



Signs on the Road to a Happy Marriage

As a boy, my family traveled up and down the western spine of Louisiana on US 171 to my grandparents in Shreveport. I was learning to read and devoured every road sign as our old Ford rumbled north.

The Burma Shave signs were my favorites. They were a series of six red signs containing memorable jingles, always ending with "Burma Shave."

One of my favourites was,

Listed below are some personal road signs.

They're found along the road to a happy marriage.

Unlike Burma Shave, they don't rhyme or sound cute.

But they are enduring reminders for this amazing journey called marriage.

For decades, I've given the list below to newlyweds along with a crisp \$2 bill as a reminder that "two shall become one."

2 become 1

1 Man or <One Man>

1 Woman or <One Woman>

1 Life < One Life>

Enjoy,

Curt Iles
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Checklist:

- *Expect the best from each other.
- *Say "I love you" every day.
- *Keep dating.
- *Write love notes.
- *Hold hands forever.
- *Be angry and sin not.
- *Live a life of forgiveness: build a bridge and get over it.
- *Take walks together.
- *Keep a sense of humor and laugh at yourselves.
- * Go on *getaways* together.
- *Pray together.
- *Say "thank you" often. Ingratitude is a marriage killer.
- *Love and accept your spouse's family (but don't take their money).
- *Share the child rearing.
- *Love Jesus with all of your heart (Matt. 6:33).
- *Be kind. Sarcasm has no place in a healthy marriage.
- *Be trustworthy.
- *Make an irrevocable vow: I will be faithful.
- *Be the first to say "I was wrong."
- *Lean on each other in the tough times (they will pass).
- *Treat your spouse with the same dignity you would show a stranger.
- *Help each other with the chores.

Finally, make your own list and pass it on.

God's best to you and your marriage! Curt loves DeDe 8/9/79

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There is a wonderful story shared by my friend Lente Lourens:

A small boy owned a blue kite.

The kite loved the boy but tired of being tethered by a long string, forced to follow where the boy led.

It longed for the freedom to travel to far off venues it could see from its vantage point in the sky.

Rivers to cross.

Fields to explore.

Then one day it happened. While aloft, the string broke and the blue kite was suddenly free. It looked down on the small boy, sadly staring up with the limp string in his hand.

The kite soared toward the distant horizon, so happy to be free at last. But within several miles, it tumbled to the ground and lay helplessly among tall grass.

Lost from its owner and best friend.

And the blue kite suddenly realized: the thing that had seemed to hold it back actually had given it the connection to soar.

Compliments of

Curt Iles and www.creekbank.net



Signposts along the road of a happy marriage. 2 shall become 1
Say "I love you" everyday*keep dating*write love notes and cards*hold hands forever*Live a life of forgiveness: build a bridge and get over it*walk and talk together*use a sense of humor*go on trips together*pray together*say "thank you" often*love and accept your spouse's family (but don't take their money)*split up the child rearing*love Jesus with all of your heart (Matt. 6:33)*be kind*be trustworthy*be faithful*laugh often (esp. at yourselves!)*get angry and get over it*be the first to say "I was wrong"*lean on each other in the tough times (they will pass)*expect the best from each other*treat your spouse with the same dignity you would extend to a stranger*help each other with the chores* Finally, make your own list and pass it on.

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Said farmer Brown

Who's bald

On top

Wish I could

Rotate the crop

Rurma-Shave

Dim your lights

Behind a car

Let folks see

How bright

YOU are

Burma-Shave



Passing cars

When you can't see

May get you

A glimpse

Of eternity

