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# UES gal: I face boot for marrying the help

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By DAREH GREGORIAN & REBECCA ROSENBERG  
*Last Updated: 4:31 PM, November 20, 2009*  
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Stick to taking out the recyclables, Angel.

The snooty co-op board of a luxury Upper East Side building is trying to evict one of its high-class residents for marrying one of its lowly porters, according to a \$10 million lawsuit.

Christina Ambers, who's been called the "Heidi Klum of foot models," says the staff at her East 74th Street apartment building have been turning up their noses at her since she married former porter and doorman Angel Rotger earlier this year.

In papers filed in Manhattan Supreme Court, she says their highbrow co-op board is trying to force them out.



TETRA IMAGES

HEELS! Foot model Christina Ambers says 340 E. 74th St. wants her out because she married an ex-staffer.

The building's actions "stem in large part from the fact that this wealthy Upper East Side cooperative objects to a Hispanic former porter residing side by side with the other" tenants, the lawsuit against 340 E. 74th St. Owners Corp. says.

"You live in this ritzy Upper East Side apartment and now Angel the porter is Angel your next-door neighbor -- I guess it makes some people feel uncomfortable," said the couple's lawyer, Joshua Price.

Once, the suit says, the super's wife whacked Rotger in the family jewels with a bag in an unprovoked attack this past August. Rotger was "diagnosed with a contusion of the testicle," the suit says.

Now they're fighting back.

"This is the 21st century," Ambers said. "We are all equal. How dare they try to force us out over my marriage and love for my husband?"

Ambers, 36, a hand and foot model who has been featured in ads for Revlon, Coach, Harry Winston and Neutrogena, moved into the swanky building back in 2003.

Management allegedly forbade Rotger, 32, from being with her in 2008, but he couldn't stay away from his sole-mate.

They carried on in secret, but were eventually found out. Rotger was fired a short time later -- and left his Bronx apartment to move in with Amber.

They have allegedly faced retaliation at the 12-story building. They aren't told when messengers and packages arrive, and staffers refuse to get cabs for them, as they do other residents, the suit says.

When a water leak buckled the floorboards in Amber's apartment, the building managers refused to make repairs, the suit says. Now the couple can't move out, because the damage made the pad unsellable. In the meantime, the building held a meeting last night to discuss the possibility of terminating their lease.

A lawyer for the building, Joe Colbert, said "their claims have no merit."

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