



## **Enduring Love**

*Opposites Attract*

### **Elsa**

My name is Elsa and I've been married to John for the past 13 years. I am 39 years old. And I'm very happy to be with John.

### **John**

My name is John. I'm 51 years old. We got married 8 years ago and we've got 3 lovely children, 3 lovely little girls.

### **John**

I was going some work in a venue, Café de Paris, a venue in the West End. I was working there, having dinner with one of the directors and his girlfriend.

### **Elsa**

It was quite a faeric setting, at the nightclub, it was strange because the word of the nightclub contained the word Paris and I'm from Paris. And it was v strange bcos I just turned up there with some colleagues and he told me he was the architect of the nightclub and I was like wow!

### **John**

That was our initial introduction and we've been together ever since. And that was in October 98

### **Elsa**

2<sup>nd</sup> October

### **John**

Yes,

### **Elsa**

it was a Thursday evening

### **John**

Because I remember you wrote your telephone number on a tube ticket and you wrote Madame Moselle Dax....which I thought was quite funny. So that's how we met

1'37 LUNCH PROPOSAL

### **John**

It wasn't a get down on one knee thing, it was just kind of a conversation over lunch.

We were living together before we got married, we had our child and then we kind of cemented the relationship through the formal procedure of marriage. And I don't think it, I don't think anything really changed, there was a general evolution of the relationship.

### **Elsa**

2'03 We don't where the wedding rings because we don't thing that it is, we have to show to the world we are married, we are married in our spirits

2'18 STRAIGHT TALKING

### **John**

If there's an issue between us we don't beat about the bush, we get straight in, we discuss it and we deal with it and we move on

**Elsa**

Yes, that's right. Most important, it's not about sex or things, the most important is dialogue. And also, we aim to resolve the issue by discussing it and we usually find a good consensus.

2'50 A PRIVATE AFFAIR

**John**

We don't offer walk down the street holding hands for instance, or if we're sitting in a group, we don't hold hands and be openly tender with each other....we don't need that constant reassurance I guess.....that you're together and want to portray our togetherness to other people

**Elsa**

That's right. We don't need, I don't need a bunch of roses or flowers or...we are kind of allergic to all these kind of superficial things, to make this kind of superficial romanticism. We don't need to show this affection to people and we are not show off basically, er, because we've got all night to do that (laughs)

3'53 WELCOME ADDITIONS

**John**

I was 41 when I had my first child and it was an almost sort of natural development of our relationship. Generally when we go out we take the children with us, we enjoy taking the children with us. We won't often go out, I mean maybe we should more often perhaps go and have a night out together but we generally don't, we don't feel the need to do that.

**Elsa**

We don't feel the need because having children is so natural and er, and we are happy to be with them so we love to be surrounded by them

**John**

What's also quite good in our relationship is that we give each other space. I mean, for instance, in the school holidays Elsa generally takes the children to France

**Elsa**

It's like a balance, it's like a balance....

**John**

We're not living out of each other's pockets

**Elsa**

...To be too much glue together, we don't want to be a glue and it's very important for the male to have his space....very important.

4'44 OPPOSITES ATTRACT

**Elsa**

What it is interesting in the relationship is above all the contrast....a bit like the ying and the yang, white and black and the intelligence is to try to make it together this contrast and that's what makes the relationship very exciting and very intense.

5'26 LOVE INTEREST

**John**

We are still in love with each other and we're taking that forward in our relationship. When we spend times apart, when Elsa takes the children over to France, you know, I miss my family when we're apart although it's an integral part, it's an important part of our relationship. We're

still interested in each other, I don't think we ever get bored of each other.....there's always a surprise round every corner

**Elsa**

I just follow my instinct, my natural instinct, and my natural instinct is to stay with my dear John.

6'17 ends