

Secular Wedding Ceremony Script 1

It's All About The Ceremony!
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We're all here today to celebrate the relationship of *Bride* and *Groom* and to be witnesses and supporters of the commitment they share with one another. Together we're a group of the most important people in their lives and they've brought us here to publicly recognize that we've all played some special part in the love they share today.

Bride and *Groom* wanted me to thank you all for being here and to recognize how important each and every one of you are to their relationship. They would also like to recognize all of those who couldn't make it here today as they are certainly missed but not forgotten on this day of celebration — especially (You can add names here, if you like)

Speaking of important people, there were none more important in influencing the lives of *Bride* and *Groom* than their parents. With that being said, who gives *Bride* away in marriage to this man?

Father answers: "Her mother and I"

Marriage gives permanence and structure to a couple's love. It's a way to tell one another that no matter how much you snore or how much you spent while out at the shopping mall, we're still in this together. It's more permanent than the weird tattoo that *Groom* got on his arm in his early twenties and has more staying power than *Bride*'s cute southern accent that she's had since they first met (you can add anything funny into this section that makes sense for the bride and groom). Marriage is telling the person you love that

you're not going anywhere and that's a powerful commitment for two people to make to one another.

A good marriage must be built on the foundation of this commitment. 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 standing together and facing the world. 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 partner — it is being the right partner .

The road that has brought Bride and Groom here today hasn't been easy. It's been filled with challenges that they weren't necessarily prepared for. But together they've taken each one on and have used those experiences to strengthen, not weaken their love.

Reading

*This can be any type of reading you prefer. Also, someone else can read it if you preferred

Nothing is easier than saying words, and nothing is harder than living them day by day. What you promise today, must be renewed and re-decided tomorrow. At the end of this ceremony, legally, you will be husband and wife, but you must decide each day that stretches out before you, that you want to be married. Real love is something beyond the warmth and glow, the excitement and romance of being deeply in love. It's caring as much about the welfare and happiness of your marriage partner as about your own. But real love is not total absorption in each other; It is looking

outward in the same directions - together. Love makes burdens lighter; because you divide them. It makes joys more intense because you share them. Love makes you stronger, so you can reach out and become involved with life in ways you dared not risk alone.

Reading of the Vows

*Groom, be sure to have these in your pocket and Bride, be sure to give these to your maid of honor.

Bride and Groom, the vows that you are about to make are a way to share your love and commitment to each other in your own words. Sometimes poems, verses and quotes just don't get the point across the way you need them to and the best option is just to do it yourself. These vows are your way of openly declaring your promise to one another as well as to all of those who are here in attendance today.

Bride, ladies first.

Bride Reads her vows.

Groom Reads his vows.

Exchanging of Rings

*Get rings from Maid of Honor and Best Man. Feel free to customize what you say to each other if you like.

Bride and Groom will now exchange rings to symbolize their commitment. Rings are derived from humble beginnings of imperfect metal to create something striking where there was once nothing at all. It is customarily worn on the ring finger as it is the

only finger with a vein running directly to the heart. The wearing of the rings is a visible, outward sign that they have committed themselves to one another.

Groom, please take Bride's hand and repeat after me as you place the ring on his finger:

I give you this ring, as a symbol of our love, for today and tomorrow, and for all the days to come. Wear it as a sign of what we have promised on this day and know that my love is present, even when I am not.

Bride, please take *Groom's* hand and repeat after me as you place the ring on his finger:

I give you this ring, as a symbol of our love, for today and tomorrow, and for all the days to come. Wear it as a sign of what we have promised on this day and know that my love is present, even when I am not.

Pouring of the Unity Sand

By sharing your vows and exchanging rings here today you both have decided to share the rest of your lives together. You are no longer two separate people but one couple together. This unity is symbolized through the pouring of these two individual containers of sand. One, representing you, Bride, and all that you were, all that you are, and all that you will ever be, and the other representing you, Groom, and all that you were and all that you are, and all that you will ever be.

As these two containers of sand are poured into the third container, the individual containers of sand will no longer exist, but will be

joined together as one. Just as these grains of sand can never be separated and poured again into the individual containers, so will your marriage be, united as one for all of your days.

*Walk over and pour the sand — usually while music is playing.

Declaration of Consent

Bride and Groom, you have professed your love by exchanging your vows. You have symbolized your commitment by exchanging rings.

And you have expressed the end of your individual lives by the pouring of the unity sand. With all of this there is just one more question I need each of you to answer and then we're off to the reception to celebrate.

Bride – do you take *Groom* to be your husband; to live together in the covenant of marriage? Do you promise to love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others, be faithful to him as long as you both shall live?

Bride: I do.

Groom – do you take *Bride* to be your wife; to live together in the covenant of marriage? Do you promise to love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others, be faithful to her as long as you both shall live?

Groom: I do.

By the power vested in me I now pronounce you husband and wife.
You may kiss your bride.

It's my great honor and privilege to be the first to present to you
Mr. and Mrs _____!

*I do not claim to be the original author of this script. I am sharing it like this to
make it easier for anyone to use.*