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workshops

Turning

by Garf Collins

When I woke up, the other side of the bed was cold. I must have gone straight to sleep without noticing. It's just like her. I told her to set both electric blankets to come on at 9 pm sharp. She just can't follow the simplest of rules.

I drew my hand back into the warmth of my side of the bed and thought about how she can't even follow straightforward instructions. Like earlier this evening, I said, perfectly reasonably,

"You know I expect the children to be bathed and in bed when I get home from work. Also, I noticed you haven't cut the lawn. I don't know what you do with your time." Then her inevitable excuses,

"But Donald you don't understand how much I have to do with three children under five and all your added demands on top. I'm off to my bridge evening so I hope the children wake up and then you'll see what it's all about."

As well as her laziness, since the last child, she has been as cold as the other side of this bed. She seems not to care about my physical needs. I almost have to force myself upon her.

Hopeless woman. I'll just have to switch that damn blanket on myself. Now, where's the switch. URGH!!!"

A week later the local on-line Gazette carried the following report.

Man found electrocuted in bedroom

Donald Grove (42) was found unconscious by his wife Alisa when she returned to their house last Thursday evening. He was lying across the bed clutching the bare wires of an electric blanket. He was pronounced dead

at the scene. Alisa Grove (38) declined to comment except to say that she wanted to build a new life now her husband was no longer with her.