WEDDING SPEECH

FOR

GEORGE GARCIA

Hello everyone and welcome to this beautiful part of the world for an even more beautiful occasion, the wedding of my sister, Patricia, to Harrison. We’ve all traveled a long way to be here both literally and figuratively and the gift of being a part of this joyous experience makes those trips so worthwhile. I’ve heard that Los Cabos has a motto, and just for these few special days, I would like to propose a little modification to that slogan and say that in honor of our bride and groom it should be changed to “Two seas. One paradise. One love.” Patricia, you’re my little sister so I may be somewhat biased, but today I have to say that your beauty and radiance are even more outstanding than your intelligence! Love agrees with you!! Harrison, I think you’ve made an excellent choice by falling in love with Patricia. She may be a headstrong, stubborn, fiery Hispanic diva, but you see that’s what makes her fascinating… believe me… I know… I grew up with her!! I witnessed the developments!

I once heard an old proverb that teaches us that brothers and sisters are as close as hands and feet. Of course growing up, at any given time that connection might have been used to get at each other or to really walk together. We share a bond that is exclusive to us, and as we carry on with our lives well into adulthood and prepare for the next evolutions of our family, and as we add to that family with wonderful people like Harrison, we really do realize that our experience of each other is rare and unique. When we were kids, you were my little sister. We may have had our “moments,” but now, as adults, we have the benefit of time and maturity to really appreciate who we’ve both become. I know that when I look at you, I can’t imagine any brother being more proud of his sister.

Today is a day of great joy and it’s also a day of remembrance. For those of you that may not know, I am standing here not just as Patricia’s brother, but also as a representative of our late, wonderful father Javier Garcia. Although he passed on four years ago, his memory is alive in all of us who knew and loved him. I know he’s watching over these festivities and Patricia, I have no doubt that he was never more proud of you than he would have been today-and let’s not forget-you gave him SO MUCH of which to be proud! With all that you’ve accomplished, to find the path to happiness and to your future and to share the Garcia legacy with Harrison is truly touching. There’s a saying that goes, “I am part of all that I have met.” Nothing can be truer than when that is said about a mother or a father. Patricia and I have been so blessed to have such loving parents who have given both of us so much and if any of you want to know where Patricia got her (**Name three qualities of your father’s that you see in Patircia**) gift of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the ability to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or her way with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, we have Javier Garcia to thank!

Harrison, I want to welcome you to our family and I want to extend that welcome to (**Name Harrison’s immediate family-if he has parents that are living, brothers, sisters-anyone you feel is appropriate to be acknowledged**) your (parents?) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Both you and Patricia are brilliant and dedicated members of the medical community. It is inspiring to witness your devotion to each other and to your patients, colleagues and profession. Harrison, knowing that you are so intuitive, inquisitive and devoted makes me a little less anxious as our precious little sister, the treasure of our family, begins this new chapter of her life with you. I don’t have to tell you what she means to us, so just make sure you always take good care of her… or you’ll have US to answer to!!! Remember, happy wife, happy life…HAPPY FAMILY!!

The composer Igor Stravinsky said, “In order to create there must be a dynamic force, and what force is more dynamic than love?” I know I speak for all of us when I say that we all wish you many, MANY creative and satisfying years of love, health, happiness, laughter, respect and mutual appreciation. May the love that you share between you and with others be the best medicine and the key to all that you wish for in life. Congratulations!! We love you!