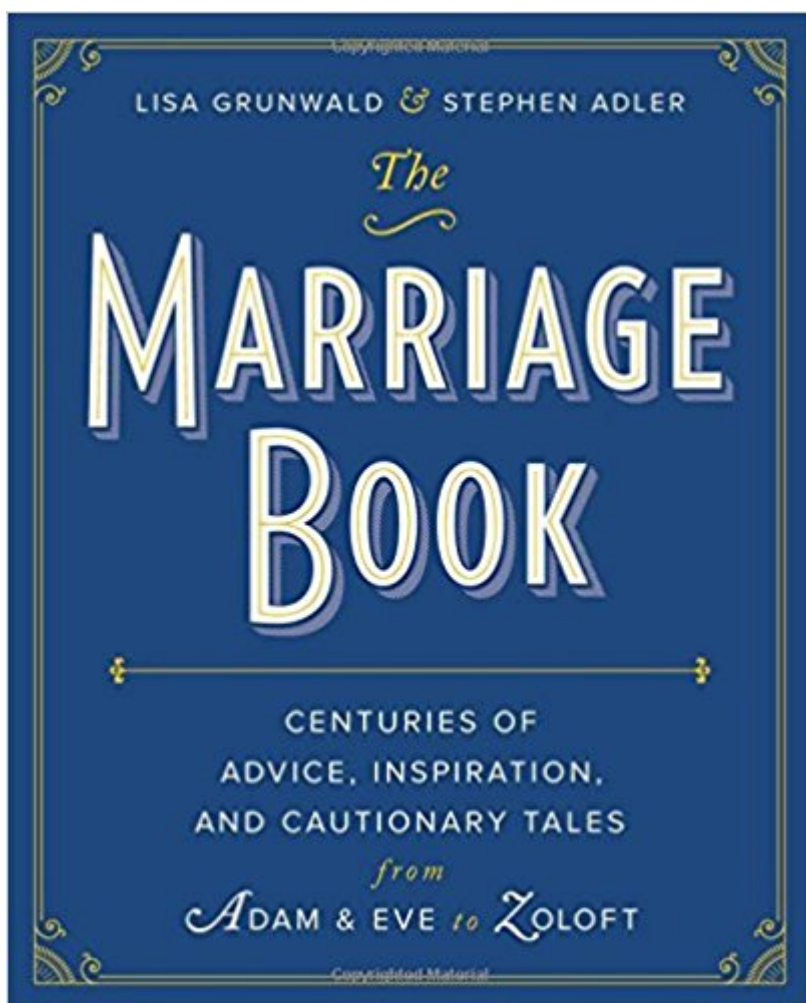


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# The Marriage Book: Centuries Of Advice, Inspiration, And Cautionary Tales From Adam And Eve To Zoloft



## Synopsis

The definitive anthology of wisdom and wit about one of life's most complex, intriguing, and personal subjects. When and whom do you marry? How do you keep a spouse content? Do all engaged couples get cold feet? How cold is so cold that you should pivot and flee? Where and how do children fit in? Is infidelity always wrong? In this volume, you won't find a single answer to your questions about marriage; you will find hundreds. Spanning centuries and cultures, sources and genres, *The Marriage Book* offers entries from ancient history and modern politics, poetry and pamphlets, plays and songs, newspaper ads and postcards. It is an A to Z compendium, exploring topics from Adam and Eve to Anniversaries, Fidelity to Freedom, Separations to Sex. In this volume, you'll hear from novelists, clergymen, sex experts, and presidents, with guest appearances by the likes of Liz and Dick, Ralph and Alice, Louis CK, and Neil Patrick Harris. Casanova calls marriage the tomb of love, and Stephen King calls it his greatest accomplishment. With humor, perspective, breadth, and warmth, *The Marriage Book* is sure to become a classic.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 560 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster; 1 edition (May 12, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1439169659

ISBN-13: 978-1439169650

Product Dimensions: 7.4 x 1.8 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.7 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 19 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #354,034 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #184 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Weddings](#) #649 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Sociology > Marriage & Family](#) #1685 in [Books > Parenting & Relationships > Marriage & Adult Relationships](#)

## Customer Reviews

**\*\*NPR Best Books of 2015\*\*** **\*\*A New York Times Summer Reading Pick\*\*** "A lively anthology of letters, jokes, songs, novels, movies, plays and poems about every aspect of this noble--or, on occasion, ignoble--institution, from wedding day to divorce [with entries that] are sincere and unforgettable." (The Wall Street Journal)"Refreshingly unsappy. . . . This idiosyncratic compilation includes Bill Clinton's 1998 grand jury testimony, a reddit thread about whether to hyphenate your

name, and advice from Ovid on playing hard to get. Like that funny guy or gal you met at the party, this sweet, smart, A-to-Z guide never takes itself too seriously, and before you know it, you'll find yourself falling in love." (NPR's Book Concierge) "A delightful book--the perfect gift. . . . for anyone who has ever been married, plans to, or is determined to avoid it. Read it . . . and smile." (Hudson Valley News) "Marries scholarship and irresistible ephemera." (The Approval Matrix, New York Magazine) "A widely researched, generously illustrated, and essentially optimistic alphabet from Adam and Eve to In-Laws to Zolof of what the married authors call the private, perilous, hopeful journey from I to we." (Lisa Shea Elle Magazine) "A cultural scrapbook on the resilience of a fraught institution. . . . If we sometimes wonder, a little uneasily, how we ended up viewing the institution more instrumentally than romantically, The Marriage Book offers reassurance that marriage has for a long time inspired a dizzying mix of pragmatism and passion. . . . Illuminating." (The Atlantic) "A dowry of wisdom from writers, artists, sexperts, and politicians." (Hot Type, Vanity Fair) "An anthology of advice and stories, running the gamut from Adam and Eve to quotes from comedian Louis CK." (Time) "One of the best books I can recommend for all of you about-to-be wed couples. . . . Filled with fascinating comments, observations and advice about married life." (Bridal Guide Magazine) "You won't be able to put [The Marriage Book] down." (Popsugar.com) "A fun read about love, sex, spats, and the rules for marriage." (Keija Minor Brides Magazine) "[Full of] wonderful advice." (Bustle.com) "This book contains everything you could ever want to know about marriage." (RealSimple.com) "What do you give to the newlyweds who have everything? How about The Marriage Book by Lisa Grunwald & Stephen Adler? . . . Infinitely browsable, sometimes shocking but always amusing, this huge collection of thoughts, warnings, and words of wisdom for the lovestruck is one of those things you'll want to pass around at the bridal shower, just for fun. . . . There's something for everyone, from romantic to realist." (Price County Review) "Everyone you can think of is quoted, plus hundreds unknown to you. A definitive survey? I can't think of writers with more energy and dedication. A gift for about-to-be-marrieds? Duh." (Jesse Kornbluth, Head Butler blog)

Lisa Grunwald and Stephen J. Adler collaborated on two bestselling anthologies: *Women's Letters: America from the Revolutionary War to the Present* and *Letters of the Century: America 1900-1999*. Grunwald is the author of the novels *The Irresistible Henry House*, *Whatever Makes You Happy*, *New Year's Eve*, *The Theory of Everything*, and *Summer*. Adler is the president and editor-in-chief of Reuters. Grunwald and Adler have been married to each other since 1988 and plan to stay that

way.

I thought I'd pick it up and browse. Hours later, I still couldn't put it down. For anyone who's been married, is thinking about getting married, or never wants to hear the word again, it's all here: the pros, the cons, the ballads and the fiascos. The authors have curated a vast amount of material with an eye toward practical advice, humor, history (troubling and otherwise). This book is gorgeously designed and uses everything from postcards and advertisements to letters and song to get the story across. And what a story it is. The authors clearly have a fine-tuned sense of humor and a brilliant sense of time and place. This is the perfect gift weddings, engagements, anniversaries, and anyone who loves a smart, provocative read.

I just gave a copy of this wondrous book as a wedding present. In my note to the young couple, I pointed out the merits of the book's copious index: no matter what they might feel or experience in the years ahead--be it good, confusing, awful, or simply incomprehensible--they could just find the apt word in the index (it's all there) and take a few minutes to read wisdom, or wit, or advice on the subject. One thing is for certain: With this book on their bed table, my young newlywed friends will never run out of things to talk about.

“The Marriage Book” is as intriguing, complex, and rich as the institution it explores. Through this impeccably curated mix of letters, postcards, poems, songs, and cartoons, you see marriage at its best and worst, its funniest and saddest, its most inspirational and its bawdiest—in short, you see humanity. I know no other book that covers such vast territory with such insight, humor, and respect. The authors are witty and wise, and their introductions and explanations of each entry make the anthology both richer and more accessible. And though we’re told not to judge a book by its cover, this thing just feels impressive in your hand—perfect for a wedding or anniversary gift, or even a “just because” gift. Whether you’re floating on the wings of a 50-year marriage or have sworn marriage off for good, whether you’ve been married several times or have been a groomsman and never a groom, you’ll be glad to spend time in these pages, and you’ll be the better for it.

Not what I thought it would be; a bunch of quotes; not a substantial manual for marriage type book.

I would give it 5 stars for the content but the dust cover makes the book look out and used which is disappointing because I have given it several times for a wedding gift. Excellent variety of stories about marriage.

This is now my go to for a wedding gift or to round out a wedding gift basket-

This was very informative and in great condition. My son will love it.

Gave it for a Bridal Shower. Bride loved it. I did a little peaking, and found it interesting.

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