

BRITTANY & ZACH'S CEREMONY

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Please rise.

Who gives this woman to be married?

You may be seated.

It's good to be here on this beautiful day with Brittany & Zach and all of their closest friends & family members. Who would have thought that their friendship that started on a trip to Washington D.C. in 8th grade was going to lead us to this moment. Needless to say, I got to know Brittany & Zach well as we recently shared some Italian food just a few miles from here. There may or may not have been some apple-flavored hookah involved!

Brittany & Zach remind us that you can marry your high school sweetheart, that first loves can be your one & only, and that prom dates can last forever. These two told me that they could happily spend their lives as beach bums...but, when I heard that, what I read out of it was that when they have each other, they really don't need anything else to be happy. Of course, they might throw in a few more trips to San Francisco or Palm Springs just because they can...but being together is enough.

Baseball legend Cal Ripken Jr. said, "You can be a kid for as long as you want when you play baseball." Knowing that you two are ballers who love the game, I encourage you to think of your marriage the same way. Your love will keep you young, make the routine seem fresh, and always give you a goal to reach for on the horizon...if you keep swinging when you're at the plate, if you remember that this right here—this is the home team—and if you remember why you love the game...even when it's raining or you're down 5 runs.

[To audience] Now let me ask all of you...do we like fair-weather, band wagon fans? NO! BOO! So, remember, Brittany & Zach, what it means to be a team...because we keep on loving the Padres even though they finished this season with 75 wins and 82 losses, right? There will be winning seasons, and there will be losing seasons, but you'll still be a team.

So, who's first up to the plate? Zach, are you ready to repeat after me?

I, Zach, promise to love & accept you, Brittany / exactly as you are today / I pledge to you my honesty, open-ness, & faithfulness / I promise to always be your #1 fan / in sickness & in health / honoring our team above all others / and always cheering for you.

And, Zach, do you promise to take Brittany as your lawfully wedded wife? [I do]

Brittany, you're up!

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I, Brittany, promise to love & accept you, Zach / exactly as you are today / I pledge to you my honesty, open-ness, & faithfulness / I promise to always be your #1 fan / in sickness & in health / honoring our team above all others / and always cheering for you.

Brittany, do you promise to take Zach as your lawfully wedded husband? [I do]

May I have the rings please? Let us bow our heads and bless the rings that Brittany & Zach will wear as husband & wife. We send all of our love, good wishes, & support into these wedding rings. May Brittany & Zach feel our collective love for them & their union when these rings are on their fingers. May they always know that each of us is here for them in times of need. May this couple be protected & guided in the adventures that await them as husband & wife. Amen.

Zach, we're back at the top of the rotation...are you ready to repeat after me?

I give you this ring / as a sign of my love & devotion.

You're up again Brittany.

I give you this ring / as a sign of my love & devotion.

Yogi Berra once said, "Love is the most important thing in the world, but baseball is pretty good too." And, with that, folks, we're at the bottom of the 9th! That means it's time for me to pronounce Brittany & Zach husband and wife. You may kiss the bride.

Friends & family, please feel free to enjoy the gardens for a bit or head directly over to the reception location as the newlyweds, wedding party, & immediate family take photos here at the gazebo.

