WEDDING SPEECH

FOR

BALA MURTY

Hello everyone! It is with great joy that I am speaking to all of you today in honor of the wedding of Arjun and his beautiful bride, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Today I am a very proud uncle-yes, for those of you who may think I look far too young to be Arjun’s uncle, please rest assured it’s true-and there were no miracles needed to preserve my **good looks** (**Say this with exaggeration and wait for the laugh**) … the truth is, we’re only 7 years apart in age, so Arjun has always been more like a brother to me! And I consider myself very lucky to have a wonderful “brother” like Arjun!

I really cannot believe how many functions there seem to be for this wedding. As I was preparing and packing to come here, I had to check and make sure I had all the right wardrobe and fixings for each occasion-one more special than the next, culminating in the fantastic wedding ceremony and reception. It almost felt like there were more functions for this marriage than for all of the weddings I’ve attended throughout my entire life!!! This wedding has more functions than an **ipad**!! Actually, that made me think about Steve Jobs and the Apple company. Apple is responsible for revolutionizing so many aspects of life in every corner of the world. Imagine if Steve Jobs also re-invented the traditional wedding? How much do you want to bet he would have called it ….. ready??? “**I DO!!!”** (**Say this with exaggeration and wait for the laugh**). (**If you have to add, you can say**) Get it? Ipad, Ipod, Ido??

Arjun, now that you are married, one of the most important things to remember is to maintain a healthy sense of humor about life, love and marriage. This reminds me of something that happened to a friend of mine. His wedding anniversary approached and passed and **WOOPS**!!! He had completely forgotten about it. Anyone who has ever known a married couple … and that would be **ALL** of us … can understand that this made for a very, **very** bad situation. Naturally, when his wife realized his oversight, she brought forth some **very clear communication**. She said, “Tomorrow there **better** be something in the driveway that goes from 0 to 200 in **2 seconds flat**.” And then she stormed out of the room, leaving my friend to his own devices. The next morning, his wife got up with a special spring in her step, she went outside, and sure enough, there was a small package all wrapped up and waiting in the middle of the driveway. My friend’s wife eagerly opened the package and inside she found … **a brand new bathroom scale**. I spoke to my friend the other day. The doctors are hoping for a complete recovery and hopefully he’ll be released from the hospital within the month. (**Wait for the laugh**). Ah women!!! Sweet mystery of life!!! Arjun, as your uncle and mentor-**take my advice**-set an alert for **your** anniversary on your (**Choose correct equipment-either Blackberry, iphone, mobile phone, etc-choose the one he uses**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and save yourself the risk!!!

Arjun, you’ve chosen a wonderful and lovely young woman to marry, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is very sweet and you may never need to have this information, but as your “**older**” uncle, I feel that I must give you some guidance, so I have created a “Top 10 List” … “How to Interpret What Your Wife **REALLY** Means,” so here goes:

10. When she says, “Do you like my cooking?” What she really means is, “You **BETTER** like it and **eat all of it**!”

9. When she says, “We have to learn how to communicate.” What she really means is, “**You better agree with me**!”

8. When she says, “Yes.” What she really means is, ”**No**.”

7. When she says, “No.” What she really means is “**No**.”

6. When she says, “I’m sorry.” What she really means is. …Buddy-when she says that, get out of the house!!! . Or Duck and Cover!!! (**Wait for the laugh**)

5. When she says, “I’ll be ready in a minute.” What she really means is, “you may as well take off your shoes and grab a nap-for like, **an hour**!”

4. When she says, “I don’t want to talk about it.” What she really means is … Arjun-if you hear this… get ready…she’s not done yet!!

3. When she says, “I’m not upset.” What she really means is, “**HELLO? Of COURSE I’m upset**!”

2. When she says, “It’s your decision.” What she really means is … oh please… Arjun-just agree and do what she wants!!!

**AND THE NUMBER ONE PHRASE TO INTERPRET IS**. …

1. When she says, “I love you” … She **REALLY** means it!!!

And most of all, remember… **Happy wife, Happy life!!**

Arjun, this is a joyous occasion and we are all here to celebrate you and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. We’re here to dance and sing and revel in the love that is in this room tonight, but I also want to tell you that as I was thinking of what I wanted to say tonight, it brought back so many memories of our lives as family and just how important you are to me. As I said, we have been more like brothers and I am honored to have shared so much in life with you, and we have shared a great deal, both in good times and more challenging times. I am blessed to have a nephew like you and having you in my life has been such a gift. Growing up with you, and sharing so much with you, even all of the adversity we had to endure, gave me comfort knowing that we had each other to get through the good times and the really tough times. I want you to know that I am so proud of who you are and of the strong and confident man that you have become. Now you are starting the most important chapter in your life, that of husband and hopefully (**If you believe in G-d, say this**) G-d willing, a loving caring and inspirational father. There isn’t anything on earth that I wouldn’t do to be able to have **your** father, my brother, Raghu Bava here with us to celebrate this moment and share your joy, but I promise you, he would be so proud of who you are and your accomplishments in life, and he would love his new daughter-in-law, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Although your father has passed on, there are some things I know for sure. I know that he left an indelible mark on this world as he inspired people through his many philanthropic activities. He was a role model to everyone in the family and to the world, and he lives on in you. I see him in your eyes and I see him in your gestures (**if there is anything else about Arjun that reminds you of your brother, please mention it**) and I see him in the way you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and I know somewhere, somehow, he is watching over you and he is very, very proud.

To Arjun and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, may your life be as colorful as this beautiful wedding. May you have all of the health, happiness, laughter, love and good fortune that any couple could ever want, and may I say, Congratulations!! (**If there is a Hindu word that is more appropriate, say that)**.

Thank you!