**MAID OF HONOR SPEECH**

**FOR**

**MARA ABRAMS**

**REVISED**

**2ND REVISIONS 2/7/14-IN LILAC**

Hi everyone!! I can’t believe this day has finally arrived!!! It’s so great to see each one of you here to witness and celebrate Faren and Jimmy’s wedding. I also want to welcome all of you that have traveled here to share this great day for our family, and whether you’re friends or work acquaintances, school buddies or neighbors, today we’re all related in sharing one overwhelming and common bond**-happiness!! WOOOOOO HOOOOO!!!! They did it and they’re finally married!!!** ~~and that is joy for our “lovebirds” (?? Sounds a little funny).~~ Although in many ways Faren is still my “little sister,” I’m sure that today all of you will agree that my “little sis” has grown up…. and what a revelation it is to see this gorgeous, stylish, hip and trendy vision giving us **just the right attitude and** **showing us how it’s done!!** ~~“total bridal realness!!” (still thinks this sounds a tad funny)~~ You are a living breathing testimony to all of the hard work you’ve done in the past…. from your determined power shopping to tireless trend research, to Olympian skills at putting yourself together, I bet every female in this room is inspired to "up their game" or get some tips from you.... **You're like our very own In Style Magazine….. which is a very, VERY good thing…**.~~Huffpost Style (what is Huffpost, like style magazine)!!~~ You are truly your own best endorsement! I once saw a tee shirt with a simple slogan that I believe is really your truth in life. It said, “Each morning I wake up and I thank G-d for my ability to accessorize”… and there you have it!!! And of course, nothing says “best accessory” like a gorgeous, wonderful and **HANDY** husband…. I know that on any other day, the two of you really make a great team the way you "complete" each other, **but today, after all of these years, you’ve finally made it legal!!! Stuck with each other for life…. how great is THAT??** ~~but today? All of that love and those COMPLIMENTS for both of you … they must be flowing like crazy! (sounds weird)~~ You’re both fabulous!! Jimmy, I’m sure you’re really proud of all of Faren’s talents but be afraid… be very, VERY afraid…. she’s just beginning… and I know that the two of you have been together long enough for you to know how determined she can be… You thought this wedding took military-like precision planning??? This was only PRACTICE for when she decorates the new house from top to bottom!!! I also hope there was a really comprehensive tool kit on one of those bridal registries for you!!! Get ready to roll up your sleeves! The house is next!!

Heidi Klum once said, “I was the little sister that was annoying.” DUH. I BET it would have been REALLY annoying to have Heidi Klum as a sister!! But Faren, I had you!! Although when we were younger, we weren’t super close, but as we’ve grown up, I’m so happy that one of my closest friends shares my DNA. And whether we were close or not, I remember how my friends and I always got such a kick out of your joyful interpretive dancing … on top of my dressers, might I add, to Alanis Morrisette… and that’s NO small accomplishment… let's just hope there isn't any ra-a--aaaain on **THIS** wedding day!!! Please, **PLEASE DONT GET UP ON THE TABLE and** dance!! I mean think of it… Faren, it’s a sign of your incredible spirit that you always seem to find fun and joy even in the weirdest places and strangest moments- and even as a kid you goofed around in style and my friends and I really appreciated the show.

**Through the years the relationship between sisters has been honored. A long time ago, there was a movie called, “My sister Eileen,” and in it there was a song with the words…**.~~And as the old show tune goes…~~ **“Never were there such devoted sisters….”** ~~(what show tune)??~~ **Guess what??? As far as I’m concerned, sister power is forever!!**

“I would like to invite all of you to raise your glasses as I propose a toast.”

(To) Faren and Jimmy, here’s to a lifetime of health, happiness, prosperity, humor, **FABULOUS STYLE***, and* many, MANY years of family and togetherness. We can't wait to meet the next generation of trendsetting Bickerstaff‘s. We love you! Congratulations!!