

Tree Planting Ritual

Hunny and Funny will now take part in a **Tree Planting Ritual** to symbolize the roots of their relationship, and the continued growth of their love, as they become each other's family today.

(Couple Start filling in soil)

Your marriage is like the velvety roots of this young, yet resolute **Ficus Benjamina** *(Couple to choose any tree)*. As you've found each other and chosen to share your lives together, two roots will burrow through the mysterious unknown until they find their true counterpart. Intertwined, supporting and being supported by each other, these roots grow stronger in their union into endless depths. Nourished with love and attention this blend of life's ingredients will be the foundation of great things to come.

- Love is the essence of human experience & emotion.
- Love is the root of all and everything that you are .
- Love richens your experience.
- Love fills your lives with meaning.
- Love gives you a firm base from which to grow, to learn, and to change.

Let your relationship and your love for each other be like this tree you're planting today, let,

- It grow tall and strong reaching towards the Love and strength of God.
- Its roots go deep finding nourishment in Love, patience and strength so it can stand tall during the harsh winds, rains and storms of life, and come through unscathed.

Like this tree, your marriage must be resilient. It must weather the challenges of daily life and the passage of time.

Tree Planting Ritual

Just like the tree you are planting, marriage needs constant nurturing and nourishment.

(Couple Start watering tree)

Hunny and Funny, would you please water the sapling. As you do please remember to nourish each other,

- With words of encouragement.
- With trust and love.
- With daily doses this is needed so you each can grow and reach your fullest potential – just like this tree.

Words of Wisdom Through the Ages *(These can be anything meaningful to couple)*

“Because they are ancient, because they outlive us, because they are fixed, trees seem to emanate a sense of permanence. Though rooted in earth, they seem to touch the sky. For these reasons it is natural to feel we might learn wisdom from them, to wonder about them with the idea that if we could only read their silent riddle rightly we could learn some secret dynamic to our own lives; or even, more specifically, some secret dynamic to our real, our lasting and spiritual existence.”

Kim Taplin,

“Tongues in Trees: Studies in Literature and Ecology”

“Never cut a tree down in the wintertime. Never make a negative decision in the low time. Never make your most important decisions when you are in your worst moods. Wait. Be patient. The storm will pass. The spring will come.”

Robert H. Schuller

Tree Planting Ritual

*“Be like a tree
In pursuit of your love.
Stand firm,
Grip hard,
Thrust upward,
Bend to the winds of heaven
And learn tranquility.”*

Dedication to
Richard St. Barbe Baker
Father of Trees

“The planting of a tree shows faith in the future.”

Lucy from the 3/3/63
Peanuts comic strip