BEST MAN TOAST

FOR

MICHAEL GILLOGLY

Hello everyone! It’s great to be here and I am sure you’ll all agree that love is in the air!! I want to welcome all of you who mean so much to Terrence and Krystin. I know many of you traveled from far and near to be here today to celebrate our bride and groom and it’s wonderful to share this moment with all of you. Krystin, you are a beautiful, charming and light spirited person and an even more beautiful bride, and I love that the two of you make each other so happy. I want to congratulate Krystin’s parents, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and her family (**name any brothers and sisters and grandparents she may have**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Of course all of the Gillogly’s present agree how lucky we are to have our newly extended family as Krystin marries Terrence. (**Turn to Krystin and say**) and of course we’re also all dumbfounded that you’ve made a conscious decision to complicate your life to such a degree…. **Nah**-not because marriage is such hard work… Not because life as you know it will never be the same… Not because you have to listen to Terrence as he “serenades” you with **Thunderpants**’ greatest hits… whoa… come to think of it… **are there any**?? (**Wait for the laugh**)…no… all of that is fairly manageable by comparison when you take into consideration the sacrifice you’ve made from this day forward for the man you love…. by giving up your beautiful, melodic, easily pronounced last name…. to officially become… a **GILLOGLY**!!! (**Say that with emphasis and wait for the laugh**). I’m sure you’ve been practicing, but as of now, my new sister, you’re one of **US**!! I once knew of a young man who had a very, **very** long, hard to pronounce last name. He joked that he didn’t learn how to spell it until he reached the sixth grade… Welcome to the club!!! (**Wait for the laugh**)

You know I kid, but in reality, I’m just thankful that after the way I treated Terrence as we were growing up, I consider myself blessed to have even been included on the guest list, let alone have the honor of being the best man. …Well maybe today, on just this **one** occasion, I’ll settle for being the “**Second Best**” man!! (**Turn to Terrence and say**) You know, Terrence, we both know I was perhaps not the nicest older brother growing up. I may have been somewhat rough on you and I may have teased and tortured and bossed you around a little…or maybe **A LOT**, but here we are, two grown and responsible men, and I want you to know I am so proud of you. You were my little brother, my first “victim,” and my first best friend. I’d like to think that maybe you are who you are today thanks in a little part to my own brand of “**boot camp**” that I mercilessly inflicted on you. I’ve heard it said “That which doesn’t kill you makes you stronger,” and Terrence, my man, you survived my trials and are a strong, dependable, loyal, hard working, “musically inclined” gentleman, and although when we were younger, I was the obnoxious leader, today it’s clear you’re a **winner**…. You’ve got a great life, a wonderful wife, and let’s face it…you still have the one thing that has eluded several of the adult Gillogly men…. your **HAIR**. (**Wait for the laugh**). I couldn’t ask for a better brother/best friend and I appreciate you so much now that we’re mature…or trying to be!!

To Terrence and Krystin, married life is about change and evolution and learning to share and live together. It’s about compromise and finding new common ground and doing away with what doesn’t work for the **both** of you. As you build your life together, you’ll probably be reminded of the song from the Broadway play, “A Chorus Line” called, “What I Did For Love.” To paraphrase those lyrics,

“Kiss my name good-bye

No, you won’t hunt tomorrow….

We did what we had to doooooooo

Won’t forget, can’t regret

What I did for looove….” (**Wait for the laugh**)

I’d like to invite all of you to raise a glass as I propose a traditional Irish toast to our Bride and groom:

To Krystin and Terrence,

May joy & peace surround you,

Contentment latch your door;

And happiness be with you now and bless you evermore.

Congratulations!! We love you!