

Owen and Ange – October 8, 2016

Introduction:

Good afternoon. My name is Melissa Taylor and I am pleased to have the privilege of performing this ceremony today. On behalf of Owen and Ange, welcome and thank you for your attendance here today. We would also like to acknowledge those who could not be here today. They are in our memories and in our hearts.

Owen and Ange are delighted to share their joy with you during this wonderful moment in their lives. With your presence, you celebrate with them the love they have discovered in each other and you support their decision to commit themselves to one another for the rest of their lives.

You have each provided Owen and Ange much happiness, love, warmth, and invaluable guidance throughout the stages of their lives leading to today. They wish me to express their gratitude for all that each of you have given to them, they are forever grateful.

Reading:

I would like to share with you a reading which Ange and Owen have chosen for this occasion. It outlines so perfectly the importance of today:

You have known each other from first glance of acquaintance to this point of commitment. At some point, you decided to marry. Since then, you have been making commitments in an informal way. All of those conversations that were held in a car, over a meal, or during long walks – all those conversations that began with, “When we’re married”, followed by “I will”, “you will”, and “we will” – all those late night talks that included “someday”, “somehow”, and “maybe” – and all those promises that are unspoken matters of the heart. All these common things are the real process of a marriage.

The symbolic vows that you are about to make are a way of saying to one another, “You know all those things that we’ve promised, and hoped, and dreamed – well, I meant it

all, every word." Look at one another and remember this moment in time. Before this moment you have been many things to one another – acquaintance, friend, companion...even teacher, as you have learned much from one another these past few years. Shortly you will say a few words that will take you across a threshold of life, and things between you will never quite be the same. After today you will say to the world – This is my husband. This is my wife."

Address to the Couple:

Owen (*spoken by Melissa*):

She is the one you want to be with,

And you are the one for her – of that you are sure.

She is your closest friend, your favourite person,

The lover and the partner that you've waited for.

You love her and want to make her happy.

You promise to do your very best.

You cannot promise riches, or an easy pathway

That leads away from change or growing old.

But you can promise all your heart's devotion

A smile to chase away her tears;

A love that's ever true and ever growing;

A hand to hold in hers through each tomorrow.

Together you are a formidable team.

You have created a beautiful son, and a home filled with love and laughter.

You are just getting started, and your love will guide you

To the bright future that awaits.

Ange (Spoken by Melissa):

You love him;

For the kindness in his eyes

And the warmth in his voice,

For the honesty of his words

And the silence of his smile;

For the ways in which you are similar,

And those in which you are worlds apart.

For the openness of his understanding

And the acceptance of his heart;

For the tenderness of his touch

And the strength of his commitment,

For his sense of humour

And his seriousness of purpose;

For a thousand small reasons,

And one most important of all:

Simply because he is Owen.

Vows:

(invite Ange and Owen to hold hands)

Owen / Ange, I vow to give myself to you and to our family./ I pledge to support you without exception/, and to ask no more of you/ than you can reasonably give to us/. I promise to respect you/, as you are your own person/, and I promise to foster your interests, desires, and needs/ just as if they were my own/. I vow to share with you my time/, my attention, and my affection/ to bring joy, strength and comfort/ to our relationship and our family/. I will grow along with you and love you/, completely and forever/. These are my vows to you.

Ring Exchange:

May we have the rings please?

Ange / Owen, please repeat after me: Owen / Ange, I give you this ring/ so that you may wear/ it as a symbol of the vows that we have made on this day/. Forever together we will share/ our love, laughter and tears/. With all that I am, I honour you.

Declaration

It is my honour and delight to declare that you are now husband and wife. You may seal your vows with a kiss!

Signing of Marriage Documents

Announcements

1. Lawn games have been set up for your entertainment. Please enjoy!
2. The bar will open at 4:30 and hors d'oeuvres will be offered. Owen and Ange will be having photos taken with wedding party and family on the grounds during that time, but will be joining the party as soon as they can, as they want to spend time with all of you before dinner.
3. Dinner will be served at 7pm. Please use the cocktail party hours to explore the Pioneer Village grounds, as it is all available to you!

4. There is no smoking at the Pioneer Village. Thank you for respecting the grounds. You may go to the parking lot if you would like to smoke.

It is my personal privilege and joy to be the first one to introduce Owen and Ange Somerville as partners for life; husband and wife. Please greet them warmly.

Party time!!! :D