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What Wedding Traditions Are Hiding

3 Customs With Surprising Backstories

Weddings are filled with traditions we follow without question, but have you ever wondered where they come from? Many customs we associate with saying "I do" have fascinating and unexpected origins, and these three common wedding traditions have some of the most surprising backstories.

Wearing a Veil

The bridal veil has a long history rooted in both symbolism and practicality. In ancient Greece and Rome, they believed veils ward off evil spirits and protected brides from bad luck. In other cultures, veils served as a symbol of modesty or purity, particularly in religious ceremonies. Over time, the veil also became a way to heighten the anticipation and drama of the bride's grand reveal. Many brides wear them today because veils carry

special meaning in their families (or they like the look).

Matching Bridesmaids

The tradition of having bridesmaids dressed alike also dates back to ancient



times and has supernatural origins. Back then, bridesmaids wore identical clothing to confuse evil spirits or jealous suitors who might harm the bride or disrupt the wedding. The practice was a "protective" measure to ensure the bride's safety on her wedding day.

Saving Part of the Wedding Cake

Many traditions exist around the wedding cake, originating in the mid-17th century. One enduring tradition is saving part of the cake to eat later. This was originally a practical, money-saving measure — the saved portion of cake would serve as the christening cake for the couple's firstborn. Today, many couples eat the preserved top-tier of their wedding cake on their first wedding anniversary as a symbol of good luck!

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New Orleans Covington

With Scott Vicknair

(504) 384-7978

April 2025

www.ScottVicknair.com

LEADERSHIP THROUGH LEARNING

How We're Building a Better Firm by Embracing Knowledge and Growth

There's always an opportunity to learn something new every day, but we have to be intentional with our actions if we want to get the most out of each situation. When you get free time during your day, how do you usually spend it? Many Americans will use their free minutes to watch TV, scroll social media, or lose themselves in another time waster instead of reading a book or listening to an expert talk on a podcast. When you can embrace every learning opportunity that crosses your path, you can bring life-changing benefits to your professional and personal lives.

For the past two years, I've realized just how important the concept of continuous learning is in my quest to become a better person and leader for the firm. One strategy that seems to work well for me is traveling to legal conferences. This allows me to learn what other firms are doing to improve their processes and help their clients, which I can then directly incorporate into our practices. This could be anything from simple business strategies that increase efficiency to the need for advanced technology, like artificial intelligence.

These conferences have been enlightening, but I can't attend one every weekend, so I've had to find other ways to promote my learning journey. I've begun reading more consistently. I'll read publications by legal organizations and books that focus on various aspects of the legal world and business development. I've learned so much, and we've been able to apply many of these lessons directly to our firm. These days, I'm always on the hunt for a new book. Even if it doesn't deliver new practical advice, it can still shift my mindset in a positive direction.

We've also made a more significant effort to encourage continuous learning for our entire team. We have a shelf full of informative



books anyone can read, and we started a book club. This has been a huge help as our team has grown bigger. It allows everyone to get on the same page and fully understand why we do what we do. If I'm on my own journey as the owner, leading and reading more while developing my leadership skills, I want my team to grow professionally and personally right alongside me. Having the book club proves we care about what our team is learning, and everyone involved seems to love it so far!

The lessons I've learned in recent years have had profound impacts on my professional life, but they've also seeped into my personal life. My efforts at work have made me a better family member, friend, and individual. My patience, communication skills, and listening skills have all improved immensely.

Over the past year, Brad and I have delved deeply into the idea of service leadership. We try our best to be emotionally intelligent and cognizant of controlling our egos because we want to improve the lives of our team members and every single one of our clients. This journey has been very real for both of us. You can directly connect our learning journey with the growth we're experiencing at the firm. By increasing our team's overall knowledge and improving the processes in place, we can obtain better results for each client.

"The lessons I've learned in recent years have had profound impacts on my professional life, but they've also seeped into my personal life."

“

-David Vicknair

Bon Voyage! Your Ticket to Adventure

Turn Your Dream Cruise Into Reality



As we grow older, life shifts and creates new opportunities we may not have had before — like the chance to finally turn our travel dreams into reality. For many, few travel experiences compare to the comfort and excitement of a luxury cruise, and these four tips can help make your dream cruise happen.

Choose the right cruise line.

With luxury cruises, it's essential to compare lines to get your preferred experience and the most bang for your buck. Consider your personal preferences, but remain flexible with accommodations. A little research will help you find the perfect fit.

Plan your perfect itinerary.

There are many cruise options, so planning an itinerary aligned with your interests and comfort level is easy. River cruises, for example, are perfect for scenic travel, while ocean cruises provide access to exotic ports of call. River cruises are also quieter and more intimate. If you prefer a lively atmosphere with plenty of activities, an ocean cruise is the better option.

Book smart for the best deals.

Just because a cruise offers luxury accommodations doesn't mean your trip has to break the bank. Take advantage of early-bird deals, off-peak pricing, and loyalty programs to save big. Some companies even include airfare! You can also save with discounts for seniors and military members.

Your adventure awaits!

A cruise offers the ultimate way to see the world, from exploring iconic cities to relaxing on scenic rivers or enjoying stunning ocean views. Now is the perfect time to embrace new adventures on a luxury cruise.

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WITH BRAD SCOTT & DAVID VICKNAIR

PODCAST SPOTLIGHT:

Law, Politics, Spending, and the Flavor of New Orleans

In a recent episode, David sits down with lifelong friend and colleague Gene Gouaux, associate professor of business law at Nicholls State, to explore Louisiana's economic development, education, and local politics. From reminiscing about high school to tackling pressing issues like declining college enrollment and insurance challenges, Gene brings insight and humor to the conversation.

Brad and David then shift gears to discuss government inefficiency and wasteful spending, a rare bipartisan concern. With the Trump administration addressing rising debt, they examine how federal expenditures have outpaced GDP growth and explore potential solutions for fiscal responsibility.

To round things out, they celebrate the vibrant culinary scene of New Orleans with Scot Craig, chef and co-owner of Katie's and Francesca. Scot shares his inspiring journey in the restaurant business, how he navigated challenges like Hurricane Katrina, and what it takes to run a successful eatery in the city.



From law to politics to food, these episodes have it all — tune in now!



Scan the QR code to learn how you can download our Ebook!



What's New At Scott | Vicknair

AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENING AWAITS!

It's almost that time of year again, and we're gearing up for an incredible night filled with great food, meaningful conversations, and exciting prizes! Join us this April for our **Client Advisory Board dinner**: an exclusive, invite-only event for current and former clients and a guest, where your insights — paired with a mouthwatering meal — will be the perfect recipe for success!



We believe in putting our clients first, and this gathering is our way of hearing directly from you. Your voice helps us **#FightForTheWin**, and we can't wait to connect, collaborate, and celebrate together.



As a token of our appreciation, we're bringing the excitement with amazing door prizes — including a flat-screen TV and Bluetooth speakers! Don't miss out on this opportunity to mix, mingle, and make meaningful connections.

Stay tuned for more details — we can't wait to see you in April!

What Our Clients Are Saying

“They were very helpful and walked me through all of my options. I did not feel rushed or pressured into making any decisions. I will definitely use them again.”

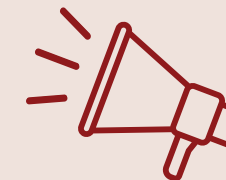
—S. Funk

Thank You for Your Referrals!

This month, we'd like to thank Francisco N., Sandra R., Ashley D., Lisa J., Bobby T., Ashley S, and Sandy X. for believing we are the right firm to help their friends and family. Your continued support gives us the ability to reach more individuals and make a positive difference in their lives.

Call us. If we cannot handle your case, we will work on finding someone who can assist you.

CALL NOW — OPEN 24/7 (504) 384-7978



WHEN MYTH MEETS REALITY

Fairy Tales in Court

In 17th-century Sweden, stories of fairies and other supernatural beings weren't just the stuff of folklore — sometimes, they even showed up in court. Tales of people falling in love with these creatures fascinated communities and blurred the line between myth and reality. These beliefs influenced real-life events, leading to bizarre legal disputes and societal consequences.

Historical Tales of Fairy Romance

Documented examples from Swedish history involve people claiming they had romantic relationships with fairies. According to court records, these claims weren't uncommon during the 1600s, when many believed in supernatural creatures. Cases often involved accusations of kidnapping, enchantment, and moral corruption, which mirrored the era's deep-seated anxiety about the influence of otherworldly powers.

These stories went beyond the fantastical and were deeply tied to the cultural norms of the time. Accusations often targeted those on the edges of society, reflecting how supernatural elements could support real-world prejudices. While these cases might sound unbelievable today, they show how folklore influenced people's actions and even legal proceedings.

Why These Stories Resonate

The allure of fairy romance tales remains strong. Modern literature and media frequently draw inspiration from such stories while reimagining them to explore contemporary themes and societal issues. Authors like Philip Pullman, for example, have crafted thought-provoking retellings, such as his "Grimm Tales," giving us new ways to look at classic ideas.

The continued interest in fairy folklore highlights its timeless relevance. Stories like those from Sweden 400 years ago — where claims of fairy romance sparked legal disputes — bridge the past and present and remind us how imagination and belief have shaped history.

