



Moments in Time  
CELEBRANT SERVICES

Selection of  
Blessings, Poems and  
Readings

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### **Apache Wedding Blessing (Anonymous)**

Now you will feel no sun, for each of you will be a shelter to the other.  
Now you will feel no cold, for each of you will be warmth to the other.  
Now there will be no loneliness, for each of you will be companion to the other.  
Now you are two persons, 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.

### **Apache Wedding Blessing (long version)**

Now you will feel no storms, 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 loneliness, for each of you is companion to the other,  
You are two persons, but there is one life before you, and one home.  
Turn together to look at the road you travelled, to reach this—the hour of your  
happiness. It stretches behind you into the past.  
Look to the future that lies ahead.  
A long and winding, adventure-filled road, whose every turn means discovery, new  
hopes, new joys, new laughter, and a few shared tears.  
May happiness be your companion,  
May beauty surround you both in the journey ahead; And through all the years to come.  
Go this day to your dwelling place and enter into your days together.  
May your days be good and long upon the earth.  
Your adventure has just begun!

### **An Irish Wedding Blessing (Author unknown)**

You are the star of each night,  
You are the brightness of every morning,  
You are the story of each guest,  
You are the report of every land.  
No evil shall befall you, on hill nor bank,  
In field or valley, on mountain or in glen.  
Neither above, nor below, neither in sea,  
Nor on shore, in skies above,  
Nor in the depths  
You are the kernel of my heart,  
You are the face of my sun,  
You are the harp of my music,  
You are the crown of my company

### **An Uncommon Love (Terah Cox)**

May you have the love only two can know.  
May you go where only two as one may go.  
May the sun rise and set in your bonded hearts and the moon never find you too long apart.  
May you cherish each other's dreams as your own and turn stumbling blocks into steppingstones.  
May you brave life's mountains and miles together.  
May there be no storm your love cannot weather.  
May you be lovers and allies and friends.  
May your soul's conversation never end.  
May you capture on earth what's in heaven above.  
May your hearts know the rapture of an uncommon love

### **Carrie's Poem (from Sex and the City)**

His hello was the end of her endings  
Her laugh was their first step down the aisle  
His hand would be hers to hold forever  
His forever was as simple as her smile  
He said she was what was missing  
She said instantly she knew  
She was a question to be answered  
And his answer was "I do"

### **Cherokee Prayer**

God in heaven above please protect the ones we love.  
We honour all you created as we pledge our hearts and lives together.  
We honour mother earth and ask for our marriage to be abundant and grow stronger through the seasons.  
We honour fire and ask that our union be warm and glowing with love in our hearts.  
We honour wind and ask we sail through life safe and calm as in our father's arms.  
We honour water to clean and soothe our relationship, that it may never thirst for love.  
With all the forces of the universe you created, we pray for harmony and true happiness as we forever grow young together. Amen.

### **Even now, as many times as we have been together (Jeri Sweany)**

Even now, as many times as we have been together, it is still hard for me to understand sometimes just how you can keep on loving me.  
When I get upset and angry and say threatening things that would make anyone else run the other way, you patiently, lovingly wait for me to pull myself together again.  
I guess I will never really understand the depth of your love for me, but I will always accept it, and I consider myself very fortunate to have you in my life

### **From The Irrational Season (Madeleine L'Engle)**

But ultimately there comes a moment when a decision must be made. Ultimately two people who love each other must ask themselves how much they hope for as their love grows and deepens, and how much risk they are willing to take...It is indeed a fearful gamble...Because it is the nature of love to create, a marriage itself is something which has to be created, so that, together we become a new creature.

To marry is the biggest risk in human relations that a person can take...If we commit ourselves to one person for life this is not, as many people think, a rejection of freedom; rather it demands the courage to move into all the risks of freedom, and the risk of love which is permanent; into that love which is not possession, but participation...It takes a lifetime to learn another person...When love is not possession, but participation, then it is part of that co-creation which is our human calling, and which implies such risk that it is often rejected.

### **Handfast (Ceremony Blessing)**

Blessed be this union with the gifts of the East.  
Communication of the heart, mind, and body  
Fresh beginnings with the rising of each Sun.  
The knowledge of the growth found in the sharing of silences.  
Blessed be this union with the gifts of the South.  
Warmth of hearth and home  
The heat of the heart's passion  
The light created by both to illuminate the darkest of times.  
Blessed be this union with the gifts of the West.  
The deep commitments of the lake, the swift excitement of the river  
The refreshing cleansing of the rain, the all encompassing passion of the sea.  
Blessed be this union with the gifts of the North  
Firm foundation on which to build  
Fertility of the fields to enrich your lives

### **Irish Prayer (Author unknown)**

May joy and peace surround you both,  
Contentment latch your door,  
And happiness be with you now,  
And love be cherished evermore

### **I love you enough (Nancye Sims)**

I love you enough that I want you to be happy.  
You know better than I what you need, and I urge you to seek it without fear.  
I love you enough that I want you to feel free.  
I know a person must belong to himself first, before he can share himself with another  
I love you enough to respect and accept your right to be the unique person you are.  
The differences between us when used in a loving way, can be a bond that draws us closer.  
I love you enough that I am willing to share you with others I don't ask for all of your time, just some time for us and a place in your heart.  
I love you enough that I want to live with you always.  
For in you, I have what I need most and you are where I belong.

### **I Love You (Roy Croft)**

I love you  
Not only for who you are  
But for what I am when I am with you.  
I love you  
Not only for what you have made of yourself  
But for what you are making of me.  
I love you for the part of me that you bring out.  
I love you for putting your hand into my heart  
And passing over all the foolish, weak things that you can't help.  
Dimly seeing there and drawing out, into the light all the beautiful belongings  
That no one else had looked quite far enough to find.  
You have done it without a touch, without a word, without a sign.

### **I love you (Susan Polis Schutz)**

I cannot promise you that  
I will not change  
I will not have many different moods  
I will not hurt your feelings sometimes  
I will not be erratic I will always be strong, my faults will not show.  
But -  
I do promise you that I will always be supportive of you  
I will share all my thoughts and feelings with you  
I will give you freedom to be yourself  
I will understand everything that you do  
I will be completely honest with you  
I will laugh and cry with you  
I will help you achieve all your goals  
But most of all, I do promise you that, I love you

### **In our eyes (Author Unknown)**

In your eyes, I have found my home.  
In your heart, I have found my love.  
In your soul, I have found my mate.  
With you, I am whole, full, alive.  
You make me laugh. You let me cry.  
You are my breath, my every heartbeat.  
I am yours. You are mine.  
Of this we are certain.

### **I Promise (Dorothy R Colgan)**

I promise to give you the best of myself and to ask of you no more than you can give.  
I promise to respect you as your own person and to realise that your interest, desires and needs are no less important than my own.  
I promise to share with you my time and my attention and to bring joy, strength and imagination to our relationship.  
I promise to keep myself open to you, to let you see through the windows of my world into my innermost fears and feelings, secrets and dreams.  
I promise to grow along with you, to be willing to face changes in order to keep our relationship alive and exciting.  
I promise to love you in good times and in bad, with all I have to give and all I feel inside in the only way I know how completely and forever.

### **Love isn't always perfect (Author Unknown)**

Love isn't always perfect. It isn't a fairytale or a storybook. And it doesn't always come easy. Love is overcoming obstacles, facing challenges, fighting to be together, holding on & never letting go. It is a short word, easy to spell, difficult to define, & impossible to live without. Love is work, but most of all, Love is realising that every hour, every minute, & every second was worth it because you did it together.

### **Marriage Joins Two People in the Circle of Its Love (Edmund O'Neill)**

Marriage is a commitment to life, to the best that two people can find and bring out in each other. It offers opportunities for sharing and growth that no other human relationship can equal; a joining that is promised for a lifetime. A wife and a husband are each other's best friend, lover, teacher, listener, and critic.

When two people pledge to love and care for each other in marriage, they create a spirit unique to themselves, which binds them closer than any spoken or written words.

Marriage is a promise made in the hearts of two people who love, which takes a lifetime to fulfil.

These are the hands of your best friend, young and strong and full of love for you, that are holding yours on your wedding day as you promise to love each other today, tomorrow and forever.

### **My Love Is Like a Red, Red Rose (Robert Burns)**

O' my luve's like a red, red rose,  
That's newly sprung in June.  
O' my luve's like the melodie,  
That's sweetly play'd in tune  
As fair art thou, my bonnie lass,  
So deep in luve am I,  
And I will luve thee still, my Dear,  
Till a' the seas gang dry.  
Till a' the seas gang dry, my Dear,  
And the rocks melt wi' the sun!  
And I will luve thee still, my Dear,  
While the sands o' life shall run.

### **On Love (Kahlil Gibran, from "The Prophet")**

Love has no other desire but to fulfill itself  
To wake at dawn with a winged heart  
And give thanks for another day of loving.  
To rest at the noon hour and meditate love's ecstasy  
To return home in even tide with gratitude,  
Then sleep with a prayer  
For the beloved in your heart  
And a song of praise upon your lips.

### **On Marriage (Khalil Gibran, from "The Prophet")**

You were born together, and together you shall be forevermore.  
You shall be together when white wings of death scatter your days.  
Aye, you shall be together even in the silent memory of God.  
But let there be spaces in your togetherness,  
And let the winds of the heavens dance between you.  
Love one another but make not a bond of love:  
Let it rather be a moving sea between the shores of your souls.  
Fill each other's cup but drink not from one cup.  
Give one another of your bread but eat not from the same loaf.  
Sing and dance together and be joyous, but let each one of you be alone,  
Even as the strings of a lute are alone though they quiver with the same music.  
Give your hearts, but not into each other's keeping.  
For only the hand of Life can contain your hearts.  
And stand together, yet not too near together:  
For the pillars of the temple stand apart,  
And the oak tree and the cypress grow not in each other's shadow

### **Reading from 1 Corinthians 13**

Love is patient and kind; it is not jealous or conceited or proud; love is not ill-mannered or selfish or irritable; love does not keep a record of wrongs; love is not happy with evil, but is happy with the truth. Love never gives up; and its faith, hope, and patience never fail.

In the end, these three remain: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

### **The Art of a Good Marriage (Wilfred Arlan Peterson)**

A good marriage must be created.

In the 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 each day.

It is never going to sleep angry.

It is having a mutual sense of value 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 speaking words of appreciation and demonstrating gratitude in thoughtful ways.

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 not only marrying the right person, it is being the right partner

### **The Bridge Across Forever (Richard Bach)**

A soulmate is someone who has locks that fit our keys, and keys to fit our locks. When we feel safe enough to open the locks, our truest selves step out and we can be completely and honestly who we are; we can be loved for who we are and not for who we're pretending to be. Each unveils the best part of the other. No matter what else goes wrong around us, with that one person, we're safe in our own paradise. Our soulmate is someone who shares our deepest longings, our sense of direction. When we're two balloons, and together our direction is up, chances are we've found the right person. Our soulmate is the one who makes life come to life.

### **The Key to Love (Author unknown)**

The key to love is understanding the ability to comprehend not only the spoken word, but those unspoken gestures, the little things that say so much by themselves.

The key to love is forgiveness to accept each other's faults and pardon mistakes, without forgetting, but with remembering what you learn from them.

The key to love is sharing facing your good fortunes as well as the bad, together; both conquering problems, forever searching for ways to intensify your happiness.

The key to love is giving without thought of return, but with the hope of just a simple smile, and by giving in but never giving up.

The key to love is respect realizing that you are two separate people, with different ideas; that you don't belong to each other, that you belong with each other, and share a mutual bond.

The key to love is inside us all It takes time and patience to unlock all the ingredients that will take you to its threshold; it is the continual learning process that demands a lot of work but the rewards are more than worth the effort and that is the key to love.

### **The One (Author unknown)**

When the one whose hand you're holding is the one who holds your heart,  
When the one whose eyes you gaze into gives your hopes and dreams their start,  
When the one you think of first and last is the one who holds you tight,  
And the things you plan together make the world seem just right,  
When the one whom you believe in puts their faith and trust in you,  
You've found the one and only love you'll share your whole life through.

### **These I Can Promise (Author Unknown)**

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.

### **The Wish for Tomorrow (Author Unknown)**

We will not wish you joy on this great day,  
For joy is in your hearts and goes with you  
Along the fragrant, mystic, sunlit way;  
We will not wish you joy whilst love is new.  
But this is our wish: May you be strong enough  
To shelter love, and keep it safe from harm,  
When winds blow high, and roads are steep and rough,  
May you protect your love, preserve its charm.  
When days are dark, may love be your sure light  
When days are cold, may love be your bright fire  
Your guiding star when hope is out of sight  
The essence and the sum of your desire  
May love be with you through the flights of years,  
Then after storms, there will always be calm.  
Though you have cause for heartache and for tears;  
Despair lasts not, where love is there for balm  
This is the prayer we breathe for you today:  
When you have reached the summit of life's hill,  
May it be possible for you to say,  
'Married long years, but we are lovers still'

### **Those that Truly Love (Louis de Bernières from Corelli's Mandolin)**

Love is a temporary madness. It erupts like a volcano and then subsides. And when it subsides you have to make a decision. You have to work out whether your roots have become 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 promises 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 blossoms have fallen from their branches, they find that they are one tree and not two.

### **Sooner or Later (Author Unknown)**

Sooner or later we begin to understand that love is more than presents on valentines, and romance in the movies. We begin to know that love is here and now, real and true, the most important thing in our lives. For love creates our favourite memories, and is 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."

### **Soul Mates (Lang Leav)**

"I don't know how you are so familiar to me — or why it feels less like I am getting to know you and more as though I am remembering who you are. How every smile, every whisper brings me closer to the impossible conclusion that I have known you before, I have loved you before — in another time, a different place, some other existence."

### **Still Life with Woodpecker (Tom Robbins)**

Love is the ultimate outlaw.

It just won't adhere to any rules.

The most any of us can do is to sign on as its accomplice.

Instead of vowing to honour and obey, maybe we should swear to aid and abet.

That would mean that security is out of the question.

The words "make" and "stay" become inappropriate.

My love for you has no strings attached. I love you for free.

### **Wedding reading hands (Author Unknown)**

These are the hands that will work alongside yours as together you build your future.

These are the hands that will passionately love you and cherish you through the years, and with the slightest touch will comfort you like no other.

These are the hands that will hold you when fear or grief wracks your mind.

These are the hands that will countless times wipe the tears from your eyes, tears of sorrow and tears of joy.

These are the hands that will tenderly hold your children.

These are the hands that will help hold your family as one.  
These are the hands that will give you strength when you need it.  
And lastly, these are the hands that even when wrinkled and aged will still be reaching for yours, still giving you the same unspoken tenderness with just a touch.

### **What is Love (Author Unknown)**

Love is the special feeling that brightens all our days,  
And the secret of its meaning is found in simple ways.  
When we share a little secret or some special dreams come true,  
Chances are we also share that loving feeling, too.  
Love is taking time to give a really nice surprise,  
Just to see a happy smile and wide excited eyes.  
Love is often, just to say you care  
Or remembering someone special when you say a little prayer.  
Love is missing someone whenever you're apart,  
But somehow feeling warm inside, because you're close in heart.  
Sometimes love is saying 'you look so nice very nice'  
And other times it's giving a kind word of advise.  
And though many kinds of beauty fill the earth and sky above,  
None could be more precious, than the wonder that is love.

### **Why Marriage? (Author unknown)**

Because to the depths of me, I long to love one person,  
With all my heart, my soul, my mind, my body ...  
Because I need a forever friend to trust with the intimacies of me,  
Who won't hold them against me, who loves me when I'm unlikable,  
Who sees the small child in me, and who looks for the divine potential of me  
Because I need to cuddle in the warmth of the night  
With someone who thanks God for me, with someone I feel blessed to hold  
Because marriage means opportunity to grow in love in friendship  
Because marriage is a discipline to be added to a list of achievements  
Because marriages do not fail, people fail when they enter into marriage  
Expecting another to make them whole  
Because, knowing this, I promise myself to take full responsibility for my spiritual, mental  
and physical wholeness. I create me, I take half of the responsibility for my marriage  
Together we create our marriage because with this understanding

### **Wild Awake (Hilary T. Smith)**

"People are like cities: We all have alleys and gardens and secret rooftops and places where daisies sprout between the sidewalk cracks, but most of the time all we let each other see is a postcard glimpse of a skyline or a polished square. Love lets you find those hidden places in another person, even the ones they didn't know were there, even the ones they wouldn't have thought to call beautiful themselves."

### **You and I have seen each other (Susan Ellington)**

You and I have seen each other at our best and our worst, and still we remain friends.

Our love no longer depends on feelings, but rather on a commitment of our wills to seek only what is best for each other.

Past hurts and angry words have not built walls between us.

Instead, they've become opportunities for us to learn the meaning of forgiveness ...

We've developed a mutual respect for each other and a sensitivity to the needs of two fragile egos.

If ever you start to question what you mean to me, all you need to do is look into my eyes.

It's easy to see that each day my appreciation for you continues to grow.

Nothing and no one will change my love for you.

### **You are the best of all possible companions (Judy Mason)**

You are the best of all possible companions.

I love you dearly because you accept me for what I am, not for what you need or want of me.

You are the first person in my life who has loved me for me alone.

With you I'm not locked into a role; I'm free to change, to explore and to grow.

You have shown me by your love that I am a person of value, and you expect from me all that I am capable of accomplishing.

Thank you for being my friend, my love.

Thank you for insisting that I be all that I can.

Thank you for loving me enough to make it all worth it.