

Katie & Joey  
Whitney's Inn, Jackson, NH  
4:00 p.m.  
September 24, 2015

**Welcome:**

On behalf of Katie and Joey, I would like to welcome you all here and thank you for joining us on this beautiful day in the White Mountains. For many of you, it was not easy to get here – we realize that traveling to New Hampshire is quite a trip – and the bride and groom thank all of their friends and family who could make the journey.

Each of you have given Katie and Joey love, support, and guidance to get them to this moment in their lives and this point in their relationship. Your presence here, to be witnesses on this day, shows the couple how much you care about them, and it means a lot to them.

Katie and Joey would also like to take this time to acknowledge those who are no longer with us, but helped make them who they are today:

Joey's grandfathers Morris Kohn and Thomas Hill, and grandmothers Ann Kovars and Josephine Hill.

Katie's grandfathers: Ridgely Harrison Jr., William Drake, and William Arrison; Katie is especially thankful for the love of her grandmother Jeannie Drake, an amazing, graceful woman who always made Katie feel truly special.

For these people, and others who are not here, let us share a moment of silence to recall some of the wonderful memories we have of them.

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With the warm thoughts of those that helped get this couple here today, let us now turn to what lies ahead for them.

### **Description of Marriage:**

When you enter into marriage, you enter into life's most important relationship. Much is often said about how to cultivate a strong and lasting marriage. This includes understanding and respecting one another fully; choosing the right partner, but also being the right partner; supporting each other through adversity; and committing yourself entirely to building a happy and meaningful life together.

But we should also acknowledge why marriage is so special, and mutually beneficial. Marriage serves as the ultimate opportunity to allow oneself to be discovered and appreciated by another, and through this journey to truly discover and appreciate oneself.

Marriage allows for the cultivation of mutual values and objectives – it is a common search for what is good and beautiful in life, including the privilege and joy of children and family. To marry is to turn together and face the world as one.

### **Couple's Background:**

With full appreciation and admiration for this ideal, Katie and Joey have come here today to be joined as one in marriage.

Throughout the past 6.5 years, Katie and Joey have grown as individuals and as partners. Together they survived college and law school; raised a puppy and welcomed a teenager into their home; opened a restaurant and taught 5th grade; gained sisters and a niece and two nephews;

passed the bar (hopefully!) and started careers in New York City; and shared countless other experiences that have made them best friends and the love of each other's life.

When Katie and Joey first became housemates in college, they never imagined that they would share these amazing experiences. Today, they stand here excited for their adventures to come, and prepared to fully commit to sharing them together.

What you are witnessing today is a symbol of their commitment to each other, and to a lifetime of adventure together.

**Intentions/Vows:**

Katie, please repeat after me:

I, Katie, take you Joey to be my husband.  
I will love and accept you as you are,  
and ask that you only be yourself  
You are my best friend,  
and I promise to be your partner  
and love you from this day forward  
and for all the days of my life.

Joey, please repeat after me:

I, Joey, take you Katie to be my wife.  
I will love and accept you as you are,  
and ask that you only be yourself  
You are my best friend,  
and I promise to be your partner  
and love you from this day forward  
and for all the days of my life.

### **Ring Ceremony:**

Although this ceremony is only on this one day; marriage is for a lifetime. The rings that you are about to exchange mark the continuation of your long and exciting journey together. Let your rings be a reminder of the promises that you have given to each other, and a symbol of the love that you share.

Katie, as you place the ring on Joey's finger, please repeat after me:

Joey, take this ring as a symbol of my love,  
and of my commitment to our marriage.

Joey, as you place the ring on Katie's finger, please repeat after me:

Katie, take this ring as a symbol of my love,  
and of my commitment to our marriage.

### **Pronouncement:**

Today I am privileged to share with you the moment you begin your new life together. In the years ahead, may you always apply tenderness and strength to the trials that may befall you. May your love be a shield from the unpredictability of life. May you remember to rejoice in good times and good fortune and may you always appreciate the life that you found with each other.

And now, it gives me great pleasure to say, by the power vested in me by the State of New Hampshire, I now pronounce you husband and wife. You may kiss!