Kate and Liz

Kate and Liz walk down separately, meet then walk to me together.

 Welcome family and friends....We are gathered here today in this beautiful location and in the presence of GOD to celebrate one of life's greatest moments, the joining of two hearts and to give recognition to the worth and beauty of love, and to add our best wishes to the words which shall unite Liz and Kate in marriage. I also would like to take a moment to thank all of you for being here today. I know your love and support mean so much to Kate and Liz. Love is a miraculous gift and a wedding is a celebration of that gift. That’s why were here today, to celebrate with Liz and Kate the awesome gift of love that they have both been blessed with. This is also an opportunity for all of you to reaffirm and appreciate the love and the friendship that bless your lives each and every day. So lets begin!

Today we have come together to witness the joining of these two lives. Kate and Liz, out of the routine of ordinary life, something extraordinary has happened. They met each other, fell in love and are finalizing this love with their wedding. So, then what makes a good marriage? Ask 20 different couples and you’ll most likely get 20 different answers. As someone who has been married for 20 years, this is the advice I will give. A good marriage must be created. It is never being too old to hold hands. It’s remembering to say I love you every day and it is not just marrying the right person its being the right partner. Liz and Kate, please take each other’s hands and hold tightly. Look at each other, be present in the moment. Take note of how much you love each other; how important you are to each other. Know that the hands each of you are holding are the hands that will guide you. These are the hands that will bind you. These are the hands that will pick you up when you have fallen. These are the hands that will comfort you in sickness and in health. And when the stresses of life threaten to pull you apart, these are the hands that will pull you back. So hold tightly and never let go.

POEM READINGS:

To better express the love that Kate and Liz share the have chosen two very special readings. The first reading is titled Everlasting Love and will be read by Brook.

Reader comes up……then sits

The second reading will be read by Peg and it’s an Irish Blessing.

Reader comes up……then sits

Before we proceed with the rest of the ceremony, Liz and Kate wanted to share with you all, their family and friends, a very special story. And this isn’t just any story. What I’m about to read is Kate and Lizs LOVE STORY.

As fate would have it, Liz and Kate just happened to be on the same dating web site at the same time. Call it fate, call it coincidence, call it what you will. In the sea of souls looking for love they managed to find each other. After chatting for some time they decided to take the next step and meet each other in person, mutually deciding to meet at an Italian restaurant, perhaps an homage to Billy Joel. Liz and Kate chatted for over three hours, in fact they were the last people to leave the restaurant. No doubt to the dismay of the wait staff. In that 3 hours they chatted about many things, like how they both like to travel, spend time with family and friends, exploring new restaurants and the outdoors. Turns out they had many things in common. Both Kate and Liz love pizza, macaroni and cheese and steak on the grill. Kate would later discover that Liz is the quote “grill master”. So we fast forward a little bit, and after about the third or fourth date, Liz and Kate knew that things were getting serious. Both felt that the other was the right person, a soul mate. The day was June 13th, Kate and Liz found themselves on a pier in NYC. The sun was setting, the sky was glowing with soft shades of orange and red. A gentle breeze carries across the water and lightly brushes past Kate and Liz. The sound track of the big apple plays in the background. Both of them have known that what they share is special, magical, perhaps…love. But does the other feel this to? Who would have the courage to say it first, and would the other feel it to? So with a knot in her throat Liz gathers up the courage, turns to Kate and says those three beautiful words, I love you. Over whelmed with feelings rushing through her soul she says I love you to. In that moment, at that time they both knew they had found the one. As time passes they both discover all the things they have in common. Kate and Liz spend their free time paddle boarding, running and playing golf. When it comes to house keeping Kate describes herself as (Oscar) and Liz is like (Felix). When they have time to relax and watch TV, shows like Date Line, Top Chef and Will and Grace are what they watch. In fact, the only way they can fall asleep is if the show House Hunters is on the TV. Liz and Kate enjoy spending time with their cats Coal and Frankie. Cute nicknames such as Monkey, babe and Boo often precede their conversations. When asked whom each other felt were their heroes both Kate and Liz agreed, their heroes are their dads. When describing each other to strangers, the words compassionate, and caring are used. As time passes, it becomes clearer and clearer, to exist on earth, to be truly happy, they both need each other. They are in fact, soul mates.Now Our story takes us to Old Orchard beach Maine. Its early morning. Liz wakes up first. She has only one thing on her mind, she wants to ask Kate to be her wife. Liz develops a plan, with excitement in her heart she wakes up Kate and tells her to join her outside to see the sunrise. Still half-asleep Kate grabs her camera and follows Liz outside. Standing, looking at the beautiful sunrise that is unfolding in front of her, Kate has no idea what is about to happen next. Liz gathers up her courage and walks up behind Kate and says that during the night she had a dream about her grandmother’s ring. Kate turns around to find Liz on her knees holding the ring. Instantly Liz asks the question, will you marry me? Feeling her knees weaken Kate has to sit down. And as you all know by now, Kate said yes……..

 Vows

Now, if you ready, and I assume you both are, it’s time for the vows of marriage.

Kate you will go first. Please respond by saying I do.

Kate do you take Liz to be your WIFE? ("I do") Do you promise to love, honor, cherish and protect her, forsaking all others and holding only unto her as long as you both shall live? ("I do")

Liz now its your turn. Please respond by saying I do

Liz do you take Kate to be your wife? ("I do") Do you promise to love, honor, cherish and protect her, forsaking all others and holding only unto heras long as you both shall live? ("I do")

 Rings

(I ask whomever has the rings to please hand them to me. Holding the rings I say the following)

Wedding rings are an unbroken circle of love, signifying to all the union of this couple in marriage. Once placed on your fingers may they never be removed”

Liz as you place the ring on Kates finger please repeat after me:

Kate, This ring is my sacred gift, with my promise that I will always love you, cherish you and honor you all the days of my life. And with this ring, I thee wed.

Kate, as you place the ring on Lizs finger please repeat after me:

Liz, This ring is my sacred gift, with my promise that I will always love you, cherish you and honor you all the days of my life. And with this ring, I thee wed.

(A closing thought)

May your friendship and trust endure and strengthen through the winter of your lives. And may your love be renewed as surely as the blossoms adorn the trees each spring. May your understanding of each other grow with your love until the wonder of each night and day become a lifetime of happiness together. From this day forward you shall not walk alone, your hearts will be your shelters and your arms will be your homes….

Hannah and Robert, today you have come together and in the presence of your family and friends you have shared your vows of marriage. You both have expressed your love and commitment to forever be known from this day forward as not two separate people but one soul and you both have ceremoniously participated in the ancient tradition of handfasting. SO then, there is only one thing left to do, and that is to say….

By the powers vested in me I now pronounce that you are both married!!!!!

Kate, Liz please kiss each other and forever seal your commitment!!!!!

(the couple turns to the crowd)

Ladies and gentlemen, may I present to you the happy couple, Kate and Liz!!