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A dash of humor makes marriage go round

Chicken Soup for the Soul shares fun, inspirational stories about wedded bliss

COS COB, Conn. – When laid-back Shawnelle Eliassen married an extremely “Type A” man, she had a hard time adjusting to his meticulous way of doing things. But as the years passed, their opposite personalities began to mesh. “The things that once drove me crazy about Lonny have become (though diluted, of course) my own strengths,” Shawnelle says. “I know, in many other ways, I’ve seeped into Lonny’s persona, too.” Shawnelle, like other contributors to ***Chicken Soup for the Soul: Married Life!***, (Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing, LLC, May 29, 2012, 978-1935096856, \$14.95), learned a vital lesson about matrimony: your spouse may not be perfect, but he or she is perfect for you!

And while marriage takes work and compromise, it can also be a blast—especially when you embrace your sense of humor! The 101 stories in *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Married Life!* feature lighthearted moments and anecdotes about the funny parts of sharing life with another person. Readers will see how laughing together can be a strong glue that binds a couple together. Just ask Linda Apple, who cherishes the silly moments she shares with her spouse, like the time he mistook an ice cream cone for his cell phone and shoved the treat right into his ear. “There’s another proverb that claims a merry heart is like a medicine,” Linda says. “I can attest to its truth. Laughter is the prescription that keeps our marriage healthy and has for over 34 years!”

In *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Married Life!*, couples share how to keep marriage fresh, how to weather the ups and downs of living with another person, how to use humor every day, and how to recognize each other’s strengths. Sometimes it just takes a new perspective, as Zoanne Wilkie realized one cold January morning. She had been thinking about the fact that her husband never bought her flowers until she went outside to start her car and discovered that her husband had already warmed it up for her. She had an epiphany and called to thank him for the “flowers.” Later that week when she found trash compactor had been emptied, she was again overcome with gratitude. “I called him at work again. ‘David, I just found daffodils in the trash compactor. You are so thoughtful, thank you for the flowers.’”

Whether newlyweds or great-grandparents, high school sweethearts or newly remarried, the stories in *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Married Life!* remind readers why they exchanged vows in the first place. They also show that while fun, marriage is also about working together as a team. D’ette Corona knows this firsthand, as her firefighter husband is often away at the firehouse. But daily calls and quality time together when he is home keep them going strong. “This type of marriage might not work for everyone but George and I are willing to do what it takes to make it work. And it does work for us,” D’ette says.

Chicken Soup for the Soul: Married Life! (Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen, and Amy Newmark) releases on May 29, 2012. Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing, LLC, publishes all the latest titles in the famous Chicken Soup for the Soul book series, which are distributed through Simon & Schuster, Inc. Since 1993, books in the Chicken Soup for the Soul series have sold over 112 million copies in the U.S. and Canada alone, with titles translated into over 40 languages. Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing also licenses the right to use its famous trademark to high quality licensees. The company is currently implementing a plan to expand into all media, is working with TV networks on several TV shows and is developing a major Internet presence dedicated to life improvement, emotional support, inspiration and wellness. In 2007, *USA Today* named *Chicken Soup for the Soul* one of the five most memorable and impactful books in the last quarter century. For more information visit: www.chickensoup.com.

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To receive a review copy of *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Married Life!* or to request an interview, please contact Shelby Sledge at (512) 206-0229 or shelby@sheltoninteractive.com.