

# Happily



# Ever After

## What Makes Relationships Work

*Face-to-face conversations don't work by phone. ♥ Good intentions are only a beginning. ♥ Loving someone means putting their interests before your own. ♥ When you dress for the day, don't forget to wear your smile. ♥ Gifts are not a substitute for caring. ♥ It's the moments in life, not the days, that we remember. ♥ The more time you think about their needs, the less time you'll think about your own. ♥ Never stop courting your spouse. ♥ Talk things out (except when you're talking to yourself). ♥ Don't expect people to look up to you if you look down on them. ♥ Raised voices are rarely heard. ♥ A promise should be as binding as a contract. ♥ See their side of the argument before expecting them to see yours. ♥ Bring out the best in them. ♥ A conversation shouldn't be a monologue. ♥ Learn how to disagree without being disagreeable. ♥ Accept people for who they are...not who you'd like them to be. ♥ Some people say more through their silence. ♥ Words spoken in confidence are words spoken in trust. ♥ Marrying for money is a high price to pay. ♥ No good deed is ever too small to say thanks. ♥ Don't keep score in the game of life. ♥ The only thing worse than talking about others is talking about yourself. ♥ Those who only find fault in other people rarely find fault in themselves. ♥ Watch each other's back. ♥ Play nice and share your toys. ♥ When everyone tries to gain the upper hand, we all lose — hands down. ♥ The greatest time-savers are saying "I don't know" and "I was wrong." ♥ Always tell the truth or the truth will tell on you. ♥ Everyone wins when you agree to disagree. ♥ It's better to bite your tongue than to eat your words. ♥ Relax. Just relax. ♥ "Biting the hand that feeds you" is hard to digest. ♥ Trust takes a long time to develop, but can be destroyed in seconds. ♥ Compliment people in public; criticize them in private. ♥ If you take things for granted, you won't have them for very long. ♥ Tough times reveal true friends. ♥ Don't offer advice to those who don't want it. ♥ Criticism is a hostile substitute for feedback. ♥ Togetherness sometimes means giving someone their space. ♥ Yield the right-of-way in your marriage. ♥ Be present when you're together. ♥ Clean up after you make a mess. ♥ Celebrate your short-term wins in the marathon of life. ♥ The office is the only place for a boss. ♥ A yawn is worth a thousand words. ♥ Make big decisions together. ♥ Live a little and laugh a lot. ♥ An ounce of love outweighs a pound of promises. ♥ Relationships are built on the little things.*