

Hed: Divine Matrimony

Dek: Give Your Self the Gift of Self Love in Ceremony

Have you ever thought of marrying yourself? Committing to loving yourself for the rest of your life through ceremony?

Self Weddings are gorgeously designed and divinely inspired shamanic ceremonies where people commit to loving themselves unconditionally and channeling their Highest Self on a daily basis.

High Priests and Priestess have been facilitating Self Wedding Ceremonies or Self Marriages privately and publically for many years. These shamanic rituals are especially popular in California. Many people marry themselves on their own with friends or even make a private commitment to love themselves first and foremost without telling another soul about their matrimony.

Self Love is the highest gift we can give to ourselves. For in giving it to ourselves we give it freely to others by being a living example: by fearlessly treating ourselves to pleasure and beauty, by listening to our intuition, and by maintaining balance and peace. Self Love is not a selfish pursuit of material possession. It is a going within and a going above and beyond to connect to our highest self and to receive nourishment from within. It is an act of peace. It is an act for all of humanity. It is an act of internal evolution. Why not consecrate this love through ceremony?

Self Wedding Ceremonies are for anyone who would like to develop self nourishing practices for Enlightenment, find alignment and balance with their multiple identities, attract a romantic partner, keep current relationships fresh, decrease their attachment to the external world, connect to divine consciousness, or increase their own intuition and their Highest Self.

“I have become more devoted to loving myself. I have been able to be at peace with, and really enjoy my life, when I didn't have a romantic partner to share it with,” says David Garber, an audio engineer who recently celebrated his two-year anniversary and renewed his vows in a group ceremony.

David, like many people who marry themselves, has hopes of attracting the ideal romantic life partner by loving himself first. When we love ourselves first, we place no burdens on our partner, because we are our own source of unconditional love. In this way, we do not need to obtain our self-esteem and security on another.

Learning the true nature of unconditional love ends the search for external gratification. Then those physical things for which we were once searching come to us more freely. Our relationships improve and abundance flows to us because we are in a state of unconditional love and acceptance regardless of our present circumstances.

Each individual plans their Self Wedding differently based on their own unique interests. Some may involve singing and live music, others may look like a traditional wedding and some may involve favorite hobbies like skiing or surfing.

Many Self Weddings involve writing and reciting vows, with friends, family or priests as witnesses, and other rites of passage, such as courses or coaching on Self Love, ritual smudging, Reiki, or meditation, and designing an altar.

When marrying yourself it is important to call on some power greater than you to bear witness to the glorious event. This power can be of your own choosing. Some examples are nature, the universe, God, or gods, Jesus Christ, the Arc Angels, Vishnu, Shiva, Ganesh, Krishna, or your Highest Self in Buddhist terms.

An opening prayer might go something like this:

We call on the spirits of the four directions to be with us here today and watch over us as we transform into angelic beings of love. Let this divine universal love that you are marrying today guide your way and light your soul for now into eternity.

May the angels, the ancestors, the goddesses and the gods light your way as you transform into a butterfly escaping its cocoon to a world overflowing with divine universal love for now and forever.

It's nice to have a friend, a professional Healer or High Priestess to help facilitate the ceremony, but you can do it by yourself if necessary. After the opening prayer, take out your ring, crystal or some type of jewelry that you feel

comfortable wearing every day. This adornment symbolizes the power of Self Love and will serve as a reminder of your divine commitment. Some people even get Self Wedding tattoos!

Then you say your own vows, which could look something like this:

Highest Self,

I vow to listen to you.

I vow to nourish my body so that I may flourish.

I commit to believing in my dreams and letting go of expectations.

I will always love you and take care of you no matter what.

I promise to be with you every day for the rest of all time.

Then you place the ring on your finger and pass through an altar, kiss yourself, or whatever rite of passage you prefer. An altar can symbolize a divine doorway into your new life full of unending love, pleasure, abundance, and beauty. A dance or a musical performance would be an expression of your unconditional love. You can choose whatever symbolic rite of passage you prefer!

Afterwards you or your priest should say a closing prayer:

Thank you divine beings for bearing witness and holding space.

Dearest Newly-wed, may you awaken to wash your face daily with divine grace and beauty, peer into your own eyes and know that you are a gift, and know that you belong, and know that you are worthy, that you are enough. This divine union symbolizes your path towards a horizon of endless possibility and unending faith in knowing that where you are in this moment is exactly where you are supposed to be. Put your hands on your heart and feel the life force within you. Take a deep breath in and exhale then repeat after me, "I love you. I will always be with you." Thank you for committing to loving yourself every day for the rest of your life.