

~~I~~olliday: Gratitude to Water: clouds, lakes, rivers, glaciers,
holding or releasing; streaming through all
our bodies salty seas
in our minds so be it.

~~Gratitude~~: Gratitude to the Sun: blinding pulsing light through
trunks of trees, through mists, warming caves where
bears and snakes sleep — He who wakes us —
in our minds so be it.

~~Gratitude~~: Gratitude to the Moon, waxing and waning,
sky-sailing, maiden and mother,
dream-keeper, radiant, pregnant with mysteries
in our minds so be it.

~~Gratitude~~: Gratitude to the Great Sky
who holds billions of stars — and goes yet beyond that —
beyond all powers, and thoughts
and yet is within us —
Grandfather Space.
The Mind is his Wife.
So be it.

III: In our minds so be it.



In a holy place with a god I walk

In a holy place with a god I walk

On the sacred mountain with a god I walk

On a chief mountain with a god I walk

In old age wandering with a god I walk

On a trail of beauty with a god I walk.



Introduction

Go 5/0w

9/8/84

There are all too few moments in our lives which we think of as sacred, or regard with the wonder they deserve. Let us wonder now, then; for this is a sacred moment.

Before us stand and , two souls who were strangers, now joining hands to travel the paths of their lives side by side, who turn to each other and open like blossoms under the light of their love.

So let us who are gathered to witness this flowering of joy open also. Let us also be touched by the light that is everywhere shining. Let us celebrate deeply, sharing the benison, sharing the blessed day.

Prophet #2

Whatever I prepared

Prophet #1

The Chinese say that a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. In the same way, though you pledge a future together, remember that your marriage begins with, and is always encompassed by, a single day.

Thoreau said, "To affect the quality of the day is the highest of arts," and it was well spoken; for the present is the only time you will ever have for living, and in the span of a day all that needs may be done: the challenges met, the problems resolved, the profoundest of love proffered and received.

Avoid especially the postponement of joy, but share it whenever you can, for in joy time itself is transcended, and what is not true falls away.

Prophet #3
Breaking of bread

LAST WINE

We are gathered together in gladness of heart on the Sabbath, a day whose ancient, original meaning was simply this: a time for rejoicing and feasting. Now, this is not the conclusion at all, but instead is the great beginning: the start of a holy alliance of hearts, of the path that is shared by two spirits reborn on this day of rejoicing and feasting.

So let us begin! Let us all begin! Le Chaim!

READINGS

K. Gibran - The Prophet

- #1. Love one another, but make not a bond of love:
Let it rather be a moving sea between the shores of your souls.
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.
- #2. You give but little when you give of your possessions.
It is when you give of yourself that you truly give.
For love is not measured by how many times you touch each other,
But by how many times you reach each other.
And in the sweetness of friendship let there be laughter, and
sharing of pleasures.
- #3. May they live together in peace and love;
May they be blessings and comforts to one another,
Sharers of each other's joys,
Consolers of each other's sorrows,
And helpers to one another in all the changes of the world.

Oh my love for the 1st time in my life
my eyes are wide open

Oh my lover for the 1st time in my life
my eyes can see

I see the wind, oh i see the trees
everything is clear in my heart
I see the clouds, oh i see the sky
everything is clear in our world

Oh my love for the 1st time in my life
my mind is wide open
Oh my lover for the 1st time in my life
my mind can feel

I feel sorrow, oh i feel dreams
everything is clear in my heart
I feel life, oh i feel love
everything is clear in our world

John Lennon
Oh My Love

1990

by Dave & Alyssa
(PARTIAL)

Marriage is part of the dance of life. It is part of the cycle of birth, living, and dying, again and again.

In marriage, as in life, we find ourselves turning and bending, weaving circular connecting patterns between ourselves and our loved ones. Generations ago our families diverged, and in marriage we are woven again together in the human family.

The popular song, adapted from Ecclesiastes: To everything, turn turn turn, there is a season, turn turn turn.

Turning and turning, whether dancing, spinning, or simply watching. We turn from each other, in pain, or to seek new light, like sun-hungry branches. And turning far enough, we find ourselves face to face.

In making our circles we learn, sometimes we hurt, sometimes we discover the same eternal truths. Yet that is our part in nature- to dance our own step, and yet find it in harmony with creation.

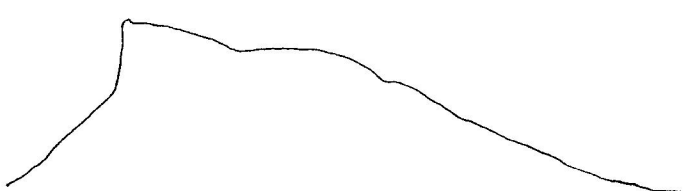
Turning to each other. Looking into the perfect circles of loving eyes, like sun and moon; of forming imperfect circles with entwined arms, or touching toes and noses, like trees arching over a country lane, touching roots and brushing branches, framing an irregular oval of bright sky ahead, filling us with peaceful excitement and wonder at where our path will lead.

Today is a time for marriage, for uniting, for making connections that will nurture growth. As Nietzsche said in one of his gentler moments

"You should propagate yourself not only forward, but upward. May the garden of marriage help you do it. You should create a higher body, a first motion, a self-propelling wheel- you should create a creator. Marriage: That I call the will of two to create the one who is more than those who created it."

As the earth revolves the day, and the movement of the earth among the stars brings the turning seasons, and the aging of the earth brings new life and new forms, so in the spinning dance of life David and Elissa have joined together, creating something new. Something which like them will evolve, will find nurture in the rich soil of family and friends. Though the times and seasons vary, David and Elissa will be regularly warmed by the light of their spirit and encouraged by the strength of the bond they are forming today.

David and Elissa's parents, through their marriages and their raising of families, have nurtured them and continue to participate in their growth. At this time, David and Elissa as for their parents' blessings.



David and Elissa • June 23, 1990

Responsive Reading



Adam ~ From hearts too full for easy words,
we lift grateful spirits to all that is.

All ~ Of mystery, wonder, beauty and strength, praising the
evidence of love in the lives of these our friends.

Adam ~ We gratefully accept the mystery of our hearts,
requiring us to find ourselves by losing ourselves
in one another.

All ~ We accept equally, and gratefully the need and capacity
to put intelligence to work in our most cherished relationships.

Adam ~ That love may not be blind, but patient and wise
and persevering.

All ~ So therefore may the vows here made be kept with wisdom
and passion, with tenderness and determination, to the
wholeness and health of humankind. Amen.

I do not love you as if you were salt-rose, or topaz,
or the arrow of carnations the fire shoots off.
I love you as certain dark things are to be loved,
in secret, between the shadow and the soul.

I love you as the plant that never blooms
but carries in itself the light of hidden flowers;
thanks to your love a certain solid fragrance,
risen from the earth, lives darkly in my body.

I love you without knowing how, or when, or from where.
I love you straightforwardly, without complexities or pride;
so I love you because I know no other way

than this: where *I* does not exist, nor *you*,
so close that your hand on my chest is my hand,
so close that your eyes close as I fall asleep.

Robert & Abigail

Dearly beloved, we are gathered here in the sight of God, and in the presence of these witnesses, to join together this man and this woman in holy matrimony; which is an honorable estate, instituted by God. It is therefore not to be entered into unadvisedly, but reverently, discreetly, and in the fear of God. Into this holy estate these two persons come now to be joined.

POEM

A Line-Storm Song by Robert Frost
Stanzas 1 and 4

CHARGE

I require and charge you both, as you stand in the presence of God, to remember that love and loyalty alone will avail as the foundation of a happy and enduring home. No other human ties are more tender, no other vows more sacred than those you will now assume.

QUERY

Robert, wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others keep thee only unto her, so long as ye both shall live?
I WILL

Abigail, wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband? Wilt thou love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others keep thee only unto him, so long as ye both shall live?
I WILL

Robert & Abigail

VOWS

I, Robert, take thee, Abigail, to be my wedded wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death do us part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I pledge thee my love.

I, Abigail, take thee, Robert, to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death do us part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I pledge thee my love.

RING EXCHANGE

ROBERT TO ABIGAIL: In token and pledge of the vow between us made, with this ring I thee wed.
AMEN

ABIGAIL TO ROBERT: In token and pledge of the vow between us made, with this ring I thee wed.
AMEN

PRAYER

Let us pray.
O eternal, God, Creator and Preserver of all mankind, Giver of all spiritual grace, the author of everlasting life; send us thy blessing upon this man and this woman, whom we bless in thy name; that they may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant between them made, and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to thy laws. Look graciously upon them, that they may love, honor, and cherish each other, and so live together in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and a place of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, AMEN

DECLARATION

Forasmuch as Abigail and Robert have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have pledged their troth each to the other, and have declared the same by joining hands and by giving and receiving rings, I pronounce that they are husband and wife together, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit AMEN

KISS

BENEDICTION

from Apache poem

RECESSIONAL

BENEDICTION

For now you will feel no rain, 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 is no loneliness for you.

~~Now there is no mere loneliness.~~

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.

(adapted from the Apache by Kenneth L. Patton)

Robert Frost

A LINE-STORM SONG

The line-storm clouds fly tattered and swift.
The road is forlorn all day,
Where a myriad snowy quartz-stones lift,
And the hoofprints vanish away.
The roadside flowers, too wet for the bee,
Expend their bloom in vain.
Come over the hills and far with me,
And be my love in the rain.

5

The birds have less to say for themselves
In the wood-world's torn despair
Than now these numberless years the elves,
Although they are no less there:
All song of the woods is crushed like some
Wild, easily shattered rose.
Come, be my love in the wet woods, come,
Where the boughs rain when it blows.

10

15

There is the gale to urge behind
And bruit our singing down,
And the shallow waters aflutter with wind
From which to gather your gown.
What matter if we go clear to the west,
And come not through dry-shod?
For wilding brooch, shall wet your breast
The rain-fresh goldenrod.

20

Oh, never this whelming east wind swells
But it seems like the sea's return
To the ancient lands where it left the shells
Before the age of the fern;
And it seems like the time when, after doubt,
Our love came back again.
Oh, come forth into the storm and rout
And be my love in the rain.

25

30

Robert Frost