

Author of the *New York Times* and international bestseller *Life Without Limits*

NICK AND KANAE
VUJICIC

LOVE
WITHOUT
LIMITS

A Remarkable Story of True Love Conquering All



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P R E S S

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First Impressions

There was definitely a spark and a strong attraction from the first moments I locked eyes with Nick. Honestly, I was caught by surprise. Nick tells everyone that when he was speaking that day back in 2010, he looked out into the crowd, locked eyes with me, and had to force himself to look away.

I just wish I could say the same thing, Nick!

Just kidding. Except it is true that I didn't force myself to look away. I didn't have to because he was the speaker and I was just part of the audience. I had the luxury of staying focused on him, but he couldn't do that.

We both felt something. I wasn't sure what it was. Magic in the air? Maybe! Of course Nick is such a compelling speaker that I wondered if he wasn't having the same effect on everyone in the room. He has those warm and beautiful blue

eyes, and that Australian accent is not bad, either. When he speaks, you just have to pay attention, right?

I was aware that he didn't have arms and legs, of course, but as most people who've met him will tell you, Nick has such a magnetic personality that you pretty much forget all about that in the first ten minutes of listening to him. It wasn't just his appearance that drew me in. He talked about his faith and his desire to share it with people all around the world. I was drawn to his message and impressed with the depth of his commitment.

Nick said he had a heart for broken people because of his disabilities and his struggles even before he identified his own purpose. I was just amazed at this man of God who wanted to touch hearts, save souls, and make a difference in the world.

I noticed that his eyes kept coming back to me, but I wasn't sure if that was anything more than a very skilled speaker making eye contact with his audience members. Later, Nick told me that he was torn emotionally because he wanted to keep looking at me, but he was afraid people would notice. Then he was afraid that if he didn't look at me more, I might think he was ignoring me!

We laugh now at all the inner drama we experienced during his short speech. We may have seemed calm on the surface, but all of these thoughts and emotions were swirling in our heads and hearts. I was feeling something I'd never felt before. I wasn't sure what it was in the moment. I had this strong attraction to him, but I was questioning myself: *What is this I feel? Is it his eyes that are drawing me in? His passion for his work? His faith? His accent? All of the above?*

Once you hit your twenties, relationships seem to get much more complicated, don't they? I guess it's a good thing that we become more mature and we think long-term instead of just jumping into relationships, but I also wonder if people tend to be too self-protective after they've had one or two bad experiences. We second-guess ourselves and our feelings, and that can be a good thing, but it can also be too much of a good thing.

The Spark

There is risk involved in love and relationships. You can be aware of that, but you shouldn't be afraid of it. Yes, you can get hurt. But what's the saying, "Nothing ventured, nothing gained"? The romantic version of that would be the line from the Tennyson poem: "'Tis better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all."