1952

She Doesn't Like Surprises... and Neither Does He

Ruth Anderson
Iowa State College

Follow this and additional works at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker
Part of the Home Economics Commons

Recommended Citation
Anderson, Ruth (1952) "She Doesn't Like Surprises... and Neither Does He," The Iowa Homemaker: Vol. 32 : No. 2 , Article 16.
Available at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker/vol32/iss2/16
SHE

Doesn’t Like

Surprises ...

BECAUSE wedding days are the result of the planning of two different personalities, many times things happen which aren’t exactly what one of the parties may have had in mind. It is at this time that the bride may decide that she doesn’t like surprises—at least not those that have to do with the wedding and newly married life.

For instance, one husband thought he would be especially good to his bride and planned to carry her over the threshold of their own little home he planned especially for her. She knew about the idea, of course, and thought it wonderful for him to plan the house, its furniture and its location. That is, she was pleased until she saw it. She found that the cupboards were completely out of reach for her, while they were just perfect for her husband; that the windows were heavy and stubborn and took a six footer abounding with muscles to open and close them. She found that the table tops were almost chimneying devices for her they were so high and that many of the storage cabinets were inaccessible corners. Needless to say, the couple soon moved into another home which was a joint project—for the convenience of both.

Another favorite surprise that sometimes catches brides unaware is the plans for the wedding trip. The “honeymoon” by tradition is the groom’s responsibility and usually he plans something that is truly extra special. In fact, sometimes it is so extra special that the destination is kept a secret from the bride until they actually arrive there. It is the unhappy bride that finds herself in a mountain-top cabin for a week of camping that has her luggage packed with pretty frocks and dinner dresses for a fling in the city. She would have appreciated at least a hint as to where they were going.

Bringing home boss

Another groom’s speciality is to bring the boss home for dinner the first or second week of married life. Invariably they walk in when the apartment or home is messy, the bride doesn’t look her best, and there is nothing to fix for dinner in the house. A situation like this takes more ingenuity than most newly married women have, and can easily be avoided by a quick phone call before they arrive.

There is the perennial joke about the groom that doesn’t remember the anniversaries that are so important to his wife. And they are important, too. It is through this building up of common experiences that this new relationship can grow, and remembering anniversaries is one way of saying “I remember. Do you?” It just takes a little thought to remember.
The wedding is a big event for the groom, too, and he gets his share of surprises. In fact, at some weddings he gets more than his share and is glad when the affair is over. It is the event when he gains a new partner for life—and sometimes this new partner does surprising things.

Many a groom is quite disillusioned the morning after the wonderful day before. It is quite a change from a beautiful dream of white lace and ruffles floating down the aisle to the "sight" across the breakfast table featuring stringy hair, face spotted with cream and no lipstick. Quite a surprise and not a very pleasant one! It takes just a minute to comb your hair, wash your face to get that glowing look and add a touch of light lipstick. And it's definitely worth the time.

Visiting his office

Imagine the new groom back to the office and deep in his work when his secretary announces "Your wife is here, sir," or he looks up from his desk and sees her beaming face coming toward him. This surprise can knock the new groom for a whirl if he isn't prepared before hand by a short phone call or plans made that morning. It's the courteous thing to do to give him a chance to prepare himself for seeing his new bride in his working situation—all the other workers will be interested, too. It is up to you to look as charming, friendly and lovely as possible.

Many surprises also happen on the wedding day. One of the most fun is to leave the bride and groom stranded without transportation from the church. In this case, it is necessary for the groom to leave his bride and scurry around for a real friend who hasn't quite such a corny sense of humor as the pranksters. Sometimes the frustrated groom has to go completely out of the reception to hunt for the missing vehicle, or else wait it out with his bride at the reception. Invariably no matter how nicely things are planned, something unexpected will arise—sometimes surprises as silly as this one.

Another favorite surprise for the groom is to swipe some of his luggage. As a result, the groom arrives at the honeymoon spot with self confidence that he has just the thing to wear, when lo and behold—he does not have it. If the couple traveled by train, bus or airplane, this instigates a hunt for the missing piece of luggage, red faces and a complete give away that they are newly married. What a surprise!