

Ryan + Darcy's Wedding Vows Script

August 5, 2006

Minister:

Welcome to the marriage of **Richard Ryan** and **Darcy Anne**.

You have been asked to gather here to witness and share in the joy of this union.

In honor of past days, this day, and days long into the future, they have prepared to share with you a special symbol of their love and life together as represented by the time capsule.

We thought it would be fun to capture this moment in our history together and as our life grows, the thought of revisiting these relics at milestone anniversaries not only to smile at the memories, but to add new ones, seems like an exciting thing to look forward to.

Minister:

First we present Evidence of Ryan and Darcy's past together

- 1) **FAKE MOUSTACHE** – This is a moustache that I wore to pick Darcy up from work, when we had first started courting. It symbolizes the sense of humor that has grown between the two us.
- 2) **PINEAPPLE** – The colonial symbol of welcoming, Ryan used a pineapple in lieu of flowers to woo me as a delectable treat we both could enjoy.
- 3) **BURNED CD** – This disk is a technological archive of our past pictures, Christmas cards and correspondence via e-mail.
- 4) **CORRESPONDANCE** – And now we would like to share with you two examples of our correspondence.

Groom:

I'm reading from a letter written on June 18, 2004 in reply to a letter from Darcy where she sent a photo of herself holding a horseshoe crab at an aquarium. ...

My Dearest Plum Blossom,

Words cannot truly express the elation contained in my heart after reading your letter. It gives me great satisfaction to write you back immediately... but first **FUN FACTS ABOUT HORSESHOE CRABS!**

1. Horseshoes are 20 million years old

2. They can survive high doses of Radiation
3. a horseshoe can only eat when in walks
4. Horseshoes are more closely related to spiders than they are to crabs
5. A horseshoe's blood is blue because it is copper-based.
6. Like swans, horseshoe crabs mate for life.

Anyway I think my obsession with these creatures developed when as a small child, I was visited by a wizard, who told me. "Beware the maiden who touch the horseshoe crab, for she will be the one who shall capture your innocent heart." At first I was skeptical but the pieces are just now beginning to fall into place. I suppose what I'm trying to say is that the old wizard's prophecy has come to pass. This news however comes at a hefty price for he also predicted this woman would then over time give birth to a son that would lead mankind into a new era of art & science; but only after he pushed me into a volcano. You know my dearest, it is best not to trust the word of a wizard since for the most part they are all self-serving lunatics. Even So, you are verily the one true woman of my dreams. You enrage a great fire in my mortal frame... how could this experience of having you in my life be anything but pure, unshielded happiness? Isn't that what this whole thing is about?

Yours In mind + body,

R

Bride:

I'm reading from a letter written on July 6, 2004. It was originally inspired by a passage from Vladimir Nabokov's Speak Memory in which he describes something similar to experiences I have with Ryan: He writes:

"I confess I do not believe in time. I like to fold my magic carpet, after use, in such a way as to superimpose one part of the pattern upon another. Let visitors trip. And the highest enjoyment of timelessness-in a landscape selected at random- is when I stand among rare butterflies and their food plants. This is ecstasy, and behind the ecstasy is something else, which is hard to explain. It is like a momentary vacuum into which rushes all that I love. A sense of oneness with sun and stone. A thrill of gratitude to whom it may concern- to the contrapuntal genius of human fate or to tender ghosts humoring a lucky mortal."

This is what I wrote in response, my own thoughts about memory, timelessness and experiences with Ryan:

My Sweet,

All day yesterday I greeted the olfactory fluttering of your presence- a twist of my neck would cause a tendril of hair to brush across my face. I would brush it away and there you were-the gentle scent of apple. At first I couldn't quite place it- not my own, but not unfamiliar. This wonderful smell kept me going all through the evening. One

particular moment sent me on an escapade into my dawn filled room where a past weekend visit left us together. You would be surprised at how masculine apple flavored “Suave” can be. Especially when I hold your head in my hands and I breath deep to take in your essence. These scented memories are my keeper. Long after I had left an evening at work, I rested in bed and as I rolled over to touch emptiness, I drank in the scented imprint on my pillow. I thought about how I feel when I catch you inhaling above my crown, slightly embarrassed as well as curious, and now I somehow feel the need to respond to you in a similar way. So do not be surprised if you catch my deep sigh to linger around you, to grab onto you in an olfactory way. Memory and scent share in a lover’s embrace. So every time-even years from now when I smell apple scented suave-your image and your touch will haunt me. One more note before I dream... This is like a spell, leading me away, adrift, making no sense only to make complete sense of you and me. I want the moments spent with you to fossilize so somewhere in the future I can dig them up and rediscover my deepest fondness for you.

Yours,
Darcy

Minister:

And now, Evidence of this present moment here with you all

- 5) WEDDING INVITATION – This is our wedding invitation, and on it you will see two turtles flying in love. The flying turtle is the logo of my company and my website. “Ryan was a turtle, always in his shell... And you taught me to fly”
- 6) And because of this invitation you are all here today. Thank you to all of you, family and friends, for coming to help share this day with us.

Minister:

And finally Darcy and Ryan’s hopes for the future

- 7) KNITTED BRAID – So now we look forward to the future together. Representing this experience I have knitted two colors together in a braded cable. We are like these two colored strings... each independent yet coming together to create something stronger. By supporting each unique sense of self, we make a team.

--- Closing of time capsule of love --- Pass off to Best Man

Minister Kathleen:

Please bring forth the wedding rings (of power)

Minister to Bride:

Darcy will you take **Richard Ryan** as your husband, in happiness and with patience and understanding, through conflict and tranquility?

Bride: I will.

Ring is placed on Bride's finger

Minister to Groom:

Richard Ryan , will you take **Darcy** as your wife, in happiness and with patience and understanding, through conflict and tranquility?

Groom: I will.

Ring is placed on Groom's finger.

Ryan and Darcy, please take each other's hands--

“Now you will feel no rain, for each of you will be shelter for 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.
May beauty surround you both in the journey ahead and through all the years.
May happiness be your companion and your days together be good and long
upon the earth.”

“Treat yourselves and each other with respect, and remind yourselves
often of what brought you together. Give the highest priority to the tenderness,
gentleness and kindness that your connection deserves.
When frustration, difficulties and fear assail your relationship,
as they threaten all relationships at one time or another,
remember to focus on what is right between you, not only the part which seems wrong.
In this way, you can ride out the storms when clouds hide the face of the sun in your lives --
remembering that even if you lose sight of it for a moment, the sun is still there.
And if each of you takes responsibility for the quality of your life together, it will be marked by
abundance and delight.”

In as much as **Richard Ryan** and **Darcy Anne** have declared their love to each other
before family and friends, I now greet them with you as husband and wife.

Bride and Groom, you may now kiss!