Toni Paget Celebrations

Personal Story Examples

Tara and Jared-

Jared and Tara had their first date at a café in Palm Beach. Tara came quite prepared to give Jared the 3rd degree with literally 21 questions, some quite future based and abrupt. Some of those questions even testing the usual etiquette and topics of a first date like what school do you want to send your children to and what are your religious beliefs.

Jared admits, he was scrambling for answers as this was not custom in his recent dates where questions and conversations were a bit more on the pointless and superficial side. Obviously, his answers passed the test and they organised to meet for dinner again that weekend. Tara says the first date went really well, until she accidentally ran into a rogue mop bucket on the way out, something Jared pretended not to see.

From then it wasn’t long before they were starting to have feelings for each other, so I asked them when they first fell in love. Jared says his emergent feelings of interest, attraction, protection, care, loyalty and ultimately love happened very quickly.

He says a notable moment came when Tara went away for a weekend a few months after they started hanging out, and he realised missed this vibrant bundle of energy, and did not want this to happen in any manner of frequency. This indicated to him that love was beginning to take hold.

Tara says that after they had been on a few dates, she felt Jared was intelligent and attractive, but she still wasn’t too sure about whether he was the guy for her because he seemed a bit aloof and, dare she say it, a tad arrogant!

Then one night they were out to dinner on a date and they saw an elderly couple eating dinner together at a nearby table, Jared told her that he wanted to grow old with someone just like that. That’s when she realised, he was like a big caramello koala - a big softy on the inside despite his cool hard exterior! A few weeks later he sealed the deal when he sent her flowers & chocolate for her birthday, and he has had her heart ever since.

From that point they have been on some amazing adventures together. One of their most exciting being traveling to Europe last Christmas for a month. Tara travelled to Wales for her maid of honour Lauren’s wedding in December and didn’t want to spend the whole trip travelling by herself, so after only a few weeks of dating they planned for Jared to come over to Europe and meet her. They rendezvoused in Paris on Christmas Eve and had the most magical Christmas eating croissants & taking in the sights of Paris.

After that they had to do something that Tara felt had always felt defines a relationship- a road trip. Jared says Tara had this obsession with them doing a road trip to Byron Bay to formalise their relationship. She would repeatedly say “how can we be a couple when we haven’t even done a road trip together?! She felt it would be the great revealer of their character and was a must in relationship building (why it was specific to Byron bay Jared has no idea). As it turned out they took this road trip around Europe instead and it was just as uneventful as Jared predicted.

But of course, in terms of adventures and achievements their greatest as a couple was finding out the impending arrival of their little boy.

Throughout all of this, they have learnt to appreciate certain qualities in one another and when I asked them what they love most about each other, it was clear to me that this is a couple who not only love each other, but they absolutely respect and admire each other too.

Tara says what she loves most about Jared is that he is so intelligent. She loves that he is philosophical. She loves that he is incredibly kind and generous. She loves that he is strong both physically and in spirit and she loves that he makes her feel safe and protected. She says together they make a true partnership.

Jared says what he loves most about Tara is how she is always absolutely completely honest. He loves her intense curiosity of the world.

He loves that she is so proactive and always has a go-getter attitude to life. He loves that she has seemingly infinite feelings and he loves that she has such a strong emphasis on family.

It was all of these aspects that they love about each other that led to Jared deciding to propose to Tara and what a proposal that was too! To set the tone, they both say it was one of the best days of their entire lives. The couple were having a gender reveal of their little one. They had gathered their Gold Coast friends & family together. The plan was for Jared to hit a golf ball that would disintegrate into blue or pink powder. They were all gathered down the beach & Jared was hitting some practice golf balls into the ocean.

Just as Tara thought he was ready to hit the official gender reveal ball Jared got down on one knee and- as he called it, presented a heftily priced diamond ring. She was so surprised & blown away that she almost missed the actual gender reveal golf swing! But of course, they found out they were having a boy to start their long-planned tribe and of course the answer was a definite yes.

A yes that has led us all here today, a day they wanted to share with their friends and family who they say mean absolutely everything to them. They say they feel so blessed to have the love and support of all of their family and friends. They say everyone in attendance today is a special person in their lives and they feel truly privileged to have your friendship, love and support.

Today is a day that starts their future plans which were absolutely perfect. They simply want to have a beautiful life raising their family by the beach and doing amazing things in their respective careers. Jared says as cliché as it sounds, he wants to grow very old with Tara. He wants to experience every high and every low, every struggle and every success. I want to have a big family with drama and hijinks and he want to do it all with Tara. He even wants to get a dog even though that will require some compromise from Tara but in short, whatever may come, he wants them to be together for all of it, that at least is crystal clear and for absolute certain.

Brad and Danni-

I first met Brad and Danni at a wedding expo and on those days, I meet a lottt of people but they stood out to me as special from the very beginning and I have been able to picture their smiles and their passion and excitement to get married in my mind ever since. It truly is an honour to share today with them and I thank them for choosing me. Now onto their story! So, it seems this has been a long time coming because they actually met while still in high school. Danni very unstalkerly” like found Brad on Facebook to ask if he would accompany his friend to the movies as his friend didn’t want to be the only guy with a group of girls…. I bet this friend would change his tune now. In case you were wondering they saw the Prince of Persia.

It was from this first day at the movies that Brad says he fell in love but this was well before they were a couple. They were friends for a while doing typical best friends who love each other stuff like picking on each other and messing around. Falling in love wasn’t until a bit later for Danni though, like a whole 2 years later. She says it was a week before they officially started dating, they were both coincidentally in Coffs Harbour, texting back and forth nonstop but it wasn’t just the texting that was nonstop, it was the smiles on their faces too. So much so that Danni’s friend couldn’t help but notice and said to Danni “You really like this guy” to which she first replied “don’t be silly were just friends” until she stopped and had a think about it and she realised in that moment “Holy smokes I really do like him”.

When I asked this couple did they know for sure at a particular moment that they wanted to be together for ever Brads said he always knew their paths were crossed together for life, he just didn’t know how it would be, he says there was one moment where he realised they just clicked together like 2 jigsaw pieces, they just fit and they always would. He says he can’t imagine spending his life without Danni in it. Danni on the other hand was very sceptical as she had been hurt before. She thought 4 would be a good stretch, then 4 months turned into 6 months which turned into a year, then two and then 4 years in she thought wow he is in it for the long haul! 2 years after that and here we are so he was in it for the long haul for sure.

When I asked this couple what they loved most about each other, if it wasn’t clear already, it certainly was now that they absolutely adore each other. Brad says he loves Danni’s giggle and who wouldn’t its her most adorable feature. He says he loves the way she makes him a better man. He loves her strength and her kindness. He loves her passion and he loves her courage. Most importantly though he loves her every positive, her every negative, everything aspect to her, every day in every moment. Danni says she loves the fact that she never has to finish a thought because he already knows what she is trying to say. She loves that he makes her smile everyday even if she doesn’t want to like when she is trying to be mad at him for not taking the rubbish out. She loves how safe his arms make her feel when he hugs her. She loves how even when they do fight they are always able to talk it out and understand exactly where the other is coming from. I think you’ve perfected marriage already by the sound of things. She loves that he always has a smile and a positive outlook no matter what hardships come his way. She loves how his crazy matches her crazy. But most of all she loves how kind, compassionate, caring, loving and annoyingly good looking he is, she says he is her person and she couldn’t imagine loving anyone else as truly and as deeply as she loves him.

It was all of these aspects that they love about each other that led to Brad deciding to propose to Danni in the Sydney Botanical gardens. Danni Says that day was probably the most gullible she has ever been in her whole life. Bard had planned their whole week around wanting to propose there and when he said to Danni that he wanted to take cute photos there because “that’s just what you do in gardens right?” and she wasn’t even suspicious. Brad put the camera on record and captured the whole thing. Danni says this pushed forward her life timeline because she had planned on getting engaged at 25, married at 27 and kids at 28. But I guess she was ok with the plan shake up because she obviously said yes.

A yes that led us all here to their wedding ceremony today which they say they wanted to spend with all their friends and family who they say mean everything to them. A yes that has started their futures together while reminiscing on the amazing past that has led them to today. A past that has faced ups and downs, the ups consisting mostly of food adventures, going out to see great plays or films and designing their first home and many many adventures. Danni says that everyday seems like a new adventure with Brad and she thinks this is super corny for her to say but I think it’s the perfect thing to say. And then they think of their future which consists of plans that are simple and heartfelt. They hope to maintain their relationship together through anything thick and thin. Danni hopes to show Brad the world that she has travelled. Brad says he wants to continue how they have been for so many great years but now instead as husband and wife and hopefully one day as mother and father to their- to quote Danni- Beautiful blue-eyed children. They want live young, live free and be happy till the end of time. With all of those beautiful beautiful memories behind them and such a hopeful perfect future on the horizon for them, lets get the next chapter of their story started and get this ceremony under way.

Rosanna and Alex-

Alex and Rosanna first met at a friend’s 18th birthday, in the back yard on the 16th of October 2010. They both specified that it was- NOT love at first sight.

Alex remembers being quite drunk and Rosanna thought he was a bit weird and loud. She says never in a million years would she have thought she was going to marry him. She did think he was a little crazy but she quickly found out he is the best kind of crazy.

So, after hearing how they first met I asked them, do you know when you first fell in love?

Rosanna says Alex first asked her to be his girlfriend on 10.11.2011, this was a couple of weeks before her Formal and Schoolies.

Alex accompanied her and her friends in Surfers Paradise for a couple of days for schoolies and they had a great time.

Alex had to leave whilst she stayed up there and it was a sad feeling, from them on she knew she wanted Alex to be there for every fun and important moment of her life. When saying goodbye, they both said 'I Love You' for the first time and Rosanna says she definitely had a tear in her eye as he drove away.

Alex says after they had met, they would hang out through friends, they then became friends and would hang out a lot and became quite close. He isn’t sure exactly when he fell in love with her, but he is sure it would have been before she fell in love with him.

From then they have been on some amazing adventures together as a couple but they’re most notable is the amount of travel they have been able to do together. Alex says he couldn’t say how many countries they have been to and the amazing sights they have seen, but he is sure Rosanna could because she seems to know everything… and you are right Alex, she did.

They’ve been to Thailand, Singapore, the UK, almost allll of Europe, Bali, Japan, Bali again and in 2 days’ time Fiji for their honeymoon. She says there is honestly nothing better than seeing this world with Alex. And she couldn't ask for a better travel and life partner.

Throughout these experiences and their time together, they have grown to appreciate certain qualities and attributes in one another and when I asked them what they loved most about each other, their answers showed me that not only do this couple love each other, I believe they have found their very best friend in each other too.

Rosanna says what she loves most about Alex is how nothing is ever too hard for him, she says he just gets stuff done and very rarely ever whinges.

She says she loves how he is such a chilled-out guy. She loves that whether she is laughing AT him or WITH him, he is always making her laugh. And when she says always she means capital letters ALWAYS.

She loves how Alex is always incredibly supportive. Whether it be a new diet she wants to try or exercise regime he will always be in on it too.

If she hates all her clothes and want to go shopping, he'll be there telling her what looks good and what doesn't.

She loves that he is her number one supporter.

She loves that he is spontaneous and encourages her to be as well.

She loves that he gets her to do things she normally wouldn't and of course she loves that he has a really good butt 😉

Alex says what he loves most about Rosanna is her kind hearted soul.

He loves how she is so incredibly beautiful; he says she is absolutely stunning and a solid 10!

He loves that she is so funny and makes him laugh every day.

He loves that she is always fun, he says she makes every situation a good time, except housework… then he says she is the devil.

And of course, he loves that she is so organised and always knows what’s happening, unlike himself who just turns up to places when she says.

It was all of these aspects that they love about each other that led to Alex deciding he was going to propose to Rosanna on March 1st 2017 in Bali. For those who haven’t heard, it went a little something like this.

They decided one afternoon that they would get dressed up and go out for a really nice dinner.

Alex says he made sure to put on his best attire for the occasion. Rosanna had thought it was weird that Alex had brought jeans, a button up shirt, dress shoes and a jacket to Bali where people wear thongs to 5-star restaurants.

She was particularly put off by the jacket but Alex assured her they were expecting rain that night, Rosanna was still a little sceptical as there wasn’t a single cloud in the sky, but little did she know the jacket was there to cover up the ring box as he didn’t want to wrestle it out of his pocket, he was going for a smooth proposal.

When Alex proposed they had the whole roof top of a beautiful beach front restaurant to themselves. They ordered dinner and Alex barely touched it as he was so nervous. They ordered a glass of the finest bubbly and he got down and popped the question.

Rosanna was in was in such shock that she was speechless for the rest of the night. She says she had no idea the proposal was coming; he did a very good job at hiding it!

Well of course the answer was a definite yes, a yes that has brought us here, exactly 8 years after their story began. They actually spent their 1-year anniversary up the road at the Santai as well, so this area holds a special little place in their hearts.

Today is a day that begins their future plans which were simple and heartfelt. Rosanna simply wants to live her life with Alex with lots of laughs, pleanty more vacays and maybe a baby or two… and Alex simply hopes to survive married life. But he also wants to tick off having some kids, buying a house, doing plenty more travelling, and hoping Rosanna doesn't kill him because she’s stuck with him now.

Brooke and Joey-

Having initially met at one of Brookes friend’s house on state of origin night in 2009, Brooke and Joey had to put the start of their story on hold as Brooke was due to study in the UK very shortly after meeting. They stayed in touch the whole time Brooke was away and when she returned she was surprised by a beautiful bunch of tulips on Valentine’s day. They say this was the moment when things picked up full steam ahead. They say falling in love was inevitable.

Joey apparently knew it was love the first night he stayed at Brookes place in New farm as he told her over and over and over again! It was not long after this that Brooke and Joey booked their trip to Borneo. This meant 3 weeks straight together, they knew this would make or break them. Obviously, it certainly did make them and they then discovered their joint love of travelling together and knew they wanted to continue doing this forever.

Brooke tells me what she loves about Joey is he is a hard worker, he makes friends with anyone and everyone, he is the perfect mix of kindness, gentleness, manliness and weirdness. She loves how much everyone adores him and he’s just a super nice guy. She also loves how he makes her feel safe… except when he is driving so she always drives. Joey tells me… ditto. Except womanliness instead of manliness. But as you can see he already knows to agree with Brooke because happy wife happy life!

Brooke and Joey decided to have a marriage ceremony today because after Joey nailed the proposal at Fingal head they were so excited to have a day that binds their love together officially. They wanted to share the day with their friends and family who they tell me are their everything. They say they both have very tight knit families and they are so happy to be so close and feel so welcome in each other’s families. They say their friends are equally as important to them and they are so grateful for you all to be here today with them.

Brooke and Joeys plans for the future are to finish building their first home after its disastrous first 2 years which included showering in a water tank and going through winter with no walls and holes in the floors! They also would like to travel more and one day have a couple of kids. Build a home by the beach on lots of land to include an assortment of animals like llamas, miniature horses, full sized horses, sloths, unicorns and of course their dogs. Now let’s get all those future plans started and get this ceremony under way.

Demi and Adam-

Demi and Adam first met at a friends 21st birthday party where Adam says he fell in love with Demi straight away. Demi needed a few more weeks but that’s ok she was set early on too saying she was in love with Adam within the first month of meeting him.

It seems as though this couple can stay positive through anything, they say they renovated their first home together on a budget of no money which included showering outside for 12 months and having their bedroom in the loungeroom. If you can go through all that and still be completely happy and in love then you know you’ve found the right one.

When I asked this couple what they loved most about each other it was no surprise they fell in love so quickly because it was clear to me that they absolutely adored each other. Adam says he loves that Demi is well mannered and respectful. He says she is absolutely beautiful. He says that he loves is always caring and loving but most of all he loves how she is such an amazing mother to their little boy. He says he couldn’t ask for anyone better to raise their son and spend the rest of his life with. Demi says she loves Adams work ethic and his constant determination to better their lives together as a family. Most of all though she loves how he is the most amazing father to their son even though he is so stubborn. She says she loved that the minute Bronik was born, he 100% trusted her without hesitation.

It was all these aspects that they love about each other that led to Adam deciding to propose to Demi on the beach where she went camping as a child. He made sure to do it the right way by asking Demis parents for permission and getting down on one knee. Obviously she said yes. A yes that has brought us all here to their wedding ceremony today, here with their friends and family who they say have shaped them into the people they are today. They say they wouldn’t be the people they are without everyone here. Today we are all here to witness the first of their future plans which include seeing the world by having more holidays, finishing the renovations on their house and being able to sit back and take it all in together.

Tanya and Brendan-

Tanya and Brendan initially met in the most romantic of ways…at a first aid course. 10 years ago, after the completion of the course they decided to exchange numbers and they met up that following weekend. To keep the initial romantic aspects flowing Tanya decided to bring along her friend Donna juuust in case Brendan was a mass murderer. As it turns out he is not a mass murdered and they had a great night which of course… included way too much drinking. After such a great night they decided they would see each other again. But after 6 months Brendan was moving on from the Gold Coast for work… Tanya thought this was the end of their amazing time together so she decided she would send him off with a bang…. In the form of skydiving! Apparently, this was not Brendan’s form of a relaxing weekend away but it was something that made him come back to the coast to see Tanya weekend after weekend. Those weekend after weekend visits included many activities like bowls, cricket and AFL footy for Mitch and Liam with not ‘too much’ complaining, Tanya says this is when she knew this was a one in a million man and a definite keeper, she thought any man that can put up with that can put up with her.

Tanya tells me she first fell in love with Brendan when she heard that Irish accent, she found he could put up with her 'l can do it myself' attitude and that he does what he is told… most of the time. She loves that he always looks out for her and their kids and always puts them first…Except when it comes to Football or Fishing. Brendan says he knew it he fell in love when he realised he could do what he wanted and come and go as he pleased, and as much as he loved her witty charm and good looks when he realised she liked to go for a fish and could rig up her own rod that was the icing on the cake.

Like every couple Brendan and Tanya have overcome many challenges, and enjoyed many adventures. The most significant being watching the boys grow up into 'sometimes' lovely men and of course the safe arrival of their daughter Princess Kiana 7 years ago and seeing her grow into a lovely, caring, thoughtful, not to mention gorgeous little girl has brought them the most joy. When I asked Tanya and Brendan why they decided to get married today they told me that after many many years of waiting Tanya thought she best make an honest man of Brendan so after having their first date across from the beach 10 years ago they thought what better way to declare their love officially than here with friends and loved ones on the beach today. Friends and family who they say mean everything to them and whom they hope to always be close to, even when they are miles away, and finally after 10 years they are having each other’s families together for the first time! But also, in saying that Tanya thinks the real reason Brendan agreed to have the ceremony on the beach today was to check out the gutters for the perfect fishing spot.

When I asked Tanya and Brendan about their plans for the future they had some very realistic goals…. to win lotto and if they figure out a trick to achieving that goal I would love to hear it! But also, they strive to have a long and healthy life together and to enjoy each other’s company just as much when they are 90 as they do now. They would also like to ‘win lotto’, and for Brendan to work closer to home and watch their three children grow and be healthy, retire in a penthouse apartment overlooking the ocean, and of course 'win lotto'!

Caylie and Adrian-

It seems as though this couple was meant to meet one way or another, they have many mutual friends and worked in the same tight knit industry with many chances to cross paths… but it didn’t happen. It was until Caylie started a new role and a friend half way across the world told her to introduce herself to a guy called Woody, that their paths would finally cross. Clare said Woody would look after her and ….Clare was right, he did.

From that point it didn’t take this couple long to realise they wanted to be together forever. It was less than one year after they met that they got engaged but they felt as though, compared to Adrian’s parents 23 days…10 months seemed like a lifetime.

Adrian says he knew it was love a week after their first kiss... They were out again at their local the Broadbeach Bowls club when Adrian saw Caylie helping an elderly couple down the stairs near some rowdy bowls club goers and he knew that it was much more than just ‘attraction’ from that point. Caylie says, as many of you would know… that she can sometimes be stubborn…. So, it took her a little longer to admit to herself when she had fallen in love. She says she knew it, weeks before she finally said the words… Caylie says that from the moment Adrian said she could trust him, something she previously had a hard time doing, that her heart was his.

When I asked Adrian and Caylie what they loved most about each other, there was common theme… The way they look at each other… Caylie says that with the way Adrian looks at her, she knows without hesitation that he would do anything for her and the people they love. Adrian says with the way Caylie looks at him, her smile and the expression in her eyes, that she loves him unconditionally.

After a trip to Airlie beach with friends in tow, Adrian popped the question to Caylie and of course she said yes. A ‘yes’ that has brought us here today, a mere 12 days after the Commonwealth Games, the event that ultimately brought this couple together. A ‘yes’ that that brought all of ‘you’ here together, ‘you’ the family and friends that they tell me have shaped their lives in so many ways, ‘you’ who they are eternally grateful for with their love, support, guidance and adventures and ‘you’ who are always there when they need encouragement, support, a laugh, a hug or sometimes just a beer.

Adrian and Caylie’s hopes for the future are a happy life filled with love and laughter. A life with family and friends, the ones here already and the ones still to come. I have to say that the story that Adrian and Caylie gave me and the answers to their questions were the most sincere, individual and full of love I have ever received and I have been so looking forward to marrying this couple here today. With all of that being said let’s get that under way.

Jeremy and Caitie-

So, this day has been a long time coming hasn’t it! I can’t believe these two first met in early high school. Caitie was only in grade 8 and Jem grade 9 although when they first met through mutual friends they didn’t exactly get along very well. Caitie says she was adamant that she didn’t like him because he had the same name as her little brother, what a monster. Although the other girls Caitie was friends with were the ones who liked Jem, he decided he would take the hard route and go after Caitie and clearly, he succeeded. The beginning of the following year they were a couple. They say they fell in love within their first year together when they realised how much they had in common and how similar their goals were. They say right from the start they knew they were meant to find each other.

When I asked this couple if there was a moment where they knew that they wanted to get married I was told that for Jeremy it was one night when he went to watch a fashion show at Caitie’s work. He says when he walked in and saw her in that emerald green dress, so proud of the fashion show she had created, he knew he wanted to be with her forever. For Caitie it happened a little while before hand when she saw him interact with her family. Caitie says her family means everything to her so to see Jeremy so close and bonding the way he does with them, this made Caitie sure she had chosen the right person to spend her life with.

When I asked this couple what they love most about it each other it was clear that this couple really cares about the others happiness, doing anything to make the other one smile. Caitie says she loves how supportive Jeremey is. She says he is so generous and he is incredibly kind hearted. She says he is so thoughtful that even when she was sick for their anniversary this year and couldn’t go out to the picnic he had planned, he brought to picnic to the loungeroom and Caitie says that she couldn’t have thought of a better way to celebrate 6 years together. Jeremey says he loves how caring Caitie is and he likes that she challenges him to be a better person. He says she supports his growth in life and always encourages him to face his fears and get out and see the world. He says if it wasn’t for her, he wouldn’t have travelled overseas so many times but he says most of all he loves that she is always so thoughtful and always puts her first. Also, and you would be surprised how I often I get this answer, he says that he loves her booty…..

It was all of these aspects that they love about each other that lead Jeremy deciding to propose to Caitie at their favourite spot, Currumbin dog beach with their fur baby spud. Jeremy made sure spud was there for such an important day as they say he is a very important part of their little family. A proposal that has led us all here today to their wedding ceremony who they say they are very excited to share with all of their friends and family who, it was very clear to me, mean the absolute world to them. Today the first of their future plans which involve buying their own house on a big block of land, expanding their family of 3 which hopefully 2 kids, and finishing uni and getting into their dream careers in a few years’ time.

Chris and Asha-

Having initially met through a mutual friend in a club in Surfer’s Paradise, one of Asha’s girlfriends ended up staying with one of Chris’ roommates so when Asha went to pick her up, Chris and Asha got to chatting and instantly connected. They say they were best friends for a few months before Chris finally asked Asha on a date.

Chris says knew it was love as soon as he first saw Asha, and her bum in those black leather tights and Asha says she knew she had fallen in love with Chris only a few weeks after first meeting him.

Asha was only 19 when she fell pregnant with their first son Kobi. While themselves and others didn’t think they were prepared to become parents quite so young, they both know this is when they decided they wanted to be together forever, and it has been the best thing that could have happened to them both. They both say that Kobi and Brax are the best parts of their lives and they hope to show their boys that a little hard work and a lot of love you can make your dreams come true and for their boys to always know that as long as they are happy, their Mum and Dad are too.

Chris tells me what he loves most about Asha is how honest she is, she always tells it like it is and he has the biggest heart. He says it’s hard to put into words how much of a beautiful mother she is to their 2 boys and he couldn’t ask for a better role model for them.

Asha tells me what she loves about Chris is that he is the most down to earth and friendly person she has ever met, he would do anything for anyone. He is also such hands on, loving father and the way he is with his boys melts her heart.

Chris proposed to Asha on Christmas morning just as Asha had gotten out of bed, he says it just felt like the right moment to pop the question and she says she will never forget that day... ever. The proposal that morning is what has brought us all here today to Burleigh beach, Chris and Asha’s home since they first met, ready to celebrate with those who they say are the most adventurous, loving and crazy friends and family, whom without they wouldn’t be who they are today.

Tanya and Simon-

Simon and Tanya first met at a Summerfield days festival some 8 years ago. Tanya went out that night with her best friend Meg, it was late on in the night when the girls passed a group of boys who were her little brothers friends and they got to talking…. And talking…. And talking and ended up talking the whole rest of the night! I asked Simon and Tanya when they knew it was love, they both gave me the same answer… straight away… although Tanya says she didn’t want to admit it till a little later on. Tanya says marriage was not something she ever believed in but Simon certainly changed her outlook and they both say it just felt right.

When I asked the couple what they love most about their partner Simon gave me a pretty typical male response as to what he loves most about Tanya…. Her booty… of course he also tells me he loves her eyes, her personality and how smart she is… even though sometimes it is annoying how she knows everything. Tanya says what she loves most about Simon is his kind and caring nature, how he always puts everyone first and… he is pretty funny.

So… the proposal story! I’m sure you’ve all heard it because it’s amazing. On their 7th Anniversary Simon hired out a HELICOPTER!! and took a ride with Tanya over south Stradbroke island where he proposed, Tanya says she had no idea it was coming. And from that proposal came today, 2 days after their 8th anniversary because they wanted to keep it close to their original date, where they have invited you all here, their friends and family who they say mean the world to them. They say without you today would not have been possible and they love you all so much.

Tanya and Simon say their hopes for the future are to be the best parents they can be to Nathan, to keep growing together and for their love to never fade.

Dave and Lori

Lori and Dave spoke for 6 whole weeks after swiping right before they decided to finally meet up. When they did meet up Lori was met with a beard that she wasn’t expecting as Dave was in the middle of a no shave a thon but regardless they had a great time together and have been on this whirlwind romance ever since.

When I asked Lori and Dave when they first fell in love, they gave me the same answer. When they saw the way the other interacted with their kids. One thing that has been apparent to me from the first time I met Lori and Dave, is that their kids are the most important aspect of their lives, and the way their partner treated their children was extremely important to them. When I asked them when they decided they wanted to be together forever, Lori told me it was when she saw that Dave had accepted her kids as his own and Dave- with a very male response- says it was when he bought the engagement ring.

When I asked them what they love most about each other, Dave tells me he loves that he can be himself around Lori without being judged and that even when he has been through hard times she is always there to pick him back up again, helping him give it another go. Lori says what she loves most about Dave is the way that he treats her and the way that he makes her feel, the way he always supports her and the way he always backs her up no matter what.

When I asked them why they wanted to have a marriage ceremony today they said it was so they could show their kids and their family how much they love each other and how much they mean to each other. The family who they say mean everything to them and who have made them who they are today. They said they wanted to have their ceremony on the coast as this is where they had their first date and where their story began.

Lori and Dave said that one of their biggest adventures they have had together was their family trip to New Zealand. This amazing holiday has led to future plans that include more family holidays along with owning their own happy home and of course to always stay happy and in love.

Simone and Graham

This beautiful couple initially met at the tender ages of 13 and 14 years young while attending the same high school. They were friends in and out of school, a friendship that consisted mostly of walks around the local suburb until late after school and of course… pillow fights. It wasn’t until about 5 years later though that their story really began. After leaving school they reconnected through a mutual friend, unfortunately they were both spoken for at this time buuuut not long after a fateful day occurred at Willowbank raceway. They started seeing each other shortly after and this started their lives as they know them today.

When I asked the Graham and Simone when they first fell in love I received 2 very different answers… Graham says he knew it was love at first sight while Simone says it took… years, but in her defence those years were the ones when they had gone their separate ways after high school and when I asked them when they decided they wanted to be together forever well wasn’t there an interesting answer to that question…. Let’s just say a sleepover in the back of Dads Barina at Willowbank brought them very close together!

When I asked the couple what they love most about each other the common theme was clear. Fun and happiness. Graham says that he loves that Simone is his best friend and she knows how to brighten up his day with her silliness. He loves how much they laugh and how they always have so much fun together. He says she’s his dickhead and he is hers and he loves everything there is about her. Simone says she loves how Graham can make her laugh like no other and there is never a dull moment with him. She loves that she always be herself around him and how he is adventurous and not scared of anything…. Except maybe clowns. But most of all she loves how he is hard working and kind and how he is such a great role model for their 3 beautiful children.

And now on to the proposal story, the proposal story with the most interesting yet ‘essential’ detail I have ever been given… but you’ll see, so Graham took Simone into Surfers on the afternoon of the 12th of July in 2008. They went on a date to pancakes in paradise across from the Q1 building and Simone filled her big pregnant belly full of pancakes. Graham had lost his appetite and replaced it with nerves as he waited for Simone’s all-time favourite time of day… right on sunset. It was at this point I received the most vital detail of the story… before heading up to the top the Q1, Graham had to stop for a nervous poo….From there with clear bowels and a clear mind Graham and Simone headed up, which was not Simone’s idea of a good time as she is incredibly scared of heights which proved to be an issue when Graham was trying to get her to the window, an issue that caused a bit of commotion that resulted in all eyes on them when he eventually got close enough to drop to one knee and pop the question. The whole room cheered and of course Simone replied with a yes. A yes that has lead us to today, 2 days off their 10-year anniversary, today which they have chosen to share with all of you their family and friends. The family and friends who they tell me have had a massive impact on their lives in some way or another. The family and friends who they say mean the world to them and the family and friends who are always there through the hard times and the silly decisions they (point to graham) have made.

When I asked Simone and Graham about their plans for the future there was a pretty consistent theme there too… They hope to buy their first home OR another car for Graham, they hope to go on a family holiday OR buy another car for Graham and they also want to finish Grahams long term Gemini project car OR scrap it and buy another car for Graham. So, with all those car buying plans ready and rearing to go let’s get their next chapter started and get this ceremony under way