BEST MAN SPEECH

FOR

LAURA KERRISON

Hello everyone! Today is a very special day for the Kerrison family…. and on top of it, Scott got married!! (**Wait for the laugh**). I know that Scott and Claire are so thrilled that all of you are here to share this very momentous occasion in their lives and this day will be unforgettable to each one of us. (**Turn to Claire and say**) Claire, you look beautiful and I am so happy to welcome you as the newest member of our family. …Actually, not so new. Since you and Scott have been together for roughly six years, we can say that you’ve been around for almost 25% of Scott’s life. You’ve been by Scott’s side through the fun times and the challenges, and you two have really grown together. You manage to put up with Scott’s “uniqueness” and it’s obvious how happy the two of you are with each other. We all know how special Scott is. From his caring and thoughtful nature to his “Gentle Giant” lovability, to his inability to tolerate any crap, it’s no surprise that you fell in love with him. What you may not know is that I can also honestly say that since I’ve known Scott for his entire life, no one, and I mean **NO ONE**, has ever questioned Scott’s intelligence. Come to think of it, I don’t think anyone has even mentioned it… (**Wait for the laugh**).

Yes, our Scott is indeed very special-so special in fact, that he asked that I be his “Best Man.” Touching? Adorable? Some may think that. I, on the other hand, picture the word “**Sadist**” when I think of the devious mind that bestowed this honor. (**Wait for the Laugh**). You see, this is actually the very first time that I have ever made a speech in front of a crowd, and what I heard is true. This is really nerve wracking!! I do find comfort, however, in knowing I am not the only person in this room feeling somewhat apprehensive, but then again, the other one just married my brother! (**Wait for the laugh** **and quietly, almost under your breath, you can** **mutter)**…. Oh that Scott…what a way he has with women!!!...

I have a feeling that today, as Scott and Claire begin the rest of their lives together, we can also say that new traditions are being born. It’s unique to have one’s sister act as the best man, but I think I’ve done a fairly good job, and as I stand up for him today, I’m quite certain that no one could be as proud of my brother as I am, and it’s a privilege to be there, supporting him, on one of the most important days of his life…let’s face it-**SOMEONE** had to… (**Wait for the** **laugh**). But all jokes aside, I think I got the job done. I got him to the venue on time, in good condition, and most importantly, I distracted him long enough for him to give up the notion of exchanging the rings at “Cash for Gold” and doing a runner (**Wait for the laugh**).

(**Turn to Scott and say**) Scott, you know I’m teasing… right? I really do want you to know how wonderful I think you are, and how happy I am for you and Claire. Also, on behalf of the bridesmaids, I want to thank you for your thoughtful words. The entire wedding party did a fantastic job, the bridesmaids look gorgeous, only to be outshone by my beautiful new sister-in-law, and on behalf of all of us, we want to thank you and Claire for making us a part of your very special day.

When I was asked to be Best Man, I wracked my brain trying to think of a way to convey just how remarkable I really think my brother is. Mere words cannot create a picture of someone who defies description, and I could go on and on for hours –don’t worry, I won’t- and still not adequately convey the image of the man, the brother, the MYTH that is Scott Kerrison, so I thought I would offer images instead. On each table there is a series of envelopes. Please don’t open them yet…

I have to say that when I learned of my honor to be Best Man, one of my tasks was to have been to dress Scott. Um… no thanks. He’s 24 years old and can dress himself. Of course, this was not always the case. Ladies and gentlemen I invite you to open Envelope 1….red high heels for gardening, anyone? (**Wait for the laugh**).

And since we’re initiating new traditions today, and although it’s not really the “norm” to discuss past love at a wedding, when you open Envelope 2, you’ll see that these two were inseparable from a very early age. Of course, Mum, being who she is, eventually managed to pry the ice cream tub from his determined little hands. Although he mourns the loss to this day, to his credit, he was able to pull himself together for this occasion. Way to go, Scott!

(**If this is Envelope 3, say**) And of course, anyone who knows Scott knows that his love and devotion for Claire is second only to his passion for motorcycles, and it goes wayyyy back to the days when health and safety were barely issues and Dad’s boots, gloves and a Bob the Builder helmet was all a kid needed to ride like the wind. Folks, it’s time to open Envelope 3!! (**Wait for the laugh**).

Wow!! I’m kind of on a roll here…remember way back when… like 2 minutes ago… when I was **nervous**?? This is a **GREAT** crowd!!

So before I go…or before I get hauled off this podium (**or say something like- or told to sit down and shut up**) in my final moments as Best Man, I’d like to offer Scott some advice for a long and happy marriage:

* First, set ground rules and establish who’s boss…. and then do everything Claire says!
* Remember-never go to bed angry-Stay up and fight!
* Never forget that the last 2 words in any discussion are the most important. Learn them well and say them often…let’s practice- “**Yes, dear**.”
* Always keep this in mind… Happy wife, happy life!!
* Lastly, here’s a fun fact-that bears acknowledging… No husband has ever been shot while doing the dishes!! Knock yourself out!! Enjoy!!

At this time I would like to invite all of you to join me in raising a glass as we toast our joyous couple:

To the new Mr. and Mrs. Scott Kerrison:

Raise your glasses

To love and Laughter

And Happily Ever After.

Scott and Claire, we love you!! Congratulations!!