

That wasn't going to stop them, and off they went. Nothing was planned but the possibility of getting the license in time and the venue: they would be married on the beach. They had no hotel reservation, no officiant, and no photographer. Unknown to them, it was the busiest weekend of the year: the Hood to Coast race was also coming to town.

It is clear that fate, luck, or some greater power had decreed that they should marry. The license was waiting for them. They found a room, the last one in Cannon Beach, right on the beach at the Surfsand Resort. The county clerk provided a list of officiants, and Rev. Patricia Durkin had one hour available, at noon on Friday the 22nd. On Thursday night they called photographer Julie Adams, whom they had found online, and left a message; she returned the call at 11 a.m. Friday. It would be tight, but she could manage to photograph their elopement. Lloyd had the duty of choosing two witnesses from the crowd on the beach. He asked a couple who turned out to be from, coincidentally, Brooklyn, N.Y.

In something of an understatement Brooklyn said, "It was really nice, the way everything worked out." The wedding night sounds idyllic as well. They had s'mores and champagne by a bonfire on the beach.

Would Brooklyn recommend elopement to another bride? "Absolutely," she said. "There was no pressure; we were relaxed. It was just about the two of us." She believes that weddings today have become too over-the-top, too big a production. "Weddings are too much about the family," she said, "and not enough about the couple." Their elopement was "about us, our love, and expressing our love."

And of course, Brooklyn said, "There was next to no organizing."



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