

Ring Exchanges

The love that I have is all that I have
And the love that I have is yours
The love that I have of the life that I have
Is yours and yours and yours

With this ring
I vow to laugh with you in joy
To grieve with you in sorrow
To be faithful to you
And to cherish and respect you as long as we both shall live

I give this ring as a token of the vows made between us this day
I receive this ring as a symbol of our marriage and the commitment we
are making today

I give you this ring
As a token of my love and loyalty
And as a lasting reminder of the vows made between us this day

I promise to love and care for you
To comfort and protect you
To listen and confide in you
To be honest and faithful to you
To respect your thoughts and your dreams
And to trust and believe in you above all others



A great place to live and work

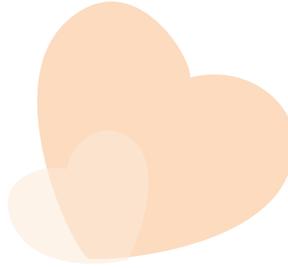
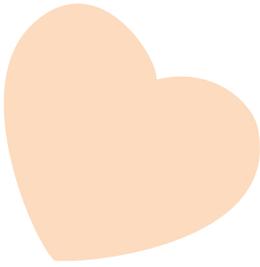
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Registration Service

A Selection of Readings

If you have decided you would like a Reading at your ceremony, this booklet offers a number of suggestions

1 The Art of a Good Marriage

Happiness in marriage is not something that just happens.

A good marriage must be created.

In marriage the little things are the big things.

It is never being too old to hold hands.

It is remembering to say “I love you” at least once a day.

It is never going to sleep angry.

It is at no time taking the other for granted; the courtship should not end with the honeymoon, it should continue through all the years.

It is having a mutual sense of values and common objectives.

It is standing together and facing the world.

It is forming a circle of love that gathers in the whole family.

It is doing things for each other, not in the attitude of duty or sacrifice, but in the spirit of joy.

It is speaking words of appreciation and demonstrating gratitude in thoughtful ways.

It is not looking for perfection in each other.

It is cultivating flexibility, patience, understanding and a sense of humour,

It is having the capacity to forgive and forget.

It is giving each other an atmosphere in which each can grow.

It is a common search for the good and the beautiful.

It is establishing a relationship in which the independence is equal, dependence is mutual and the obligation is reciprocal.

It is not only marrying the right partner, it is being the right partner.

Wilfred Arlan Peterson

2 What is Love

Sooner or later we begin to understand that love is more than verses on valentines and romance in the movies. We begin to know that love is here and now, real and true, the most important things in our lives.

For love is the creator of our favourite memories and the foundation of our fondest dreams. Love is a promise that is always kept, a fortune that can never be spent, a seed that can flourish in even the most unlikely of places.

And this radiance that never fades, this mysterious and magical joy, is the greatest treasure of all – one known only by those who love.

3 If

If you treat each other kindly with compassion and with trust
And always let your tender feelings show.

If you laugh together often and enjoy the time you share,
But give each other space to learn and grow,

If you understand your differences, respecting who you are,
And put each other first in all you do,

Your marriage will be wonderful, a reason to feel proud,
And a special source of love your whole lives through.

4 He's Not Perfect

He's not perfect.

You aren't either, and the two of you will never be perfect.

But if he can make you laugh at least once, causes you to think twice, and if he admits to being human and making mistakes, hold onto him and give him the most you can.

He isn't going to quote poetry, he's not thinking about you every moment, but he will give you a part of him that he knows you could break.

Don't hurt him, don't change him, and don't expect for more than he can give.

Don't analyse.

Smile when he makes you happy, yell when he makes you mad, and miss him when he's not there.

Love hard when there is love to be had.

Because perfect guys don't exist, but there's always one guy that is perfect for you.

Bob Marley



5 This Day of Love

On this Wedding day of ours we join our hands and hearts.
The journey that has brought us here begins a fresh new start.
This is the day that we've waited for to celebrate together
We begin our lives as husband and wife with love to last forever.
We thank our friends and family for being with us, we're touched.
We're honoured to share this special day with those who mean
so much.

Special thanks to our parents for their devotion, love and care.
For the love they provide is something we now share.
For those that can not be with us we remember them on this day.
Their love and support surrounds us in each and every way.
On this day we say 'I Do' and kiss as husband and wife,
We celebrate our marriage and our new journey of life.

6 The Magic of Love

Love is like magic and it always will be,
For love still remains life's sweet mystery.
Love works in ways that are wondrous and strange
And there's nothing in life that love cannot change.
Love can transform the most commonplace
Into beauty and splendour and sweetness and grace
Love is unselfish, understanding and kind,
For it sees with its heart and not its mind.
Love is the answer that everyone seeks –
Love is the language that every heart speaks.
Love can't be bought, it's priceless and free.
Love, like pure magic is a sweet mystery.

Helen Steiner Rice

7 What is a Wedding?

It's two radiant people
So deeply in love
Beginning a future
They're both dreaming of.

It's sweet and soft music
A mother's fond tears
As she thinks of her daughter
In childhood years.

It's a beautiful bride
With a pretty bouquet
And her father's warm kiss
As he gives her away.

It's a happy groom
His eyes filled with pride
As he welcomes his sweetheart
And they stand side by side.

It's the pledging of vows
The ring and the kiss
It's a beautiful service
And yet more than this

It's a promise fulfilled
A dream that comes true
And the first happy step
In a life shared by two.



8 Sonnet CXVI

Let me not to the marriage of two minds
Admit impediments, Love is not love
Which alters when it alteration finds.
Or bends with the remover to remove
Oh, no! it is an ever fixed mark
That looks on tempests... and is never shaken,
It is the star to every wandering bark
Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken
Love is not time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks
Within his bending sickle's compass come.
Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,
But bears it out even to the edge of doom.
If this be error and upon me proved,
I never writ, nor no man ever loved.

William Shakespeare

9 True Love

True love is a sparkling flame that burns eternally,
And none can dim its special glow or change its destiny.
True love speaks in tender tones and hears with gentle ear,
True love gives with open heart and true love conquers fear.
True love makes no harsh demands, it neither rules or binds,
And true love holds with gentle hands, the heart that it entwines.

Author unknown

10 These I can Promise

I cannot promise you a life of sunshine
I cannot promise riches, wealth or gold
I cannot promise you an easy pathway
That leads away from change or growing old.

But I can promise all my heart's devotion
A smile to chase away your tears of sorrow
A love that's ever true and ever growing
A hand to hold in yours through each tomorrow.

11 What is Love?

Love is not just looking at each other and saying "you're wonderful"

There are times when we are anything but wonderful.

Love is looking out in the same direction.

It is linking our strength to pull a common load.

It is pushing together towards the far horizons, hand in hand.

Love is knowing that when our strength falters,

We can borrow the strength of someone who cares.

Love is a strange awareness that our sorrows will be shared

And made lighter by sharing?

That joys will be enriched and multiplied by the joy of another.

Love is knowing someone else cares that we are not alone in life.



12 Captain Corelli's Mandolin

Love is a temporary madness,
it erupts like volcanoes and then subsides.
And when it subsides you have to make a decision.
You have to work out whether your roots have so
entwined together that it is inconceivable that you should ever
part.

Because this is what love is.

Love is not breathlessness, it is not excitement, it is not
the promulgation of eternal passion.

That is just being 'in love' which any fool can do.

Love itself is what is left over when being in love has
burned away, and this is both an art and a fortunate
accident.

Those that truly love, have roots that grow towards each
other underground, and when all the pretty blossom have
fallen from their branches, they find that they are
one tree and not two.

13 I Will Be Here

If in the morning when you wake,
If the sun does not appear
I will be here.

If in the dark we lose sight of love
Hold my hand and have no fear,
I will be here.

I will be here,
When you feel like being quiet,
When you need to speak your mind I will listen.
Through the winning, losing and trying we'll be together,
And I will be here.

If in the morning when you wake,
If the future is unclear,
I will be here.
As sure as seasons were made for change,
Our lifetimes were made for years,
I will be here.

I will be here,
And when you can cry on my shoulder,
When the mirror tells us we're older
I will hold you, to watch you grow in beauty,
And tell you all the things you are to me.
We'll be together and I will be here.
I will be true to the promises I've made
To you and to the one who gave you to me.
I will be here.

Steven Curtis Chapman

14 Yes, I'll Marry You

Yes, I'll marry you, my dear
And here's the reason why,
So I can push you out of bed
when the baby starts to cry,
And if we hear a knocking
And it's creepy and it's late,
I hand you the torch you see, and you investigate.

Yes, I'll marry you my dear,
You may not apprehend it,
But when the tumble drier goes,
It's you that has to mend it.
You have to face the neighbour
Should our Labrador attack him
And if a drunkard fondles me
It's you that has to whack him

Yes I'll marry you, my dear,
You're virile and you're lean,
My house is like a pigsty
You can help to keep it clean.
That sexy little dinner
Which you served by candlelight,
As I do chipolatas
You can cook it every night!

It's you who has to work the drill
And put up the curtain track,
And when I've got PMT
It's you who gets the flack.
I do see great advantages,
But none of them for you,
And so before you see the light, I do, I do, I do!

Pam Ayres



15 I'll Still be Loving You

When your hair has turned to winter
And your teeth are in a plate,
When your get up and go
Has gone to stop and wait –
I'll still be loving you.

When your attributes have shifted
And you're not as spry as now,
I'll count the joys you bring me, not the wrinkles on your brow
I'll still be loving you.

When the crackle in your voice
Matches that within your knee,
And the times are getting frequent
That you don't remember me –
I'll still be loving you.

Growing old is not a sin,
It's something we all do.

I hope you'll always understand – I'll still be loving you.

16 The Blessing of the Apaches

Now you will feel no rain,
For each of you will be shelter to the other.
Now you will feel no cold,
For each of you will be warmth to the other.
Now there is no more loneliness for you,
For each of you will be companion to the other.
Now you are two bodies,
But there is only one life before you.
Go now to your dwelling place,
To enter into the days of your togetherness.
And may your days be good and long upon the earth.



17 On Your Wedding Day

Today is a day you will always remember
The greatest in anyone's life
You'll start off the day just two people in love
And end it as Husband and Wife.

It's a brand new beginning, the start of a journey
With moments to cherish and treasure
And although there'll be times when you both disagree
These will surely be outweighed by pleasure

You'll have heard many words of advise in the past
When the secrets of marriage were spoken
But you know that the answers lie hidden inside
Where the bond of true love lies unbroken

So live happy forever as lovers and friends
It's the dawn of a new life for you
As you stand there together with love in your eyes
From the moment you whisper "I do"

And with luck, all your hopes and your dreams can be real
May success find its way to your hearts
Tomorrow can bring you the greatest of joys
But today is the day it all starts.

18 Union

You have known each other from the first glance of acquaintance to this point of commitment. At some point, you decided to marry. From that moment of yes, to this moment of yes, indeed, you have been making commitments in an informal way. All of those conversations that were held in a car, or over a meal, or during long walks – all those conversations that began with, “When we’re married”, and continued with “I will” and “you will” and “we will” – all those late night talks that included “someday” and “somehow” and “maybe” – and all those promises that are unspoken matters of the heart. All these common things, and more, are the real process of a wedding.

The symbolic vows that you are about to make are a way of saying to one another, “You know all those things that we’ve promised, and hoped, and dreamed – well, I meant it all, every word.”

Look at one another and remember this moment in time. Before this moment you have been many things to one another – acquaintance, friend, companion, lover, dancing partner, even teacher, for you have learned much from one another these past few years. Shortly you shall say a few words that will take you across a threshold of life, and things between you will never quite be the same.

For after today you shall say to the world –
This is my husband. This is my wife.

Robert Fulghum

