



A
Wedding
Play



Our Wedding Play

"The Garden"

Victoria & James Bedford

February 6, 2003

Cast of Characters

Bride: Victoria Almond

Groom: James Bedford

Lauren Almond: Sister of the Bride
- Bride's Maid

Beth Hill: Friend of the Bride -
- Bride's Maid

Sarah Alan: Friend of the Bride
- Bride's Maid

Andrew Steele: Friend of the Groom
- Best Man

Scene | "The Seed"

Beth: When we were thirteen years old—
best friends since Kindergarten—
Vicky told me, "I don't ever want to
get married." I asked her, "Why
not?" She answered, "I'm too
complicated"

(music)

Andrew: Jimmy and I were out camping in
Yosemite one night, and over a few
beers I asked him, "So, James you
think you'll ever get married?" He
said, "Nah." I said, "Why not?"
And he said, "Are you kidding,

Andrew: (continued)
who'd ever put up with me?

(music)

Lauren: "Knowing nothing, shuts iron gates
The new love opens them
The sound of the gates opening
Wakes the beautiful woman asleep

Sarah: "Kabir says, 'Fantastic!
Don't let a chance like this go by!"
(1)

(music)

Scene II "The Planting"

Bride: "I live my life in growing orbits
Which move out over the things
of the world.
Perhaps I can never achieve the last,
But that will be my attempt.

Beth: I am circling around God,
around the ancient tower,
And I have been circling
for a thousand years,
And I still don't know if
I am a falcon, Or a storm,
or a great song." (2)

Groom: "My eyes already touch the sunny hill
Going far ahead of the road I have
begun,

Lauren: (continued_
So, we are grasped
by what we cannot grasp.
It has its inner light,
even from a distance."

Andrew: And changes us,
even if we do not reach it
Into something else,
which, hardly sensing,
We already are.

Sarah: A gesture waves us on,
answering our own wave,
But what we feel
Is the wind in our faces." (3)

(music)

Scene III "Roots of Time"

Lauren: Victoria, is lying on the beach...
.... summer of 2001.

Groom: When I walked by, I saw that her eyes
were closed...

Beth: (Or were they?)

Groom: She was sleeping...

Lauren: (Or was she?)

Andrew: He asked her, "Pardon me,
I'm... sorry, but, do you know
what time it is?"

Sarah: She responded...

Bride: "Yes, let me see, it's..."

Andrew: ... And when she saw his

Bride: deep, blue, beautiful eyes

Andrew: looking at her, she felt like...

Bride: ...I was looking into the calm, vast,
deepness of the ocean. And, he
asked me what time it was.

Beth: And it was...

Bride and Groom: ...Timeless.

(music)

Scene 6 "Growing Together"

Lauren: She said, "But I must have the sea near me. And the seagulls and the salt air, and the crisp afternoon breeze. I need to see the full stretch of the horizon, and feel the depth of the ocean."

Andrew: And he said, "I must live surrounded by trees, and forests – and have the dense, moist earth under my feet. I need the soft rains in the afternoons, and a quiet dew at night."

Beth: Rumi, the poet says:
"Every forest branch moves differently
in the breeze,
But as they sway,
"They connect at the roots."

(after a moment...)

Lauren: We will live together.

Bride: Sea,

Lauren: and

Groom: Forest,

Bride and Groom: ... Joined.

(lively music)

Scene IV "The Blossoming"

Sarah: (having much fun with ee cummings' words)
Since feeling is first,
who pays any attention
 to the syntax of things
will never wholly kiss you;

Andrew: wholly to be a fool
while spring is in the world!
my blood approves
and kisses are a better fare
than wisdom
lady | swear

Lauren: don't cry

Andrew: the best gesture of all my brain

Beth: is less than your eyelid's flutter

Andrew: which says

Beth: we are for each other!

Andrew: then laugh, leaning back in my arms,
for life is not a paragraph

Lauren: and death, i think, is no parenthesis

(music)

Scene IV "Then Garden Grows"

Lauren: When we were twenty three, and
 celebrating my birthday, Victoria
 asked me, "So who do you think will
 get married first, you or me?" I told
 her, "You, definitely." And she said,
 "I don't think so. I think you will."
 And then, we both laughed and
 made a toast to life and said,
 "Whatever does it matter?
 As long as we're both happy!"

Andrew: Jimmy and I had just run yet another,
 10-k and we both, as usual, finished in
 the middle of the pack.
 Catching my
 last breath, I said to him, "James, how
 much longer are we gonna do this?"

Andrew: (continued)
And he said, "As long as you and
I can walk!"

Sarah: The Buddha says,
"There is no way to happiness.

Lauren: Happiness is the way."

Bride: (to Groom)
Did you know that when
you laugh, I laugh, even when
you can't see me?

Groom: (to Bride)
When you make your mother's
eggplant lasagna I feel like I've
died and gone to heaven.

Beth: And when two lives are full
 and happy like Victoria's and James',
 they enter into fullness with each other
 and create a new Spiritual Wholeness—

which fertilizes the world,

and grows

Lauren: Love,

Sarah: Endlessly.

(special musical selection chosen by Bride and Groom)

Finis

Poetry Selections:

- (1) Kabir
(Persian poet 1320 - 1389)
"New Love"

- (2) Rainer Maria Rilke
(German poet 1875 - 1926)
"I Live My Life"

- (3) Rainer Maria Rilke
"A Walk"

- (4) ee cummings
(American poet 1894 - 1962)
"untitled"

Elizabeth Almond's Recipe for Eggplant Lasagna

1 eggplant
1 teaspoon kosher salt
8 tablespoons olive oil
1 large onion
12 ounces thinly sliced mushrooms
1/4 cup flour
8 ounces lasagna noodles
3 cups fresh tomato sauce
1 1/2 cups of Bechamel sauce
1/4 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese
5 ounces chevre cheese
1/2 cup fresh basil
8 ounces freshly grated mozzarella cheese

- 1) slice eggplants, sprinkle with kosher salt, let sit one hour
- 2) sauté onion and mushrooms in olive oil over low heat
- 3) cook eggplant in olive oil (dredge with flour)
- 4) pre-heat oven to 350 F.
- 5) cook lasagna noodles until just tender, then rinse under cold water and drain
- 6) spread some tomato sauce on bottom casserole dish
- 7) add 1/2 the portion of noodles, cover with a portion of sauteed eggplant and onion and mushrooms

- 8) mix together Bechamel sauce with Parmesan cheese
then add on top of eggplant mixture
- 9) crumble chevre over mixture and add chopped basil
- 10) add more tomato sauce
- 11) add last layer of noodles
- 12) add last portion of Bechamel sauce, sprinkle with more chopped basil
- 13) top casserole with remaining tomato sauce
- 14) final layer, add grated mozzarella
- 15) cover dish with aluminum foil and bake for 30 minutes.
- 16) Uncover and bake until brown and bubbly, another
15 minutes.

"I have always known
that at last I would
take this road, but yesterday
I did not know it would be today."

– unknown Japanese poet

