



Perfect Partners

Karen Drogin (AKA) , Carly Phillips

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A "Love Unexpected" Novel ...

No sooner had lawyers Chelsie Russell and Griffin Stuart lost their siblings in a car crash than they find themselves fighting for custody of their two year old niece. Griff wins only to discover Chelsie is the only one who can sooth the child's night terrors and fears. Chelsie and Griff bond over the little girl and their growing sexual desire is mutual. But Chelsie's been hurt before and Griff isn't sure he can trust the woman who once tried to take his niece away. What will it take for these two unexpected lovers to believe they can be perfect partners after all?

Perfect Partners Details

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From Reader Review Perfect Partners for online ebook

Leigh Parrish says

I give it a 2.5
It's a ok read, nothing too exciting though.

drey says

drey's thoughts:
Carly Phillips' Perfect Partners has two people who've lost a lot--and could lose even more--for the possibility of love.

Chelsie has baggage from a previous marriage, and she's still trying to make amends. Griffin just doesn't trust women, period. You know the walls are way up there when these two have to learn to tolerate the other, for the sake of their niece...

When tolerance grows into something else, can they take the steps towards love? Or is losing your heart too risky a proposition?

I didn't get into Perfect Partners--not like I did Solitary Man, but I did enjoy the story. I wish there was a bit more of the lovely little girl, and a bit less of the self-doubts. All in all though, a good read.

drey's rating: Pick it up!

April says

Unfortunately this story didn't work for me. The concept was good, however the characters were one dimensional and frankly unbelievable.

carmella ann james says

Love this book

This was a great read. I love how the book had just enough sizzle between Chelsie and Griff. It is the perfect read for a relaxing day.

Heather says

Perfect Partners is one of those books that is a feel good story, but not for the reasons that you think. I actually enjoyed this book a lot more because they weren't perfect partners in the beginning!

When we meet Chelsie and Griffin, they have both just endured the death of their sister and brother respectively and are now in a custody battle over their niece. Griffin wins custody of the little girl, but it becomes apparent very early on that he is going to need Chelsie's help. As they begin to try to settle into a rhythm that is best for the two year old, they find themselves having to put aside a lot of baggage and emotions to do what is best for Alix.

The relationship between the two develops slowly and in the end it is a feel good romance that any fan of good old fashioned romance will want to pick up!

Judy & Marianne from Long and Short Reviews says

Originally posted at: <http://longandshortreviews.blogspot.c...>

Lawyers Chelsie Russell and Griffin Stuart deal with career obligations and lots of personal baggage as their lives get enmeshed with their precious two-year-old orphan niece Alix. Heartbreaking moments of Alix's night terrors and confusion become the catalyst for major adjustments in both Chelsie's and Griffin's lives. The sub-story of spousal abuse and its effect on victims even after they escape the abusive situation adds a special poignancy to the story.

Chelsie, a busy lawyer, regrets that her sense of duty has put her at odds with the high-powered lawyer Griffin Stuart. Since two-year-old Alix is her niece and his niece also, she would like to have an amiable relationship with him, which isn't likely after the stunt her parents had pulled in a custody battle.

Griffin gets custody of Alix and makes drastic changes in his law career and personal life to make a home for his much-loved niece, daughter of his dead brother. Alix, too young to understand the disappearance of her parents from her life, acts out during the day and suffers night terrors that have her, Griffin, and Mrs. Baxter worn to a frazzle. So the day Griffin hears Alix laughing and sees her happily cuddled up close to her Aunt Chelsie as they read a book, he knows he has to rethink his attitude toward her.

Griffin's experience with women is that they are takers not givers. But if Chelsie can make Alix happy then he needs to broker a deal with her—and what a deal it turns out to be. As he takes on some of her caseload to free up some of her time and to expand his private law practice, he finds there is at least one woman in the world that is a giver. Chelsie's pro bono workload is a shock to him.

The secondary characters stay in the background for the most part. Of course, little Alix rules supreme and already knows how to manipulate in her charming and humorous way. Ryan, Griffin's private investigator friend, really sets the fox among the chickens with his unsolicited research report about Chelsie, but he is a godsend at other times and is always an unfailing friend. Chelsie's parents, while miles away, still must be dealt with for Chelsie to move on with her life—as does the despicable Jeff Sutton, her former husband.

Carly Phillips creates a love story that has humor and heartache as she ties Chelsie and Griffin to each other with a breathtaking love that grows and glows even though they have some tough problems to solve along the way. The easy flow of Ms. Phillips writing style makes Perfect Partners a joy to read and her characters seem real and struggling with modern day problems that engender empathy. Good entertainment!

Dorothy Morawsky says

This book was almost too good, couldn't put it down. Awesome job Carly Phillips. Read it, you'll love it.....

Becky says

Chelsie Russell and Griffin Stuart, both lawyers, have both lost two people in their lives. Chelsie's sister and Griffin's brother. Behind is left niece Alix. Griff has been granted full custody of the little girl after Chelsie represented her parents to try and get custody of their grandchild. The judge found bribery not a good example. Chelsie and Griff came to terms and now are trying to care for this child. Both characters have so many scars and baggage, it's amazing they can care for themselves let alone a small child. This is a loving, touching, emotional story of family, love, and forgiveness. I laughed, cried and jumped for joy. It has suspense, romance and heart tugging. I really enjoyed it.

Heather Andrews says

Griff that boy knows how to hit below the belt, "he pounced without hesitation. "Next time you feel the need to mother, have a kid of your own. I'll take care of Alix from now on." Chelsie is a girl that goes after what she wants, "so," she said in a husky voice, "if I want to know how much you want me, all I have to do..." Her seductive voice trailed off at the same moment her hand cupped him through his briefs." This one was a little more emotional than what I'm used to from Carly but that doesn't mean I didn't love it. I honestly don't think I've ever read a book by Carly that I didn't love and this wasn't an exception.

Kaia says

I liked the concept of the story and the importance of family. However, the story was repetitive and I didn't really sense any growth. The characters made so many judgments and assumptions without giving the other person any benefit of the doubt. This happened so many times that I truly don't believe in the ending. I feel that there will be something else that will come between them due to preconceived notions. True growth doesn't happen in 3 days. I wasn't a fan of the hero and the heroine cried too much. But it was a quick read and a journey nonetheless. Could have been so much better.

(Possible Minor Spoiler) I had a hard time accepting the fact that the hero wanted to "throttle" the heroine a few times due to her actions; this is completely disturbing considering the heroine's past. I don't think the author thought about this enough.

Franziska says

The book starts in a very emotional moment in the lives of the two main characters (Chelsie & Griffin) without long introductions or explanations. The reader will be captured from the first page.

Griffin and Chelsie (in the Name of her parents) fight for the custody of their little niece Alix. Griffin wins but soon realizes that he need the help of Chelsie. They have a lot of baggage from their pasts and need to put everything aside for their little girl.

Both are easy to like. Thanks to the narrator change every chapter the reader gains an insight into their thoughts and pasts and understands their actions.

Their relationship and the whole story developes very slowly. There are no real highlights, no building up tension, just some drama and lots of emotions.

I like the idea behind the book, but the plot is plain and uninspired. It is nice, but I won't read it again.

Eileen says

Perfect Partners by Carly Phillips is Book 2 in her Unexpected Love series and an updated version of one of her earliest books. In this story we meet Chelsie Russell and Griff Stuart. They are both lawyers who lost their siblings in a car crash and fight over custody of their orphaned niece. We follow these two as they work together to help with the adjustment of the little girl they both love. As they find ways to make this successful transition, these two become friends and then lovers.

This was a sweet, fun and entertaining story with very likeable and authentic characters that you want to cheer on, hoping for that happy ending. The characters were well written with complex characteristics. The story line was riveting and kept my attention to the very end. I really loved reading this book and had trouble putting this book down. Although part of a series, this book is a standalone story. I highly recommend this book to other readers.

I received an ARC of this book in exchange for a fair and honest review

Michelle says

As an avid Carly Phillips reader I was not disappointed with Perfect Partners one bit! My only disappointment was that I didn't read it sooner! I don't know how I missed this one when it first came out but I am so happy to have gotten the chance to read it today. As always Ms. Phillips created characters that you not just loved to read about but that you sympathized with and rooted for, you wanted to see the happy ending for everyone involved. Her characters are always very complex and tug at just the right heartstrings to keep you reading to find out what happens in the end.. This story was about Chelsie and Griffen, two people who fought in the court room as well as in life. Having lost her sister and his brother in a tragic car accident they have to put aside their differences in order to be there for their niece, to give her the best life possible since her parents are gone. There are a few twists and turns involved in their story but Ms. Phillips definitely keeps you on your toes and hoping for the happily ever after that Chelsie Griffen and Alix (their Niece) all deserve!

Sue Galuska says

Chelsie Russell has never gotten along with her parents who seem to think that money and status were more important than being a family. Chelsie is a lawyer and is representing her parents in a custody hearing for their 2 year old granddaughter, Alix. Since Chelsie's sister, Shannon, died in a car accident along with her husband Jared, Griffin Stuart, Jared's brother, was given custody of Alix. Chelsie's parents guilted her into pursuing the case against her own beliefs. Chelsie thought Griffin would be a much better provider for her niece than her own parents.

Griffin may be thankful he won his custody case but he rebuffs Chelsie's attempt at an apology and an offer of help with Alix. Griffin is used to working long hours being an attorney, but now his life is totally changed having a two year old and it is not going well. When Chelsie stops over to visit Alix, the little girl is drawn to her because she looks like her mommy. At first Chelsie doesn't want to get too close to Alix because of ghosts from her past but eventually Griffin convinces her that Alix needs Chelsie in her life too.

Over the course of time Griffin and Chelsie start to realize that things they believed about each other were actually wrong and they started up a friendship in helping out with Alix. That friendship continue to grow until other feelings started to arise. Could these two attorneys work out their differences to give Alix the type of life she really needs?

It was fun watching these two go from foes to friends to lovers. It was a great, sexy read that was full of a lot of emotions. I was so glad that Chelsie finally got the happy ending she was looking for her entire life.

Sheri says

This is my second time reading this one. I loved it then and I love it now. I really enjoyed Chelsie and Griff together. I liked how these two started as lawyers against one another for a custody battle and turned it around down the line into so much more.
