

MARRY ME?



Story by Anne Dunn
Pictures by Moira Hanrahan



Dave was in love. He'd met the girl of his dreams.

They'd been going out now for six months and he was sure.

He wanted to marry Jane. Tonight he was going to propose.



He booked a table in a posh restaurant.

But when they got there, the waiter showed them to a table beside the toilet.

Dave couldn't propose at a table beside the toilet.



He asked the waiter to move them to another table. There was only one table free — beside the kitchen door. But it was better than the toilet so they moved.

Dave took Jane's hand in his. "Jane," he began. Then SPLAT! A waiter tripped and spilled spaghetti all over Jane's head. Dave didn't propose that night.



A few nights later he booked another restaurant.

This time they got a table overlooking the sea.

It was very romantic.

Dave took Jane's hand in his. "Jane," he began.



Then "Hey Dave!" someone yelled.

It was a group of friends from work.

"Hey, great to see you. Let's eat together," they said and sat down.

Dave didn't propose that night either.



Dave made a new plan. He would take Jane for a romantic walk along the beach at sunset.

No toilets, no waiters, no other people.
And *then* he would propose.



It was a beautiful night. Dave and Jane walked barefoot along the beach, hand in hand. The moon rose, full and golden.

It was the perfect time to propose.
"Jane," he began.



"Yeeowww!" Jane hopped around yelling.

She'd cut her foot on some broken glass.
She was bleeding badly.



Dave took Jane to hospital. Her foot needed stitches.

"What were you going to ask me?" Jane asked.

"It doesn't matter," Dave said.



The next week Dave booked a weekend in a romantic country hotel.

They had a room with a big open fire. They ate dinner and drank wine in front of the fire.



An ember fell out of the fire onto the rug. Dave didn't notice. He was getting ready to propose.

He took Jane's hand. "Jane," he began. "We've been going out for six months now, and—"

The rug burst into flames. "Fire!" Jane yelled.



They spent the night outside watching the fire brigade. Dave didn't propose.



Dave and Jane were driving home.

Dave was feeling gloomy. Fate was against him.

Would he ever get the chance to ask Jane to marry him?



"Dave," Jane began.

"Mmm?" Dave wasn't really listening. He was trying to think of some foolproof way to ask her to marry him.

Maybe he should text her. Maybe send her a bunch of flowers and ask her on the card.



"Dave, are you listening to me?" Jane said.

"Sorry, no, I was miles away. What did you say?"

"I said, I think we should get married."

"What?" Dave jammed on the brakes.



Bang! A car crashed into the back of them.

Dave took no notice. "What did you say?"

"I said, I think we should get married.
What do you say?"



"I say yes!"



And so Dave and Jane got married.

EXERCISES

- 1) **Where did Dave try to propose to Jane? Copy out the correct places:**

On a ship, next to a toilet, up a mountain, in a posh restaurant, down a mine, at the beach, on a plane, at the hospital, after a car crash.

- 2) **Contractions: Contractions are two words joined together with an apostrophe to show where some letters are missing. Eg. I'll means I will.**

Find the contractions for these words and write them out: he'd, they'd, couldn't, didn't, let's, she'd, doesn't, we've.

- 3) **Fill the gaps in this story with words in the list:**

beach, marry, romantic, foot, months, friends, propose, golden, restaurant, hotel, toilet, table, fire, waiter, neck, restaurant, broken, gloomy, propose, married.

Dave wanted to _____ his girlfriend. They'd been going out for six _____ and he was ready to _____. He took Jane to a posh _____ but the table was next to the _____. They moved to another _____, but then the _____ spilled spaghetti onto Jane. Dave and Jane went to another _____ but a group of Dave's _____ were there and joined them. Next Dave took Jane to the _____. The moon was _____ and it was very _____. Then Jane stepped on some _____ glass and cut her _____. Next they went to a country _____ for the weekend, and had dinner in front of the _____. The rug caught fire. On the way home, Dave was feeling _____. Would he ever get to _____? Then Jane said, "I think we should get _____." And so they did. Wearing _____ braces.