

We need to rethink the traditional marriage proposal | Opinion

In the timeless yet ever-changing realm of love, why should marriage proposals be predictable and cookie-cutter? Shouldn't the moment reflect the passion and devotion shared by the couple? I can't help but champion the idea that a marriage proposal should be as unique as the people involved.

The classic romantic dinner followed by a surprise proposal is surely heartwarming, but where is the fun? The spontaneity? The predictability of this has left it feeling lackluster. Unconventional proposals can add an element of surprise and excitement that the traditional format often lacks.

A proposal isn't about following a script or checking every box; it's about telling a beautiful story. It doesn't need to happen in a picture-perfect scene or be planned as a meticulous production- it should just be authentic. In a society that celebrates individuality, our proposals should not be exempt from this trend.

As someone who values the power of storytelling, I see a proposal as a chapter in the narrative of a love story, reciting the desires, values and dreams of a couple. So, why settle for a generic plotline? This is the time to pave way for a marriage that encounters surprises and continues to evolve.

I started thinking about this idea of embracing unconventionality at my witness of a recent proposal, which took place at the location of the couple's first date- an escape room. I know most people wouldn't think of an escape room as an ideal proposal spot, but for these individuals, it held memories that were absolutely priceless.

The proposal unfolded not in an extravagant manner, but right in the middle of a kind of puzzle, where the echoes of laughter together had already made it a story worth celebrating. When the moment came, there were no fireworks or loud cheers, just a moment of pure love and joy that was felt by everyone watching.

This was refreshing to see- love without the performatives. In a world saturated with proposals set at candlelight dinners or against scenic backgrounds, the proposal at the escape room stood out like color on a blank canvas. This couple enjoyed a scene that held memories of their first date, the day that their love sparked and has continued to burn ever since.

As an observer, I couldn't help but think about the beauty and intentionality behind this location choice. This escape room did not hold a beautiful backdrop or romantic

scenery, but it held dear memories and a sense of adventure, becoming a metaphor for the new journey the couple would soon take on together.

This goes back to my previous point, that instead of succumbing to the constraints of a traditional proposal with a grand display, it should emphasize the intimacy of the moment. It should create a shared experience that can be appreciated by both individuals, one that represents the dynamic love they share.

I am hopeful that one day even marriage proposals will catch up with the ongoing modernization of our society.

Target Outlet: The News and Observer

The News and Observer is a publisher in the triangle with an extensive section for opinion pieces.

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