

## Chapter 18 Perfect Son-in-Law: Lucas Johnson

"Richard..." Maddie steadied Richard, her eyes filled with concern.

"I've heard the president of Kangster Films is very powerful. We might have really offended him. Given Kangster Films' clout, we're at a disadvantage."

Maddie had intended to comfort Richard, but her words inadvertently affirmed Kangster Films' superiority and implied Adler Group's weakness.

Richard had been holding a grudge against

Cartland since the moment he learned that the
latter was Merissa's new lover. Thus, Maddie's
confirmation that he was inferior to Cartland only
deepened his sadness.

"Look, Richard. It's okay. If it doesn't work out, we can let it go. I don't necessarily need a partnership with Kangster Films," Maddie added.

But to Richard, her words seemed to imply that he was the problem, which made his expression grow even gloomier.

"What's wrong with that man to actually let

Chapter 18 Perfect Son-in-Law:...



Merissa join such a prestigious company?! Does he like her that much? How pathetic."

Pathetic? Then what about him, a man who had married Merissa for a few years already? What would Maddie say about him?

"Enough!" Richard snapped, his face turning livid.

Maddie was startled by his sudden outburst, puzzled about which part of her comment had triggered him.

"I'm sorry, Richard. I just felt it was unfair to you..."

Unfair? And there he was, swallowing the humiliation because of her!

"That's enough! Didn't you understand?!" he roared.

It was the first time Richard had raised his voice at her. Maddie didn't dare continue.

Her eyes welled up with tears as she touched the necklace on her chest. "Richard, maybe I shouldn't have come back. We shouldn't have... If I hadn't returned, Merissa wouldn't have been upset. I just wanted to comfort you. I'm sorry... It's my fault."

Maddie brought up the past, softening Richard's heart as expected. "I'm sorry. It's not your fault.

Let's go. I'll find another way to get the resources for you."

Chapter 18 Perfect Son-in-Law:...



Maddie affectionately linked her arm with Richard's. "I knew it. You will always take the best care of me."

\*\*\*\*

Merissa had just gotten into the car when she couldn't help but start retching. Her morning sickness had been severe these past few days.

To ease her discomfort, Cartland told the driver to park the car along the road, handed her a paper bag, and gently patted her back. "Are you okay? Do we need to go to the hospital?"

Merissa glanced out of the car window and saw
Maddie affectionately linked with Richard.
Noticing nothing unusual, she withdrew her gaze.
"It's just normal morning sickness, nothing to
worry about. Come on, let's head home. I don't
want Richard to suspect anything."

She had been feeling unwell earlier but had endured it, desperate not to let Richard find out about her pregnancy.

"It's okay. I'm here," Cartland reassured her and then instructed the driver to head home.

As soon as they arrived, Gloria came out and blamed, "Merissa, dear, how come you run off to

(C) +5 Points

Chapter 18 Perfect Son-in-Law:...

the office now that you're pregnant?!"

Merissa looked puzzled, turning to Cartland with a questioning glance. Their mom knew about her pregnancy? Did he expose her?

Cartland met her gaze, scratched his head awkwardly, and then nodded.

She knew it! Her brother couldn't keep a secret!

"It's just some severe morning sickness," Merissa reassured her.

Gloria sighed, "I can't tell you what to do, but I had the chef make you some soup. It might help settle your stomach."

"Thanks, Mom," Merissa said with a playful smile.

As they moved to the front room, Gloria hesitated before speaking, "Merissa, with your pregnancy and everything that happened, have you thought about going abroad to rest? France would be lovely this time of year, especially since Lucas is there too. You could look after each other."

Gloria's intention was clear. From the moment
Merissa mentioned marrying Richard, Gloria knew
he wasn't a good match. In her eyes, Lucas
Johnson was the better match, a successful man
from a decent family who had always shown a

Chapter 18 Perfect Son-in-Law:...



fondness for Merissa. Before Merissa got married, he discreetly inquired about her habits, and after the marriage, he respectfully kept his distance for a while.

Gloria's words sent Merissa down memory lane.

## Ads-free >

Lucas?

That name had lain dormant in her memory for a long time, catching her off guard.

Her memories of Lucas were still those of their childhood.

They had grown up together in France, close



playmates. Lucas had brownish-red hair, bright, expressive eyes, and a smile like an angel in his youth.

He was angelic in nature, too, kind and intelligent.

No matter the problem, Lucas always had a solution, just like a walking encyclopedia.

Back then, she had relied on him a lot.

Ironically, Lucas had even met Richard twice.
When she and Richard were kidnapped, it was
Lucas who first sensed danger and promptly
informed their families.

They might have been in real danger had he not acted as quickly.

Seeing Merissa lost in thought, Gloria probed further, "You two were so close back then. Ever since you got married, you've lost touch with Lucas. Now might be a good time to reconnect!"

Snapping back to reality, Merissa responded, "Not now, Mom. I still have some things to handle here."

Knowing her stubborn streak, Gloria didn't push further. "Alright. Have some fruit and rest well."

When Merissa thought of Lucas, a smile crept onto her face, one she didn't even notice herself.

