Ms. Stuart, what do you come here again for? Mrs. Fletcher is not at home."

Penny didn't see anyone in the living room except several cleaning maids.

She raised her head and intended to ask if Orlando had come, but the maid turned around impatiently.

It was not surprising. Whenever Penny came, Keely gave her the cold shoulder. The maids were smart

and knew Penny would be divorced sooner or later, so they didn't even bother to be polite to her.

"Who has come?"

The door to the garden was pushed open, and a pretty girl stood there and said with a faint smile, "Is

she the new maid? She's good-looking."

There was no malice in her eyes, and she asked innocently.

The maid chuckled softly, a trace of contempt flashing across her eyes.

However, Penny was not angry as the maid expected and said lightly, "No. The maids here wear

uniforms. I come to see Mr. Fletcher."

She was calm and didn't feel offended.

The girl realized she had asked a stupid question and quickly apologized, "I'm sorry, but I didn't notice

that. Are you looking for my cousin? He left half an hour ago."

Cousin?

Penny looked Zoey up and down and smiled. "Okay. Thank you for telling me."

Zoey could see that Penny came for business and felt guilty for misunderstanding her, so she added.

"I guess my cousin has returned to the Fletcher group for a meeting. I heard him talking on the phone. I

think he managed to find time to come back."

After she spoke, Zoey looked at the maid with a frown. "This lady is a guest. Why didn't you serve her

tea? Don't you know how to treat a guest well?"

The maid pressed her lips. When she was about to retort, Penny made a remark.

"It's okay."

The maid let out a sigh of relief. When she heard that Penny put in a good word for her, the maid got

bold and said, "Ms. Fletcher, see? She said it was okay."

"Do you think so?" Zoey said coldly, "You don't have to stay here."

The maid was frightened. She was well-paid by the Fletcher family. If she lost the job...

She looked at Penny pleadingly, but the latter didn't say a word.

Penny was not offended if the maid treated her coldly one or two times, but the latter gave her the cold

shoulder every time she came here, and that meant the maid didn't know what she should do.

Moreover, it was not Penny's decision to fire the maid. A Fletcher intended to do that.

The maid turned pale and trembled all over, being taken out of the house.

Zoey looked at Penny and asked, "What are you to Orlando?"

"I'm an interior designer."

"I know. You're the designer for Royal Green. Everyone is inquiring about you. It's not easy to be

chosen by my cousin."

A trace of excitement came across Zoey's eyes, and she took a few steps toward Penny. "I'm Zoey. I'm

nineteen years old. You look my age. You're awesome."

Zoey was only nineteen years old and was adored by the whole family. She was like a princess in a

fairy tale.

"Thank you. Getting this contract has been quite a coup for me."

Zoey was simple and had never suspected why an interior designer would come to see Orlando at

Fletcher's mansion. If Penny had come for business, she should have gone to the Fletcher Group.

"You're too modest. My compliment is sincere. I didn't expect you to be so pretty and capable. You're

much better than Angie."

It was rare to meet someone she liked, and Zoey began to ramble. "I think you're prettier than

Orlando's wife. I've never met her, so I don't know what she's like."

Penny pressed her lips slightly. Although she didn't show her face at Fletcher's mansion, she lived on

the lips of everyone in the family.

Zoey was curious about Penny and pulled her to sit down. "I do have friends who are inquiring about

you. I wonder if you have time. They'd like to invite you to look at their houses."

Penny had long ago known about the benefit of taking Orlando's order. She would get famous.

However, she was surprised. She chuckled softly and shook her head.

"Ms. Fletcher, I'm sorry, but I don't plan to take the other orders while I serve Mr. Fletcher. If your

friends like to renovate their houses, they can go to my colleagues."

"Oh, I see."

Zoey was disappointed, but her eyes soon lit up. "Since you're a designer, you must know about

drawing. Follow me, please."

She took Penny's hand eagerly and headed upstairs.

Zoey was staying at Fletcher's mansion these days because it was close to the meeting place where

she would sketch with her friends.

"Could you please look at this drawing? Are there any improvements I need to make? I've been

thinking about it the whole afternoon."

Zoey pursed her lips and said, "I planned to ask my cousin to help me, but he looked sulky, so I didn't

dare to mention it. I heard he was to meet his wife here, but she stood him up."

## Chapter 36 Our Heroine Is Back

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Zoey was as innocent as a child. As she spoke, her eyes glowed. She involuntarily chattered away.

Perhaps Penny usually dealt with unreasonable people, so she rarely felt relaxed when she was with

Zoey.

Penny looked at Zoey's drawing without saying a word.

Zoey held the painting brush and sighed.

She didn't expect Penny to give any constructive advice in the beginning. Suddenly, Penny took a

painting brush on the side and made a few strokes on the drawing.

The dull drawing instantly came to life, and even the lines became vivid.

Zoey widened her eyes involuntarily and rubbed her eyes.

"Did... Did you only change the color? My goodness! It seems totally different. Did you learn drawing

before?"

Judging from Penny's skillful strokes and the way she mixed the colors, Zoey knew she was an expert.

Penny nodded and put down the painting brush.

"You've got a good start, but you need to improve on the combination of colors."

Zoey blushed with excitement and smiled brightly.

"I know. I'm confident with this drawing after you made the adjustment. In fact, I'm going to sign up for a

competition with this drawing. My mentor asked me to come back and get some inspiration. I wanted to

ask my cousin, but he... Why did his wife stand him up? That's too bad."

Zoey complained and stared at Penny with bright eyes.

"Thank you. Are you Perry? Where do you live? Can I come to see you often in the future?"

Penny frowned. It was not that she didn't like Zoey. She was worried that if she got in touch with Zoey,

the Fletcher family would think she had ulterior motives.

"I'm sorry, but it's not convenient."

Zoey was naïve and didn't realize it was a tactful refusal.

She had never been refused before.

"Let's friend each other on WhatsApp."

Penny thought for a while and told Zoey about her work account.

After Zoey happily friended Penny, she started to mix the color.

"Please sit here for a while. I'll finish it soon. Your advice somehow inspired me suddenly."

Penny didn't bother Zoey, who mixed the colors and gossiped.

"This drawing room belongs to my cousin. He used to read here."

Was this Orlando's room?

Penny couldn't help looking around. The style of the room was average, but there were several hollow-

up decorations on the walls, and it looked dainty when the light shone through the crevices. It could be

seen that it was delicately designed.

At this point, Penny was thinking worriedly about how she should explain it to Orlando. However, she

couldn't help secretly studying the decoration of the room.

Was this the style that Orlando liked?

The door and the cabinets were made of dark brown wood. Penny thought they should be customized.

Even the doorknob was exquisite.

It could be seen that the owner of the room had a fine taste and was meticulous about details.

At this moment, Penny was grateful to Zoey. She had been trying to figure out what style Orlando liked,

but she failed to get any useful information from him.



Now that Zoey ushered her into the private place of Orlando, she could see the unique taste of the man.

"My cousin added some small things to the room. Do you see the hollow-out design?"

That was Penny's favorite part of the room. The light came out of the hollow-out creeks, which should look like a mirage at night.

When the light was off in the room, the light from the hollow-out decorations on the wall shone on the corner, which turned into a place for contemplation.

Penny suddenly remembered Colin said Orlando was not only a tycoon in business but also a genius in art.

"What do you think? Does my cousin have a fine taste?"

Zoey put down her painting brush and said proudly. It could be seen that she admired her cousin a lot.

After she spoke, Zoey said with a frown, "But it's a pity that my grandpa asked my cousin to marry a

worthless woman. Although I don't like Angie, who's pretentious, at least, she is well-educated and

good-looking. And his wife... I feel upset for my cousin."

Penny was speechless.

She felt complicated, thinking more firmly that she couldn't expose her identity.

If Zoey knew that she was the worthless wife of Orlando, Penny didn't know how the girl would react.

Penny hoped she wouldn't meet Zoey again in the future.

After Zoey complained, she realized she had talked too much about that and quickly changed the subject.

"Can I ask for your advice on WhatsApp if I encounter any problems?"

"Yes, but I gotta go now."

"I'll walk you to the gate."

After leaving Fletcher's mansion, Penny went straight back to the studio.

Meanwhile, Zoey sent a message to Penny and expressed her gratitude, but Penny didn't look at it.

Upon entering the office, Penny saw Kale.

A female colleague named Norah Kirk was standing next to him.

According to Clare, it was the woman that kept pestering Kale.

When Norah saw Penny, she turned sullen and forced a smile with jealousy in her eyes.

"There you are. Our heroine is back."

## **Chapter 37 A Risky Gamble**

Chapter 37 A Risky Gamble

Penny knew Norah was ridiculing her on purpose.

She didn't give any response and went to sit at her desk.

Norah felt annoyed. She thought if Kale gave her the chance to get in touch with Orlando, she could

also seal the deal.

After all, Orlando chose the studio because Kale was his high schoolmate, and it had nothing to do with

Penny's capability.

Penny was lucky to have the chance and got famous because of this.

Norah wondered why all the good things happened to Penny.

There seemed to be a bomb in Norah's chest, and it could go off at any time.

Now that Penny was indifferent to her, Norah grew angrier.

She said, "Do you think you can climb up the social ladder after Orlando asked you to design the

interior of the house? He loves someone else. Everyone in Chatville knows that he's waiting for her. He

will live at Royal Green after he gets married."

Interior designers had more chances than ordinary people to get in touch with rich men. Several

designers were rumored to make out with their customers and get caught on the spot by their wives.

Norah was beautiful and had been trying to climb up the social ladder. Pleasing Kale was only her first step.

However, she got nothing from it.

Nora had been coveting the chance to meet Orlando. She mentioned it to Kale many times and even

invited him to go out with her on her birthday.

However, Kale said he was not a friend of Orlando, and she had to rely on herself.

Norah didn't believe him. How could Penny have met Orlando if Kale had not been his friend?

She failed to win Kale over, but Penny managed to do that. With Kale's help, Penny got the business

from Orlando successfully.

Norah was resentful. They both had the same purpose, but how could Penny appear so aloof?

That was disgusting.

Norah's mocking words were evident, and Penny wouldn't ignore it. She looked up at Norah.

"Ms. Kirk, are you talking about me?"

Norah snorted coldly and said, "Who else do you think?"

Penny nodded and said approvingly, "Indeed, no one has won the order of Orlando but me."

Her words stung Norah like steel needles, who blushed with anger. "Don't be so arrogant. Orlando

gave you the business because of Mr. Pratt. What does it have anything to do with you?"

Kale frowned. He knew he played a minor role in this business, and Penny made it all by herself.

"Norah."

Kale didn't want them to make a scene. The studio was getting better, and Norah was competent.

Norah felt aggrieved, her eyes turning red. "Mr. Pratt, I know you and Penny went to the same college,

but you can't favor her so much."

Her words found an echo in the hearts of the staff in the studio.

Kale explained, "I didn't help her get the business from Orlando. He didn't remember me even though

we went to the same high school. Penny managed to get his recognition by herself."

Everyone couldn't help complaining inwardly.

Wasn't he helping Penny again?

Penny couldn't bring herself to put Kale in a difficult position. The studio was not big, after all. He had

been striving for a relaxing working place, so everyone here got along like partners except for

meetings.

Penny got to her feet slowly.

"If anyone is unconvinced, he can inquire about Orlando's personal preferences and turn in his design

drawing to Mr. Pratt, who will hand it over to Orlando. It's up to Orlando to choose the designer."

She suggested that her design drawing would be handed over too.

And it would be done anonymously.

Penny looked at the others calmly and asked, "Does anyone want to have a try?"

She had long known that many people in the studio disliked her, let alone make friends with her. She

didn't care about what they thought of her.

After all, the most important thing for a designer was to satisfy the customers instead of being worldly.

Since they were unconvinced, she would let them lose again.

Penny's invitation angered Norah, who slapped the table and said, "Okay. I dare you to ask Orlando to

choose from the anonymous design drawings. Do you think you are capable? All of us graduated from

famous colleges. What are you? Orlando wouldn't have paid attention to you if it weren't Mr. Pratt."

Penny remained calm.

"So, do you dare to turn in your design drawing?"

Norah grew angrier and glanced at the others quietly.

Everyone in the studio was well aware of Penny's strength. Every design of hers got high praise from

the customers. As a result, they got the benefit from it.

However, it embarrassed them to take a free ride from a dabbler. After all, they were professional

designers.

It would be much more embarrassing if they took the challenge and Orlando chose Penny in the end.

Perhaps they couldn't stay in the design industry if they lost.

It was a risky gamble.

## **Chapter 38 Why Should I Help You**

### Chapter 38 Why Should I Help You

Norah instantly got flustered. Although she was the one who started it, she didn't want to take the

challenge.

Therefore, she looked at the others in the studio. However, when the people met her gaze, they quickly

looked away without any intention of getting involved.

It was difficult for Norah to back down, and she was furious.

Didn't these people complain about Penny a lot? Why didn't they dare to take the challenge at this moment?

Norah clenched her hands tightly and dug her fingernails hard into her palms.

"Penny, it's not fair at all. Orlando chose you, and he must have told you his personal preferences. We

know nothing about it. How can we beat you?"

Norah made up an excuse. Even if she lost the game, she could say it was because Penny had more

advantages from the beginning.

Penny would win in disgrace.

However, Penny looked up and said lightly, "You don't have to find so many excuses if you don't want

to compete with me."

She had been calm from the beginning. Compared with Norah's anger and excuses, Penny was

confident and composed.

Her words baffled Norah, who felt ashamed.

Norah said inwardly, "Why doesn't this bitch stop ridiculing me? Why does she have to embarrass me

so much?"

"What taste does Orlando have? How did he fancy her design?"

Although Norah cursed inwardly, she didn't dare to speak her mind.

However, she couldn't give up on it. If she didn't take the challenge, how could she gain her ground in

the studio from now on?

Moreover, if she could meet Orlando with Penny, he might like her after seeing her countenance and

figure.

Norah suddenly changed her mind. "I'll take the challenge, but you have to take me to meet Orlando."

Penny frowned. Why should she take Norah with her?

Norah continued, "You will meet him a lot in the future, won't you? You can take me along as your

colleague. I won't disturb you. What, are you afraid that Orlando prefers me after knowing about my

design?"

When she said the last sentence, Norah felt heat in her body.

Orlando's face, figure, and demeanor appealed deeply to all the women. If he fancied her, she didn't

have to stay in such a small studio.

Norah blushed. Penny saw her through without saying much.

She found Norah funny. Orlando had been waiting for his beloved woman for years. How could he get

involved with other women easily?

As his wife in the name, she hadn't met him once during the three years after they got married. Why did

Norah think Orlando would fall for her if he took a glance at her?

Penny didn't want to argue with Norah anymore. She said with a frown, "Since we're opponents, why

should I take you along when I go to see him?"

Her words baffled Norah, who felt anger surging in her chest.

What a bitch!

Her chest heaving up and down in anger, and Norah glared at Penny resentfully.

Penny took the materials from her desk and left after telling Kale.

She was only a part-time employee here. She didn't have to stay long.

Watching Penny leave indifferently, Norah felt more resentful.

She had to snatch the business from Penny! There must be other ways to hook up with Orlando.

Kale raised his hand and rubbed his forehead. "Norah, Orlando is married, but the media didn't report

it."

He was asking Norah not to do unnecessary things and disgrace the studio.

"How can it be possible?"

Norah instinctively retorted, but Kale was firm about it.

"His cousin told me so."

Kale didn't tell her that Orlando was going to divorce his wife, fearing that Norah would resort to risky

methods.

However, Norah's eyes glowed. She quickly recovered from the shock and calmed down.

There was no news about the wedding. It could be seen Orlando's wife didn't have a high social status.

Otherwise, the media would have gotten wind of it.

Norah had thought she wouldn't have any chance to meet Orlando, but she now planned to start with

Orlando's wife.

## **Chapter 39 She Was More Eager to Divorce**

Chapter 39 She Was More Eager to Divorce

On the top floor of the Fletcher Group.

Orlando sat behind the desk with a sullen face.

He found time to return to Fletcher's mansion, but that woman boldly stood him up.

His bad opinion of her got worse.

The door to the office was pushed open, and Zane came in with a stack of documents.

"Orlando, the overseas doctor called and said Rex was going through the procedure and would come

back in around a week."

That was too quick.



Orlando raised his hand and rubbed his forehead. After a long while, he looked up at Zane and said

lightly, "Ask the lawyer to draft a new contract. The Fletcher Group is willing to help the Stuart family

with the second round of funding under the condition that my nominal wife acts with me."

His tone was indifferent. He didn't mention his wife's name because he didn't even know her name.

Rex always called her Penny.

As for what her exact name was, Orlando didn't bother to know about it.

Zane nodded and went to make the arrangement right away.

The lawyer was quick at drafting the contract. Less than half an hour later, he sent the draft to Orlando

for approval.

After reading the contract, Orlando had it printed and signed his name on it.

It only took forty minutes in total. Following that, the lawyer went to Penny's apartment with the

contract.

After she came back from the studio, Penny was racking her brains about how to explain to Orlando

why she stood him up. If he got angry because of this, he would vent his anger on the Stuart family,

and she might not be able to satisfy Cason.

Should she text him to explain it or call him to apologize?

When Penny hesitated, she heard the doorbell ringing.

She opened the door and saw a man in a suit.

"Hello, Ms. Stuart. This is the contract Mr. Fletcher asked me to bring you. He has signed his name.

Please take a look."

Penny instinctively thought it was a divorce agreement. When she took it and looked at it, she found it

was not.

Would Orlando help the Stuart family with the second round of funding?

Was she required to pretend to be an affectionate couple with him?

That was what she wanted.

Penny couldn't help letting out a sigh of relief. She gave a faint smile and glanced at the end of the

contract. She saw Orlando's signature.

The handwriting was forceful and showed his reluctance when signing his name.

Penny raised her eyebrow and took a pen at the entrance. When she was about to sign her name, she

thought of something and raised her head slightly. "There doesn't seem to be a time limit on the

contract."

She could accept it if she just needed to act with him for one year or five years.

Wouldn't she get stuck for the rest of her life because of this contract if Orlando asked her to act with

him for ten or twenty years?

"Rex is coming back soon, and Mr. Fletcher doesn't want to agitate him. When Rex gets better, you will

get a divorce. If you need any other compensation..."

"I don't need that."

This was what Penny wanted. She quickly signed her name without any demur.

What she did surprised the lawyer. He thought she didn't read the clauses carefully, so he made a

solemn reminder.

"Ms. Stuart, it's written on the contract that you will be divorced when the contract expires. Would you

like to add any additional requirements? Mr. Fletcher can compensate you."

He thought, "How can she be so calm when divorcing a man like Orlando?"  
She must be feigning composure.

Did she try to leave a good impression on Orlando through this means?

Penny handed him the signed contract and said, "I'm content with this contract. When the contract expires, I'll divorce Orlando."

The lawyer was dumbfounded. After a while, he recovered from his trance and pushed up his glasses.

"Ms. Stuart, why not make some additional requirements?"

It was a rare chance. Why didn't she take the opportunity?

Orlando would satisfy her requests if they were not too extravagant.

Penny shook her head and pointed at the laptop on the coffee table. "I gotta work now, so I won't walk you to the elevator."

The lawyer was embarrassed. He seemed too eager to help her. He nodded quickly and said, "Okay.

Goodbye, Ms. Stuart."

When he went out of the building, the lawyer was puzzled.

He had prepared different arguments before he came, fearing that Penny would take this chance and make extravagant requests.

Orlando shared the same idea with him.

However, Penny didn't have any intention of delaying the divorce. She even looked eager to do that.

Could it be that she was more eager than Orlando to get the divorce?

## **Chapter 40 After All, You Slept with Orlando**

Chapter 40 After All, You Slept with Orlando

The lawyer thought he had found out some truth.

When he returned to the Fletcher Group, he directly handed the contract to Orlando.

"Mr. Fletcher, Ms. Stuart has signed the divorce agreement."

Orlando looked at the signed document and fixed his eyes on the signature. Penny Stuart?

So this was her name?

He leaned back and said with a deep frown, "Didn't she make any requests?"

The lawyer shook his head and intended to say Penny didn't make any requests. Instead, she agreed

readily.

A hint of cold contempt flashed across Orlando's eyes. After he agreed to help the Stuart family with

the second round of funding and postpone the divorce, she signed the divorce agreement quickly. She

stood him up at noon probably because she thought he wanted to discuss their divorce.

Orlando put the contract aside indifferently, not wishing to know more about it. "I got it."

The lawyer subconsciously felt that his boss might have misunderstood something. He hesitated for a

while, but he left the office slowly in the end.

He thought there wouldn't be any problem if Orlando didn't know about it. Anyway, the two of them

would divorce soon.

After Penny signed the divorce agreement, she felt greatly relieved.

She had fixed the second round of funding and the divorce. From now on, she didn't have to worry

about the Fletcher family and just needed to act with Orlando. The most important thing at the moment

was to design the interior of Orlando's house.

He had helped her to some extent this time, so she would try her best.

She could make an appointment with the staff there and go to the house tomorrow to get the

measurements. After that, she could make a proposal and quote the price.

Penny let out a sigh of relief and went to wash up. When she was about to go to bed, Sandra sent her a location.

[Penny, I seem to see your sister here.]

Sky Fall?

Wasn't it a bar? How could Lana go there for a drink in such a poor condition?

[Did you mistake someone for her?]

[It's her, but when I turned around, she was gone. Will you come over?]

Penny got out of bed and changed her clothes, going downstairs to take her car.

After she arrived at Sky Fall, she flashed her membership card.

The bar was an extravagant place for the rich, and its membership cost 300 thousand dollars at least.

A few of Penny's former customers frequented the bar, and she had to get a membership card to get

more business. As the saying goes, you can't make an omelet without breaking eggs.

After entering the bar, Penny looked around.

Men and women crowded at the bar counter and chattered away, and the corner booths were full of people.

Sandra waved at Penny and pointed at the innermost hallway.

"I saw her there just now. Shall we look for her separately?"

Penny nodded, and the two of them started in different directions.

Sky Fall was big and had several floors. After Penny went to the second floor, she heard Lana's familiar voice.

"I'm not a beer girl. I just come to look for someone."

"Look for someone? Tell me who you're looking for. I know everyone in the bar. If you make me happy,

I'll help you find him."

"No! Let go of me!"

Penny frowned and turned at the corner of the hallway. She saw Ryder grabbing Lana's hand.

Lana seemed near to tears. When she saw Penny, her eyes got evasive, and she called timidly,

"Penny, why are you here?"

Ryder looked up and saw Penny. He raised his eyebrow and sneered.

"Is this pretty girl your sister?"

Several bodyguards were standing behind Ryder.

He raised his chin slightly, and the bodyguards went up to Lana, pulling her to the side.

"Mr. Cain, it's not good to make a scene in Sky Fall, right?"

Penny had come to the bar before and knew the owner of Sky Fall was powerful. No one dared to

cause trouble here. Although Ryder was the heir to Prosperity Bank, he should restrain himself.

Ryder looked her up and down and felt turned on.

"You escaped from me last time, and I won't let you go tonight."

Since Lana was in his hands, Penny didn't dare to act recklessly. She asked calmly, "What do you want?"

Ryder gave a faint smile and looked at his bodyguards. "Take her out and wait for me in the car."

Lana was frightened. She knew Ryder was evil at a glance, so she shouted with a sobbing voice,

"Penny."

Penny's face turned cold. Ryder added, "Don't worry. I won't do anything to this pretty girl. After all, you slept with Orlando."

Lana stiffened in the bodyguards' clutches, a hint of disbelief flashing across her eyes. Following that,

she bit her lip fiercely.

However, neither Ryder nor Penny noticed that.

Although Ryder was angry with Penny, who threatened him with the fake identity of Orlando's wife, she

managed to sleep with Orlando.

That night, Orlando embarrassed Ryder, who knew the former happened to play cards with his friends

upstairs tonight.

Ryder decided to take Penny there and show Orlando that this woman hooked up with him after

sleeping with Orlando. In this way, he could get back to Orlando.