

Reading

Cosmos by Carl Sagan read by Mayan

The size and age of the Cosmos are beyond ordinary human understanding. Lost somewhere between immensity and eternity is our tiny planetary home. And yet our species is young and curious and brave and shows much promise. In the last few millennia we have made the most astonishing and unexpected discoveries. They remind us that humans have evolved to wonder, that understanding is a joy, that knowledge is prerequisite to survival. Our little planet floats like a mote of dust in the morning sky. All that you see, all that we can see, exploded out of a star billions of years ago, and the particles slowly arranged themselves into living things, including all of us. We are made of star stuff. We are the mechanism by which the universe can comprehend itself. The world is so exquisite with so much love and moral depth. We should remain grateful every day for the brief but magnificent opportunity that life provides. The sum of all our evolution, our thinking and our accomplishments is love. It gives to two questioning natures a renewed reason for living. It brings a new gladness to the sunshine, a new fragrance to the flowers, a new beauty to the earth, and a new mystery to life.

Your Story

Keely and Colin first met through friends and when Sarah married Ed, you were best man and bridesmaid, and in true romantic fashion they got together, and have been pretty inseparable since!

They love being in nature, and enjoy walking the Cornish Coast not far from Colin's parents, with a particular love of the Lizard – hence the choice of venue!

In keeping with their fondness of the outdoors, when on holiday in the Cairngorms in Scotland Colin planned a hike with a view – and told Keely to look out to the view so he could take a photo of her, and when she turned round – he was down on one knee! A certain question was asked and a positive response given, which is why we are all here today.

Support of Family and Friends

Today, as we join Colin and Keely in marriage, we celebrate with them as they begin a new chapter in their lives together. Two people in love do not live in isolation. They are surrounded by a network of family and friends – a whole community – and their love is a source of strength with which they may nourish not only each other, but also the world around them. And in turn, we, their community of friends and family, have a responsibility to this couple. By our steadfast care, respect, and love, we can support their marriage and the partnership they are creating today.

Will you who are present here today, surround Colin and Keely in love, offering them the joys of your friendship and supporting them in their marriage?

All: We will.



For both Colin and Keely it is clear that marriage is the culmination of their relationship. Marriage is the promise of home and hope, where they love one another and choose to be together, anchored by family and friends. Their thoughts on marriage? – “Marriage is the joy and privilege of spending the rest of your life with your favourite person and your best friend. Knowing you have a partner in good times and bad and someone to share exciting experiences, adventure and worries alike. Marriage symbolises them becoming a family unit and they are so happy that they get to celebrate that with all the people they love.

You will now make your promises to each other.

Colin: Please respond ‘I DO’ to the following:

Colin: I ask you now, do you promise to dedicate yourself to Keely, to love and care for her as you take her to be your wife? I do

Do you take her into your heart as your wife, on this afternoon and every day to come? I do

Keely: Please respond ‘I DO’ to the following:

Keely: I ask you now, do you promise to dedicate yourself to Colin, to love and care for him as you take him to be your husband? I do

Do you take him into your heart as your husband, on this afternoon and every day to come? I do



Reading

Scaffolding by Seamus Heaney read by Emma

Masons, when they start upon a building,
Are careful to test out the scaffolding;
Make sure that planks won't slip at busy points,
Secure all ladders, tighten bolted joints.
And yet all this comes down when the job's done
Showing off walls of sure and solid stone.
So if, my dear, there sometimes seem to be
Old bridges breaking between you and me
Never fear. We may let the scaffolds fall
Confident that we have built our wall.



Vows

Your marriage today is a public declaration to each other that you intend to walk together as equals into your future. Despite and indeed because of your differences and your knowledge of each other's weaknesses, strengths, and foibles, you are a team, celebrating the highs and consoling each other in the lows – you truly want the best for each other and your future life tackling each new day together. Your wish for the future is to make each other happy for the rest of your lives, to care and protect each other, to be a safe harbour for each other's thoughts, hopes and dreams.

So today you declare in front of all your family and friends, your trust and loyalty to each other, your intention to support each other on your journey through life and to love and be loved wholeheartedly.

You are now going to make your vows to each other:

Colin:

I Colin take you Keely to be my wife
As your best friend I give you my love and companionship
My support and encouragement at all times
I promise to let you be yourself with me
As I can be myself with you
I will strive to listen, comfort and inspire you
And love you today, tomorrow and forever

Keely:

I Keely take you Colin to be my husband
As your best friend I give you my love and companionship
My support and encouragement at all times
I promise to let you be yourself with me
As I can be myself with you
I will strive to listen, comfort and inspire you
And love you today, tomorrow and forever

Colin and Keely your lives and spirits are joined in a union of love and trust.

Hands

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.

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 fills 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 help you to 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.



Exchange of rings.

Colin and Keely's rings are an external and visible sign of the internal and spiritual bond of love which unites their two hearts. Though you will wear these rings day and night they will continue to shine as a symbol of your enduring love and they will serve as a seal of the vows you have made to one another.

Best man – please come forward with the rings, and hold them out to me

Bless these rings, symbols of eternity, beauty and strength. Bless the couple who give them and wear them—may they ever live in harmony, unity, love, and happiness from this day forward.

Colin please take Keely's ring and place it on the ring finger of her left hand and as you hold it there please repeat after me:

I give you this ring as a representation of our love and affection and as a symbol of the vows we have made today. Wear it as a sign of our love for each other now and forever.

Keely please take Colin's ring and place it on the ring finger of his left hand and as you hold it there please repeat after me:

I give you this ring as a representation of our love and affection and as a symbol of the vows we have made today. Wear it as a sign of our love for each other now and forever.

I am going to ask Jai to come forward to read our final reading



The Luckiest – Ben Folds

I don't get many things right the first time
In fact, I am told that a lot
Now I know all the wrong turns, the stumbles and falls
Brought me here
And where was I before the day
That I first saw your lovely face?
Now I see it everyday
And I know
That I am
The luckiest
I love you more than I have ever found a way to say to you
Next door there's an old man who lived to his 90's
And one day passed away in his sleep
And his wife, she stayed for a couple of days
And passed away
I'm sorry, I know that's a strange way to tell you that I know we belong
That I know
That I am
The luckiest