Dyer and Dyers' "Love at first fight" (Book Review)

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Carey and Dena Dyer, who have been married for twenty years, wrote this book about marriage from the perspective of their own marriage. They are not professional counselors though Dena Dyer has written other books on the family. The authors chose 50 key issues or events in their 20 years of marriage. Each of the fifty issues or events was then turned into a uniform two to three page devotional. Each devotional starts with the title of the segment, and then there is a Bible verse. Then one of the authors tells a story from their marriage and what they learned from it. Then the other author tells their side and what they learned from it. This leads into a prayer and questions that readers’ can talk about in regards to this subject in their own marriage. The last section is a quote from a married couple about marriage. These devotionals are placed in chronological order of when the event or issue occurred in their marriage. Each devotional can stand alone, so if an individual is facing the death of their spouse, they can go directly to the devotional called death do us part. For the table of contents, they divided the book into five sections rather than the more useful devotional titles (though some of those titles are not too useful). This is not an academic book and the authors make it clear that there is no substitute for expert help during those difficult times, but still this book can be useful at any point of a marriage to stimulate an open conversation about different areas of marriage including the past, money, and raising children. In line with it not being an academic book, it is easy to read and would be useful to any married Christian couple. They also have some recommended resources at the end of the book.

Reviewer
Gary R. Averill