# An Open Letter to my Husband on our Anniversary

To many, today is just another day. To you and me, it is a quiet celebration of being “us” for another year. It is not a notable anniversary. There is no gold, silver, or platinum commemorating the day. But there are two people. Here. Together.

Nine is not a unique number of years. Just 3,285 days blurred into one. But for us, they are 3,285 days of dedication, perseverance, and support. We are still standing. Side by side. Hand in hand. Adapting, learning, and growing.

To think, we were once strangers. To think we once existed in this world without knowing each other. It seems unimaginable.

Our lives have not been static. Our experiences together have not been easy. There have been days we wanted to walk away in search of something else. Something simple. Something different. But we have, in some unknown way, spun a thread.

A thread that runs from your heart to mine. It is small and at times overlooked, but it is strong, defiant, and ever-present. It is the thing. That pull. That desire to keep working. To keep going. To trust in our journey together.

It is what allows us to live a stripped-down life. To be vulnerable. To be our messy and complicated selves. It allows us to live with an intimacy that, if I searched for a thousand lifetimes, would never be able to replicate. Ever.

So, on this day, a day where nine years ago we stood in front of family to promise our best selves to one another, I thank you.

Thank you for helping me understand what love is: a complicated, erratic, intangible thread that is sometimes ugly and painful, but unspeakably patient.

A love that isn’t always understood, but is nonetheless beautiful.

A love that is sometimes stubborn but is comfortingly consistent.

A love that, I have no doubt, will tether us to one another until our last breath.

To my dear husband, I love you unconditionally.

I love you without reservation or expectation.

I love you blindly and without control.

You make me better.

For myself.

For you.

And for us.

I love you.

Happy anniversary.