WEDDING SPEECH

FOR

KATHERINE MAURICIO

Hello everyone!! I am so happy to be here celebrating the marriage of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Dominick!! I want to congratulate (**name the bride**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’s parents, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (**if you feel it’s appropriate also name any grandparents, siblings, or other family of the bride**) I would also like to extend the congratulations to your entire family-after all, we’ve been such great friends for so long, we both know (**do you want to say this in Spanish?**) Your family is MY family!! ***Su familia es MI familia***!! You look absolutely magnificent today… and Dominick, you look so handsome and dashing…. and even though we know what went on behind the scenes as we all prepared for **THIS**- the **BIG** day-the ceremony and reception, all the planning and testing and research to make sure all was perfect, but we have to remember great hair and make up and a gorgeous gown go just so far. The love you two have for each other fills this room and we are all stunned by your beauty. Some may think that love is just an emotion, but today, with the two of you, we can all see the physical presence of the joy and the bond the two of you share.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, you and I are just two simple-**ummmm**… some may not agree… but **FABULOUS** girls from the Bronx who had dreams to create and stories to share, and so much in common when we met in high school so many…. well, not **THAT** many years ago…. and as our bond strengthened, we even went to the same college. Our friendship has survived and grown based on those things that are so important in life…. trust, common goals and points of view, and liking the same pizza toppings (**If this doesn’t work, mention another food that is a major guilty pleasure for both of you and wait for the laugh**). I truly believe we’re destined to be best friends forever… let’s face it…. you know **ALL** of my secrets!! And come to think of it, I know some of yours!!! (**Wait for the laugh**)…. What about the time…. (**Make believe you are just about to tell a really** **big secret or joke and then say**)-**GOTCHA!!** That’s our private joke!! Oprah once said, “Lots of people want to ride with you in the limo, but what you want is someone who will take the bus with you when the limo breaks down.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, you got to ride in the limo today, and I know Dominick will do everything to keep you happy, but as we look back, there are plenty of times we “took the bus” together, and you know what? No matter what the challenges were that may have been presented to one or both of us, we got through them together and every experience has made us closer, stronger and more in awe of each other.

We are all so thrilled that you and Dominick found each other and I know he’s a really great guy. The both of you are about to begin a new life together, and the wonderful thing is that as husband and wife you will inherit the legacy of true love, respect and partnership established by your parents. Both of you have amazing examples and footsteps to follow. Dominick, your parents \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ your parents \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have been married forever… how **GREAT** is **THAT**? …And now it’s **YOUR** turn!!

So what’s the secret of a strong, long lasting marriage? I’ll bet your parents know, but I thought I would give you an easy recipe to keep in mind whenever you and Dominick look at each other or might start to run a little short on patience. (**If you want a little interactivity, you can either bring an apron with you, put it on, and make believe you’re about to cook-maybe call out the ingredients, have each one written on a piece of paper, throw them into a bowl and maybe stir them with a big wooden spoon and in the end raise a glass of Champagne as a toast or maybe you can get big, a fancy cookie in the shape of a heart, break it in ½, wrap them beautifully and give the bride and groom ½ each**)

We always hear about a “secret sauce” that makes food irresistible. With marriage, those secret ingredients are not that elusive and you already have the “dough” which is the **love** that is the foundation that holds you together. Add a heaping tablespoon of **trust**, just enough sweet respect for each other, a pinch of saltiness to accept the unexpected, and a dash of peppery wit to make sure you’re both awake and aware of each other’s feelings. Don’t forget to listen to each other, share your feelings and honor each other’s wishes, and I know that with this tasty advice the two of you will share a delicious lifetime together!

(**If you want to propose a toast, you can say**), I would like to invite all of you to raise a glass as I propose a toast to the new Mr. Mrs. Dominick \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Here’s to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, May you share a lifetime of love and partnership… we can’t wait to see how the cookie crumbles!! We love you! (**If you don’t want to use the cookie example, you can substitute the couple’s favorite food**)

**NOTE: ••••• if you feel more comfortable reading this, I don’t think it should be a problem. See what you think is best… Thanks! Helene**