

# Diary of a Matchmaker

The year 2006 is in the books and I've finally had a chance to catch up with all the work associated with running a matchmaking service (I'm Jane Carstens, that's my ad to the right.) The holidays were very busy for me along with all the last minute matching and interviewing that I was doing for clients, the *CBC* interviewed me for their new program *Vancouver Living* which aired on January 29th; my son and daughter-in-law were here from Toronto, and I had two weddings and an engagement party to attend (because we only had a week together, I brought along my husband and the kids to all three functions). Getting invited to engagement parties and weddings are the perks of being a successful Matchmaker and I get to attend quite a few. The two weddings happened to be on the same day, both at fabulous venues, and the food was said to be outstanding but because of a timing issue we missed dinner at both locations and ended up ordering a pizza that was delivered to the golf club at the second wedding.

Ah the glamorous life of a matchmaker.

I only mention this because I had one of those life-affirming, life defining moments at the first wedding we attended that day which was Bobbie and Gerard. There were close to 100 guests gathered at an upscale French restaurant, which was fully booked for the occasion. It was during Bobbie and Gerard's exchange of vows that I found myself overcome with emotion and I began to tear up. As Gerard said his vows I flashed back to an image I had of him when he was on the verge of tears, in my office on his birthday around St. Valentines Day of last year. He had been a client of mine for close to two years, I had matched him numerous times but nothing clicked and he was in my office wondering if he would ever find the woman he imagined he could spend the rest of his life with. Well with my help on his very next match he did, and at that moment he and Bobbie were getting married. I looked around the room and I suddenly realized that all the people, family and friends, gathered at that

French Restaurant at that moment were there because of what I chose to do for a living. It hit me all at once that Bobbie and Gerard's lives, and their kid's lives would be forever changed because of me, and it was a very humbling and enlightening experience.

It's easy for me to get caught up in all the aspects of running a matchmaking business on a day to day basis, interviewing new clients matching existing ones, reviewing feedback from previous matches, paying electrical bills, etc. etc. but at that moment during Bobbie and Gerard's wedding I was able to see beyond the mechanics of my job to a set of wonderful life changing circumstances that I helped create. I try to keep this image fresh and focused in my mind to remind myself of the importance of the job that I do and the impact that I do have on my client's lives. (Read the series of articles on Bobbie and Gerard and see Jane's story that was aired on *CBC's Vancouver Living* on the Hearts Website.) [www.heartscanada.com](http://www.heartscanada.com)



## The Matchmaker

Jane Carstens



*"I'll help you take a proactive, organized, business-like approach to finding the right partner from the comfort and privacy of your own home."*

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