

Chapter 181 The Absurd Drama

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But he couldn't decide what Nancy would do. Colin contemplated how to prevent Abbey from being

present the next day.

Abbey, coming from a humble background, always displayed caution and sensitivity around him.

Colin racked his brain but failed to come up with a good solution.

Before he knew it, the next day arrived.

Penny woke up from the couch. Her fever had subsided but her throat still felt uncomfortable.

As she stood up to pour herself a cup of warm water, she couldn't help but reflect on the events of the

previous night, letting out a sigh.

Was misfortune destined to follow her this year?

Then she thought about Nancy and realized that she had to visit her today.

But just as she was about to pick up the cup, the doorbell interrupted her thoughts.

To her surprise, it was Abbey.

Abbey entered the room and brought a light breakfast.

She felt relieved seeing Penny's improved complexion.

"You had a high fever last night. This is the porridge I cooked this morning. Have some," Abbey said,

glancing around the room.

She hadn't seen Penny's husband around.

"Penny, is your husband busy with work? You were so sick last night, and he didn't come to take care

of you," she commented.

Penny knew she had to address this issue soon. She couldn't let people keep questioning her like this.

She needed to find someone who could pose as her husband.

Thankfully, Sandra, with her extensive network, might know a few suitable candidates.

But now, Penny had no choice but to reply, "Well, he has a demanding job and often travels."

Abbey didn't say much, instructing Penny to drink the porridge instead.

As Penny was about to start eating, she heard Abbey's phone ringing.

Penny knew it was Colin calling by Abbey's captivating reaction.

He said that he had a surprise for Abbey and asked her to go out immediately.

Although Abbey was still a bit upset, her eyes lit up upon hearing about the surprise.

So, she left happily.

And just as Penny was about to wash the bowl and return it to Abbey, the doorbell rang once again.

Assuming it was Abbey, Penny opened the door, but to her surprise, it was Colin and Nancy standing outside.

Instantly, her body tensed up and she became speechless, unsure of what to say.

Nancy was all better. Noticing Penny's pale complexion, Nancy took her hand with concern.

"Penny, were you scared about what happened yesterday? I brought Colin here just to see you."

Penny was shocked by Colin's bold move. Did he not consider the possibility of her husband being home?

Colin quickly gave her a wink.

A few days ago, he introduced Penny to Nancy. If she found Abbey, his new girlfriend, he definitely

would be sent to the Fletcher Group again. He had freed himself from it because of Penny and he

didn't want to go back there.

For now, he had to play along. And he planned to be honest with his mother at the right opportunity.

Nancy, despite her upper-class background, showed great appreciation towards Penny.

She held Penny's hand and then Colin's, expressing her happiness.

She gave them both a pat, filled with contentment.

"Colin, cherish your relationship. You are immature and you need someone to control you."

As Nancy spoke, the elevator doors opened.

However, all of them were so engrossed that they didn't even notice.

Hearing the door close, they finally glanced over and saw Abbey with a shocked face.

Chapter 182 Their Broken Friendship

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Penny instinctively withdrew her hand from Nancy's grip.

But Nancy held on, her gaze fixed on Abbey, a look of confusion etched on her face.

Abbey's face grew pale as she looked from Colin to Penny, her gaze finally settling on their intertwined

hands.

She knew Ms. Fletcher.

Last night, Abbey had planned to visit Nancy with a thoughtful gift she had bought with her hard-earned

money. But Colin's unexpected call had sent her back home.

Abbey understood that her family couldn't compare to Colin's, but she genuinely cared for him, and he

had been good to her as well.

Yet, she couldn't make sense of the current situation.

Colin's mother, holding hands with both Colin and Penny?

Wasn't Penny already married?

Wasn't she involved with Mr. Fletcher?

And now, it seemed like she was still Colin's girlfriend!

The complexity of it all made Abbey feel disgusted, overwhelmed by a sense of unease.

Abbey had regarded Penny as her friend, but from the beginning to the end, Penny had treated her like

a fool!

Abbey couldn't fathom Penny's true intentions when she had comforted her.

Abbey was overwhelmed with humiliation, her eyes welling up with tears.

But she knew she had to expose Penny's true nature!

Determined, Abbey marched towards them, and slapped Colin across the face, her voice filled with

anguish. "You bastard!"

After venting her rage on Colin, Abbey turned her attention to Penny, raising her hand with the intention

to strike.

But Penny intercepted her, stopping her hand and letting go of Nancy.

Abbey sobbed uncontrollably, struggling to catch her breath.

Penny understood Abbey's turmoil, but she didn't offer her face for a slap.

Her gaze shifted to Colin, expecting him to clarify the situation to his girlfriend.

Finally composed, Nancy spoke softly, "Who is this?"

Nancy's calm voice seemed to give Abbey a sense of support.

She wiped her tears and said, "I am Colin's girlfriend, Abbey. Didn't you know Penny was already

married? How can she be Colin's girlfriend and have an affair with Mr. Fletcher at the same time?"

Abbey cried, tears streaming down her face.

She couldn't bring herself to meet Nancy's eyes and walked towards her own door, crying.

Finally, Colin reacted and caught up, grabbing Abbey's arm.

"Abbey, Penny and I don't have that kind of relationship."

Abbey sobbed, wanting to shake off his hand but feeling somewhat reluctant.

Nancy witnessed the absurd drama unfolding before her, her expression turning serious.

Her gentle gaze towards Penny became distant.

Penny noticed the change and sighed inwardly.

Nancy forced a smile and said, "Penny, let's all go inside and have a conversation."

No one dared to refuse her, and Penny stepped aside.

Nancy entered first, followed by Colin, who was comforting the still sobbing Abbey.

Penny lagged a few steps behind, closing the door.

Nancy sat upright, her tone conveying a sense of negotiation.

"Tell me the truth," she demanded.

Colin reacted quickly and guided Abbey to sit in front of Nancy.

"Mom, this is my real girlfriend, Abbey. Penny is the interior designer for Orlando. I had no other choice

but to bring her here to meet you at that time," he explained.

When she heard the words "had to," her gaze fell upon Penny.

"There have been plenty of opportunities to explain this, haven't there?" she questioned.

After uttering those words, Nancy stood up.

"Penny, please forget what I said earlier. As for, Colin, go to the Fletcher Group in the afternoon."

She intentionally didn't mention Abbey.

Chapter 183 Her Return

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Abbey felt wronged.

"Ms. Fletcher, what I just said is true. Penny and Mr. Fletcher..."

Before she could finish, Nancy interrupted her.

"That's none of my business. I'm just Orlando's elder and won't interfere in his personal life," she said.

Her tone was cold, and as she spoke, her eyes fell upon Penny.

She couldn't believe that Penny could captivate Orlando.

Knowing that Orlando had a wife, she wondered what Penny possessed that attracted him.

But then she remembered how Penny had managed to touch her own heart after just two encounters in

the hospital, and it began to make sense.

It was the first time Nancy had been deceived.

"Good luck and take care, Penny." Leaving these words behind, she walked away.

The room fell into silence.

After a while, Penny rubbed her temples and said, "Mr. Levine, please take your girlfriend away."

Colin, still interested in Abbey, tried to comfort her. "Sweetheart, let's go to your room and I will explain

it to you."

But Abbey was not pleased.

She stared directly at Penny. "How dare you deceive me after I took care of you last night and treated

you as my best friend! Penny, you bitch!"

Finally, it was Colin who comforted her and led her away.

As Penny closed the door, she felt frustrated.

On this floor, it was now only Penny and Abbey, but their friendship was broken. What's worse, the

woman who was entangled with Noah also lived in this neighborhood.

Penny was desperate.

She couldn't believe that after searching for this house for so long and investing her entire fortune, it

had all ended like this.

Perhaps it would have been better to go back to Hills Villa.

At least there, she only had to avoid Orlando instead of getting involved in other people's disputes.

Penny sat in the living room, trying to rest, but her headache throbbed persistently.

The police quickly contacted her about the car accident from last night, and Ms. Fletcher proposed a compensation plan.

Fortunately, most of the blame fell on Norah, and what Penny did was to bother and displease Nancy.

Penny really didn't want to stay here any longer, so she called Anika.

Upon hearing that Orlando wasn't around, she quickly took Sticky with her and planned to stay there for a couple of days, avoiding any contact with Abbey.

To be honest, Penny acknowledged that she had her own faults too. After all, Abbey had taken care of her last night, and yet Penny had "deceived" her.

As Penny returned with Sticky, Anika greeted them with joy.

She said, "Miss Stuart, welcome back to your true home!"

Anika then led Sticky to the room they had previously stayed in and added, "Mr. Fletcher will also be

returning tonight. His assistant asked me to prepare dinner."

Penny furrowed her brow, wondering why Orlando didn't just stay at the hotel. Why did he come to Hills Villa?

Had Rex not assigned him any tasks this time?

Helpless, Penny had no choice but to keep going.

Chapter 184 It Didn't Align With the Image of the Woman He Had Met

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For a moment, Penny even considered whether she should confess everything to Orlando and avoid

this constant hiding and lying. And then there was no need to lie constantly on Colin's side.

But when she thought about Orlando's attitude towards the Stuart family, and now that she was

responsible for designing his house, building a good relationship was important to avoid an awkward

encounter between them.

Besides, Orlando had helped her a lot during this time.

If things were to escalate, Penny would only feel powerless.

She got up, feeling exhausted all over.

She was tired in her heart and body.

"Anika, I'm feeling a bit unwell tonight, so I won't come down for dinner. You don't need to call me."

Anika looked hesitant. "Ms. Stuart, last time I used the same excuse, and Mr. Fletcher was a bit angry."

Penny forced a smile. "It's alright, anyway, there's no possibility of salvaging our relationship."

To be precise, it wasn't her relationship with him, but rather his relationship with Mrs. Fletcher.

If Penny tried to get close to him using Mrs. Fletcher's identity, it would only make him disgusted.

Orlando wanted Mrs. Fletcher to stay away from his life. Just like that night when she borrowed 1.5

million dollars from him, he transferred the money without hesitation and made sure she remembered

her identity.

If Penny had approached him from the beginning as Mrs. Fletcher, Orlando wouldn't have met her at

all.

Anika wanted to say something but stopped herself and sighed.

In the evening, when Orlando entered the villa, he casually placed his suit on the coat rack.

The aroma of food wafted through the house. He had just finished a meeting and was feeling a bit tired.

Anika didn't dare to be negligent and quickly approached him.

"Mr. Fletcher."

Orlando had been coming here recently, but when he came and how long he stayed depended entirely

on his mood.

After all, the old man would occasionally conduct surprise inspections, so he had to stay here for a few

nights to handle it.

"Dinner is ready, Mr. Fletcher. Please have some."

Anika instructed the servants to bring out the food. As Orlando sat down, he felt like he heard a few

dog barks.

Furrowing his brows, he glanced around the room and thought he was hearing things.

"Where is she?"

Although he didn't like her, as a man, he didn't want to deliberately isolate her even during dinner.

"Ms. Stuart said she's not feeling well."

Orlando furrowed his brows. Based on his understanding of that woman, even if she wasn't feeling

well, she would come down just to catch a glimpse of him.

The look in her eyes and her unwavering determination made him uncomfortable. It was as if she could

only breathe when she was in bed, she would bring her closer to him.

So, using this excuse twice in a row to avoid meeting him made him feel that it didn't align with the

image of the woman he had met.

But Orlando didn't have the intention to delve deeper into his so-called wife.

Meanwhile, upstairs, Penny was working late on her computer.

She had just received the lowest price from other material suppliers, but when it came to Lignum Vitae

flooring, a product that required a three-year advance reservation, she was temporarily at a loss.

She estimated that she would need the flooring to be delivered in six months, so she had to find an

opportunity to go back to Prodale County.

Moreover, because Lignum Vitae flooring was highly sought after and the person in charge in Prodale

County was very cautious, they only accepted orders from their long-term business partners. Penny

had to go and see for herself to know how to persuade them.

But there was no need to leave tonight. After all, even if she left for Prodale County now, it would be too

late. There wouldn't be much difference if she went there in a few days.

She carefully reviewed the material forms once again, making sure she hadn't missed anything. Then,

she started looking at the renderings on her computer, thinking about what modifications still needed to

be made.

Orlando had helped her so many times, so she had to design the houses in Royal Green perfectly.

However, just as her fingers touched the keyboard, she heard a dog barking outside.

Her hands froze, and she quickly stood up, walking to the window to see what was happening. It was

Niko, causing a ruckus in the garden.

Didn't Anika lock it up?

How did it manage to get out?

Now that Orlando was back, if he found Niko, the consequences would be unimaginable.

Chapter 185 He Would Never Touch That Woman

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Penny immediately stood up and opened the door, hearing footsteps coming from the staircase.

They belonged to more than one person.

Then she heard a man's voice.

"Does someone here raise a dog?"

It was Orlando's voice.

Penny quickly retreated back into her room and closed the door.

Anika was about to deny it, but she also heard the barking. What was going on?

Orlando's face darkened. "Get rid of it."

Anika didn't dare to reply. She waited until he entered the room before hurrying downstairs.

At that moment, Penny also came out and grabbed her.

"Anika, didn't you lock Niko up?"

Anika rubbed her head with an apologetic expression.

"I must have forgotten to lock the door. Niko is smart now. As long as it's not locked, it can open the door by itself."

Anika hurriedly went downstairs. "Ms. Stuart, don't worry. I'll go and lock it up right away."

Penny's heart was pounding. She glanced at the closed door in the corridor and urged, "Hurry, don't let

Mr. Fletcher find it."

Anika nodded and quickly went to the garden.

Niko had been staying in Penny's newly bought house for the past few days. Although the house wasn't

small, it was not as comfortable as the spacious garden.

So as soon as it came back, it opened the door and happily started digging in the garden.

Anika was worried about it being discovered and didn't dare to scold it. Instead, she quickly walked up

to it and led it away.

At this moment, Orlando was standing by the French window. He didn't see the dog, but he did hear a

few barks. It was probably one of the servants here who owned a dog.

He didn't pay it any mind and turned around to continue the meeting in front of him.

Just as he turned around, Niko was being led past the window by Anika.

"Mr. Fletcher, the planning proposal for Prodale County is out. The leaders have added some new

benefits to the previous project, which was originally intended to develop it into a tourist attraction, but

now the planning department has added a few points to the original project. I've sent the details to your

email."

Orlando opened the email and read about the new additions.

Prodale County had beautiful scenery and hadn't been tainted by commercial factors yet. It had a lot of

development potential, and the local government provided strong support.

When he visited last time, he

received positive feedback.

Now the planning department had added a few policies to benefit the farmers, allowing the

development of orchards in the local area.

Prodale County was quite far from the city, and although there were a few fruit farmers, transportation

costs had always been a major issue.

In Orlando's email, there were also sincere suggestions from the leaders he had dinner with last time,

hoping that he would visit again.

If he went this time, he would finalize all the plans for the development of Prodale County.

Those leaders were all people who thought in the long term, and Orlando had never put on airs in front

of these people who genuinely cared about the welfare of the people.

The points added by the planning department were excellent, but they needed to be combined with the

local production volume.

If the production volume was large, they could directly establish a production line. If the production

volume was small, they could let tourists enter the orchards as part of the tourism development, which

was also a way to attract visitors.

So, he must go to Prodale County this time.

He called Zane and asked him to include this itinerary, and the meeting was adjourned.

It was already 10 p.m. at this moment.

Orlando rubbed his forehead and unbuttoned his shirt before heading to the bathroom for a shower.

When he came out, he absentmindedly picked up the documents on the side, intending to continue

reading before bed.

But his gaze caught something on the bedside table.

His expression turned cold as he picked up the bottle, but when he saw the words on it, he sneered.

Sensual massage oils.

Was it his grandfather who had placed it here? It was just a step away from dragging him into Penny's

room.

A trace of resistance flashed across his face as he threw the item into the trash can, reaffirming his

belief that he would never touch that woman during the contract period.

Chapter 186 Finding a Fake Husband

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The next morning, Penny waited until Orlando left before heading downstairs. She had arranged to meet Sandra at a café.

"Sandra, help me find someone to temporarily play the role of my husband," she said.

Sandra, who was sipping her coffee, almost spit it out when she heard this.

"Cough, cough, cough."

She coughed for a while, looking at Penny in disbelief.

"Doesn't Orlando still know your identity?"

Penny nodded, holding the coffee cup in her hands.

In her mind, Orlando was her boss and her benefactor.

But she couldn't completely forget about that night with him.

Besides being too intense and causing her some pain, Orlando's skills were actually quite good.

And that thirty-second kiss, though brief, felt like a hook that had been inserted into her throat,

occasionally scratching her heart.

Penny controlled these emotions rationally, and her gaze towards Orlando remained unchanged.

Once she finished renovating Orlando's house and his first love returned to the country, she would

explain everything to Rex and retire gracefully.

She had never thought about having anything with him, especially since she had her own secret.

Sandra was briefly shocked but realized that Penny was serious. She began to think about potential

candidates in her mind.

Penny looked at Sandra, who was meticulously groomed from head to toe, even her nails were

professionally cared for. Coupled with her expensive clothing and bags, it didn't look like she came

from an ordinary family. Anyone with a discerning eye could tell that she came from a wealthy background.

But Sandra was with Trevor, and so far, Trevor believed that she was a waitress. Was he genuinely innocent or was he accompanying her in acting?

Penny and Sandra had different upbringings. When Penny was in school, she was framed by others, and when she started working, she encountered all kinds of people, making her highly cautious of others.

But Sandra was a princess who grew up in an ivory tower, closely watched by her family. Because of her privileged background, no boys dared to approach her in school.

It was said that there were a few guys in the circle of Chatville who pursued her, but she wasn't interested. She said those men had the appearance of elites, but all they talked about was finance, and she was tired of it.

Trevor did have a good-looking face, the kind that would often appear on confession walls at school.

But thinking about what happened last time at the hotel, Penny still had her doubts and couldn't help but speak up.

"You dress up so meticulously every day, hasn't Trevor become suspicious?"

Upon hearing this, Sandra burst into laughter.

"Trevor is just a typical straight guy. I told him that all these things were cheap knock-offs, and he believed every word. He even said he would work hard to earn money and buy me designer goods."

When it came to Trevor, Sandra's face lit up with happiness.

"And you don't know that guy has never been with anyone before. Every time we're in bed, he's got

such energy. It's impressive."

Penny wasn't as open as Sandra. She glanced around and sighed.

"Alright, I get it. Why don't you help me with my problem instead?"

"Penny, I don't really have any suitable candidates. The people I know are all part of the same social

circle, and we're bound to run into Orlando in the future. It would blow our cover. If you really want to

keep it a secret from Orlando, it might be better to hire someone yourself."

As soon as Sandra finished speaking, her eyes lit up with an idea.

"Oh, wait! Trevor has a good buddy. Their family backgrounds are similar, and he's not part of our

social circle. He could definitely help us out."

Penny didn't object. Trevor was far removed from her social circle, so the chances of blowing their

cover were extremely low.

"Okay, go ahead and contact him for me."

Sandra dialed Trevor's number.

Meanwhile, Trevor was holding a cigarette, and playing cards with a group of people.

The atmosphere around them was rowdy, with cigarette butts and water bottles littering the floor, and

piles of cash scattered on the table.

Someone teasingly remarked,

"Trevor, I heard you've recently snagged a rich girl. Good for you, man."

Chapter 187 Just for the Money

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A few buttons on Trevor's collar were undone, giving him a slightly rebellious look. He flicked the

cigarette ash with his slender fingertips and smiled as he collected the money on the table in front of him.

"It's just luck."

It was unclear whether he was referring to the gambling game or responding to the man's question.

His lips were slightly powdered, not allowing any fluctuations to show, exuding a handsome and almost enchanting aura.

Perhaps he had restrained his pure and clean appearance in front of Sandra, he now seemed more charismatic.

"It's not just luck. It's because you have such a good-looking face. If you had put aside your pride

earlier and seduced a rich woman, you wouldn't need to come here and gamble to cover your medical expenses."

The others at the gambling table burst into laughter. Cigarette butts were thrown into the water-filled ashtray, leaving behind yellowish stains.

Trevor paid no attention to such insults. After the game, he took out a few bills and placed them on the table.

"I'll cover the cost of the coffee today. I have to go now. The hospital is pressuring me for money."

"Trevor, you've already seduced a rich woman, and are you still short on money? Don't rush to pay the

hospital. Zain is also pressuring us. Compared to the high-interest loans you owe, this amount is just a drop in the bucket."

"Konnor, take these two bills and buy cigarettes. Please say a few good words to Zain on my behalf. I

will definitely repay the money."

The man called Konnor took the money, and his expression improved.

"You know how to handle things, Trevor. When will you bring your rich second-generation girlfriend to

meet us? We haven't seen a rich second-generation girl before."

The group of men grinned, kicking empty mineral water bottles and discarded betel nut wrappers on

the ground.

Trevor smiled and as he walked out of the door, his expression turned serious.

Coincidentally, Sandra called him, and he looked into the distance, changing his voice to a gentler tone.

"Sandra."

"Trevor, do you remember my friend that you met last time? Penny needs to find a man to pretend to

be her husband. It's a complicated situation, but as long as this man publicly acknowledges being her

husband in front of others and cooperates with her acting, my friend will pay him handsomely. She's

quite wealthy, so the payment will be substantial."

Trevor walked a distance and entered an alleyway.

The alleyway was low and emitted an old and worn-out atmosphere.

And his so-called friend had just returned from work.

This friend was named Josh, twenty-seven years old this year, a young man with a fair complexion. His

job seemed decent, but he only earned around 1 thousand dollars a month, which made it difficult for

him to afford a house in the city center. That was why he had to come back to this old alley every day.

His family had a house in the alley, but it's only around 430 square feet, where he lived with his

disabled sister.

After Trevor entered this place, he continued to reply to Sandra.

"Sandra, my friend has a job, so it might not be convenient."

"No problem, he doesn't need to appear frequently, just occasionally. How about 5 thousand dollars a month?"

Trevor glanced at Josh, who was taking care of his disabled sister, so he agreed on his behalf.

"Okay, I'll talk to him. Your friend's name is Penny, right? Where should we meet?"

Sandra sent an address.

Trevor walked up to Josh and nudged him with his foot.

"There's a job with Sandra's friend, pretending to be her husband. You don't need to appear often, and

it pays 5 thousand dollars a month. Now change your clothes and come with me to meet her."

Josh's appearance was the type that would go unnoticed in a crowd, and he was only about 5.8 feet in height.

"Trevor, how long are you and Sandra going to keep up this act? You're not seriously thinking of

marrying into the Dudley family, right? Dudley definitely won't agree, and what about the person lying in

the hospital?"

Trevor lit a cigarette and took a shallow drag.

"If it weren't for this, I wouldn't have approached Sandra. The Dudley family is so wealthy, they can

afford the medical expenses of several hundred thousand dollars."

"But if the person in the hospital wakes up and sees you with Sandra, she'll definitely go crazy."

"When she wakes up, Sandra and I will separate. Being with Sandra is just for the money."

Chapter 188 Misunderstood

Chapter 188 Misunderstood

Josh decided not to discuss the matter any further and instead focused on the job that was offered to

him.

Five thousand dollars?

Just occasionally appearing?

He swallowed hard, secretly wishing to find a wealthy lady, but his looks were not as good as Trevor's,

making it unlikely for any rich lady to be interested in him.

How could a wealthy lady be attracted to him?

"Trevor, is this really such a good opportunity?"

Trevor sat down on the steps. He stretched out his long legs and leaned back, displaying a relaxed

posture.

Indeed, Trevor's appearance was extraordinary, even Josh, as a man, couldn't help but feel envious

and jealous. It's no wonder he managed to catch the attention of the heiress of a diamond company.

Moreover, the Dudley family only had Sandra, the true only daughter. If Trevor could really marry into

the family, then the Dudley family would be his in the future, wouldn't it?

"It's true, and you know how easy it is to deceive Sandra."

As Trevor spoke, his narrow eyes squinted.

"But her friend seems difficult to fool. It's better for you to just take the 5 thousand dollars honestly so

that I won't be dragged down with you."

Josh also needed the money, so after much contemplation, he went inside to change his clothes.

Meanwhile, Sandra and Penny were waiting in the coffee shop.

In less than an hour, Trevor arrived with Josh.

Penny looked at Josh's unremarkable appearance, his plain look, and the fact that he wasn't part of the

same social circle. It was perfect.

The plan was quickly finalized, and Penny didn't hesitate to transfer 5 thousand dollars to Josh's

account. She also mentioned where she currently lived.

Upon hearing the words Rose Residence, Josh's heart skipped a beat.

That was where his company's boss lived, rumored to be worth about 10 million dollars. It seemed that

the friends of wealthy second-generation individuals were also wealthy themselves.

Josh felt a surge of excitement, but he remembered Trevor's instructions and didn't dare to act

recklessly.

"Ms. Stuart, don't worry, I will play the role of your husband well. Just send me a message, and I will

come immediately."

"Don't call me Ms. Stuart, just call me Perry."

Penny asked about Josh's company and was surprised to find out that it was Valenworth Company,

which happened to be currently collaborating with her.

However, Josh was only a low-level employee, and the people Penny interacted with were all at the

leadership level.

After finalizing the arrangement, Penny breathed a sigh of relief.

As they parted ways, she hesitated whether to return to Rose Residence or go back to Hills Villa

tonight.

On the Rose Residence side, there was Abbey and the woman entangled with Noah. On the Hills Villa

side, there was Orlando, whose whereabouts were unpredictable.

She rubbed her temples, feeling exhausted.

After much hesitation, Penny returned to Rose Residence.

Fortunately, she didn't run into Abbey, but when she opened her door, she found a sticky note on it.

It read, "You little bit*h, I already know you live here. If you don't tell me where Noah is, watch out for trouble."

It was the woman involved with Noah.

She looked like someone from the underworld, and she might actually resort to some dirty tricks.

But Penny couldn't worry about that for now. Tonight, she had to confirm the goods from all the

suppliers. Once she sorted everything out, she had to go to Prodale County immediately.

Little did she know, inside Orlando's office, Nancy was already sitting there.

"I heard you have some involvement with that designer?"

Nancy's words were tactful, but she was essentially asking if he had used his power to get what he

wanted.

After all, Orlando still had a wife, even if he didn't care about her in name. But if Rex found out, the

entire Fletcher family would be in trouble.

Orlando kept his eyes on the documents in front of him and didn't lift his head.

"Who said that?"

"Colin's new girlfriend. Previously, Colin brought Perry to me, but I didn't expect her to be married."

There was a hint of coldness in her words, reminding Orlando that even if there was any involvement, it

should be cut off to avoid a big mess that would reflect poorly on everyone.

"Orlando, even if you don't care about your wife at home, she was chosen by your grandfather. You

should know the consequences of messing around."

"Nancy, when I was drunk, I only slept with her one night."

Nancy caught onto the words drunk. Orlando, at such a young age, had become the president of the

Fletcher Group. It was unlikely that he would get so drunk and lose control with someone else.

Unless there was something in the drink.

She sneered, realizing that she had underestimated that woman.

Nancy got the name of Penny's workplace and, once she left the Fletcher Group, she made a call to

intercept the cooperation on Penny's side.

With the jobs obtained through such means and the passionate relationship with Colin, Perry was

indeed cunning, but it would end here.

Chapter 189 She Had to Adopt a Begging Attitude

Chapter 189 She Had to Adopt a Begging Attitude

Penny's work was going smoothly. She had finalized everything with the suppliers and was just about

to prepare for her trip to Prodale County the next day. However, she suddenly received several calls

from cooperating companies, and their tones became hesitant and evasive.

"Ms. Stuart, we're sorry, but we just received a notice that we can't fulfill your order. Please find another

company."

"But..."

Penny wanted to ask for more details, but the other party hung up.

She received four calls in a row, and all of them were cancellations.

Penny sat there, furrowing her brows.

Previously, Clark had caused trouble with Gael, resulting in the termination of their cooperation. Now,

Gael was still looking for her everywhere, but she didn't want to meet him. She only hoped that the

police would handle the matter.

Now that Clark had backed off and handed Valenworth Company to her, everything should have gone

smoothly. After all, she had been getting along well with the suppliers these past few days. So what

was going on now?

Where did things go wrong?

Penny couldn't figure it out. Then, the group chat in the studio became active, and Kale mentioned her,

asking if she had offended someone.

Penny replied with three words, "What was happening?"

Kale privately messaged her.

"Several designers in the studio have received cancellations, and the other party specifically mentioned

that you have offended someone. They hope you will leave the studio and give up the Royal Green

project."

This was even more serious than Clark's interception back then. It had already affected the studio.

Penny had never been well-liked in the studio, and now that she had been canceled, she was afraid

that there would be a lot of complaints over there.

"Penny, I have already fired Norah here. I heard she has been taken into custody by the police and will

have to pay a large sum of money in compensation."

When Norah was mentioned, a spark flashed through Penny's mind.

A name instantly came to mind and it was Nancy.

If she had offended someone recently, it would be Nancy.

Moreover, Abbey had spoken those words in front of Nancy.

In Nancy's mind, Penny was probably a fox using her appearance to seduce Orlando and Colin.

Nancy had always been strict with her son and had high expectations for Orlando. Naturally, she didn't

want these two men to be ruined by a designer.

Realizing this, Penny couldn't help but feel helpless.

She now had Nancy's phone number, but the other party probably wouldn't want to listen to her

explanation.

Moreover, if she were to talk about her relationship with Orlando, it would be hard to explain.

And based on her understanding of Nancy, although she came from the Fletcher family, she never

used her status to bully others. After hearing Abbey's words, she probably went to other people to

verify and confirm her suspicions before resorting to these means.

Penny was now caught in a dilemma.

If she were to go to Orlando, it would make her professional abilities seem weak. After all, it was her

connections that were causing the problems.

But who else could she turn to?

Who could persuade Nancy?

It was impossible to approach Colin, especially now that Abbey was watching her closely. If she were

caught contacting Colin again, it would only lead to more trouble.

Penny felt a headache coming on and couldn't understand how she had ended up in this situation.

Perhaps this year, she really should go and pay her respects to God.

After thinking it over, the only person she could think of was Orlando.

Orlando had a social engagement tonight and had been drinking a bit. Instead of returning to Hills Villa, he went to a hotel.

Zane had driven the car away and would come to pick him up early tomorrow morning.

Orlando took out his phone and engaged in business communication with someone.

When he hung up, he accidentally came across the photo Colin had sent him, the one with Penny's painting.

There was no denying that it had touched him.

Her artistic skill was excellent. Using only black and white, she rendered the scene beautifully.

Orlando had always enjoyed art and had attended many art exhibitions. So at a glance, he could tell the skill of the person who painted it.

He also remembered that night in Prodale County when he had encountered her, she was painting alone under the lights.

Perhaps it was due to the alcohol, he found himself thinking about her more than usual.

The elevator doors opened, and he unexpectedly saw someone standing at the entrance.

Penny was holding a thermos in her hand. She had gone back to Hills Villa and knew that Orlando wouldn't be there tonight, so she made soup and brought it over.

Although Orlando had previously said there was no need for her to bring him soup anymore, since she was here to ask for a favor, she had to adopt a begging attitude.

"Mr. Fletcher."

Penny obediently called out, standing straight.

As Orlando approached, Penny caught a whiff of alcohol emanating from him.

It was similar to the Romanée-conti in the private room that night, but it seemed to be mixed with a stronger aftertaste of another type of alcohol.

When Orlando saw her, his gaze flickered for a moment, and he silently walked to the entrance.

"What's up?"

Chapter 190 He Felt Topsy

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All but one of the presidential suites on this floor were unoccupied. There were only Orlando and Penny on this floor.

The overhead light made Penny's fair skin shine and her eyes sparkle. Orlando was not sure how long she had been waiting here.

"I do have something to discuss with you. Mr. Fletcher, can I come in for a minute?"

Orlando raised an eyebrow. Penny, who had painted a portrait of him, was now waiting for him at the door of his hotel room at night.

Orlando's eyes narrowed. He should have declined.

After all, he wanted to put distance between himself and Penny.

Penny was worried that Orlando would refuse her request. She could not explain the whole thing in a

moment, and Ms. Fletcher got her very wrong. Penny had to tell Orlando what happened clearly.

Orlando took the room card and slid it to open the door.

Penny followed behind him. The scent of wood, mixed with a whiff of alcohol, filled her nostrils.

The space seemed too small for them. Penny belatedly realized that it seemed a little inappropriate for her to come to his door.

But Penny's cell phone rang again. It was a call from her business partners. On the way over, Penny received two more calls demanding to cancel the orders.

Penny had done so much preparation and communicated with the suppliers in advance, but now

almost all of them canceled the deals.

And the studio was affected badly.

After all, Nancy was behind this. She was not only a member of the Fletcher family but also held sway

over the business world, so she was very strict with Colin.

In the room, Penny sat down on the couch with a thermos in her hand.

Orlando took off his suit jacket and undid the top button of his shirt, revealing his collarbone.

Penny was always captivated by Orlando's striking good looks.

Penny couldn't take her eyes off Orlando. He reminded her of the painting, and she considered it

necessary to add a little more detail to it.

"What is it?"

Orlando unhurriedly rolled up his sleeves, revealing his slim strong wrist.

Orlando sat elegantly and languorously across from Penny.

The brightest light in the room was not turned on, so the room was dim. The smell of alcohol was in the

air, and Penny inexplicably felt a bit tipsy.

It was as if Orlando hadn't drunk alcohol, but her.

Everyone, regardless of gender, was beguiled by striking beauty.

Without hearing Penny's answer, Orlando noticed that she gazed down at his wrist in admiration.

"Perry?"

Penny came back to her senses, setting the thermos in her hand on the coffee table.

"Mr. Fletcher, are you fully healed?"

She was referring to the wound on Orlando's hand.

"Cut to the chase."

Orlando wasn't particularly interested in pleasantries. Penny felt a little awkward about being

interrupted like that and gave a little cough.

"Ms. Fletcher seems to be wrong about me. Mr. Fletcher, you should know I was forced to pretend to

be Mr. Levine's girlfriend. Now Mr. Levine has a new girlfriend, and Ms. Fletcher thinks I have a ulterior

motive..."

Penny paused for a moment, her eyes falling upon Orlando.

Orlando had a blank expression on his face. Under the influence of alcohol, he craned his neck, and

the Adam's apple in his throat moved up and down.

"And Ms. Fletcher probably knew you and I had a one-night stand. I didn't tell her about it, but she

definitely knew about it. So, she stole all my clients and thus my studio got in trouble. I was thinking of

asking Mr. Levine for help, but since Mr. Levine respects Ms. Fletcher very much, I dropped the idea.

That's why I'm here, Mr. Fletcher."

Penny mentioned the one-night stand. After all, she and Orlando had sex that night, even though they

were both cold by nature. However, at this moment, they sensed a little spark between them.

With that, Penny sat there quietly, waiting for Orlando's response.

But Orlando had a full day of meetings today, then went to a dinner party in the evening. Besides, he

had been rushed by Rex lately. Now when he finally got a moment of peace, he felt drunk.

Penny sat there for half an hour, but she still did not get a reply from Orlando.

"Mr. Fletcher?"

