BEST MAN SPEECH

FOR

RICHARD BOUDRIA

Hello everyone. It’s such a thrill to be here in this special place to celebrate and witness the marriage of my brother and best friend, George, to the beautiful, talented, smart and patient Kate. I want to acknowledge the entire wedding party… the Maid of Honor, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and all of the bridesmaids are a beautiful court to surround Kate, and to all of the groomsmen, I am so impressed that you’ve all been so well behaved this weekend. Hayes and Billy, you’ve come a long way since the “Great Escape, Palm Beach 2007!!” (**Wait for the** **laugh**)

Kate, on behalf of our parents, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and our sister Katie, I want to officially welcome you as the newest member of our family. We all look forward to sharing many great times. What’s even more special about having Kate in our newly expanded family is that if George has a problem figuring out how many people there are now, Kate, you will be right by his side helping him count. (**Hold up your hand and pretend to count like Dad is one finger, Mom is 2, etc and wait for the laugh**). I kid but it really is a testament to your determination and tenacity that you’ve really made a name for yourself in the financial sector and we’re all very proud of you. It is always a significant moment when one’s family has a chance to grow in number and in experience. For instance, ever since I was a kid I have envisioned myself as an important person with a real message to share, one who is able to stand before hundreds of people, **really** **take command** of the room, and deliver a gripping and riveting message. Since it wasn’t in my destiny to be either a rock star or a policeman in charge of a riot squad, I want to thank George and Kate from the bottom of my heart for giving me the opportunity to “work this room” today. (**Wait for the laugh**) … of course knowing some of George’s friends, it might have been helpful to have had some riot squad training, but enough about that!! (**Pretend to cough and under your breath you can say, Hayes… Billy… and wait for the laugh**)

George and I are close in age and we have been there for each other throughout our childhood, youth, and now into adulthood. It’s been so great to have my best friend there with me for everything… as I said, we grew up together… we went to school together… (**Do you want to say**) Oh wait… that’s right we didn’t do **EVERYTHING** together… I got to (**name some fantastic envy inducing activity you might have done**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ during George’s remedial math classes (**Wait for the** **laugh**)…. but all jokes aside, there is one thing that occupies much of your time… besides Kate, and that is your love of golf. Yes, golf is the “gateway drug” to get into our family. The Boudria’s are hooked and George is a master. He spends much of his time on the course… naturally Dad would have been thrilled to see him excel **in** or **on** **ANY** course…There I go again… (**Wait for the laugh**). George, I’ve often wondered, do you think that one of the reasons why you love golf so much is because the better you get the lower you have to count? Maybe it’s a little less challenging in the addition department? (**Wait for the laugh**)

George, I hope you know I’m teasing you because I love you and I’m really happy for you and Kate. At times like these I’m also a little relieved that you live downtown and I’m uptown…. uh oh…

You survived your childhood and youth…. began your adulthood, became gainfully employed… and then there was Kate. There was destiny involved that day that Billy’s sister \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ introduced you to her friend. What could be more perfect? She was… and is… beautiful, smart, and passionate about her career. As a first grade teacher, her skills and her ability to offer guidance and a solid lesson plan were meant to be, and with the added joy of Cooper and Sophie to warm your hearts and lives, what more could a person ask for? But I still have to ask, George, for a guy that spends his weekends on a golf course, how **DID** you manage to land such a beautiful bride? (**Wait for the laugh**) George, as some say back in New York, “**Ya did good**.” And although I know we’ve done so much as a team…. with **this one** you’re on your own!!

I know the two of you have already cemented this union… you’ve exchanged vows, you have your marriage license… everything is signed, sealed and delivered…. there’s just one more document that needs to be presented. (**Take out the certificate of improvement from Kate’s first grade class and get ready to present it-try to get all of Kate’s kids to sign it**). Everyone in this room knows what it’s taken to overcome obstacles in life and to be able to triumph. On that note, it seems that a jury of your **peers** has convened and they have made a determination that in accordance with your newly married status and in recognition of all of the work you’ve done…. and after checking, it all adds up, Miss \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’s (**Kate’s last name**) class from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (**name of school**), has hereby awarded you the “**GIANT P**” for your new ranking as Most Promising new Husband and Mathematician of the Year! (**Wait for the laugh**)

(**If you want to add…)** We also want to congratulate Kate’s mother, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and father, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on this happy occasion

(**Do you want to make a toast? If not, just eliminate the bracketed words**) Before I “get the hook,” I just want to **[invite everyone to raise a glass as I propose a toast]** say that although I tease about your math skills, George…. well they **ARE** kind of notable…. I want to wish you and Kate a lifetime of health and happiness, love and prosperity, mutual respect and valued wisdom. To some, one plus one equals two, but when two people are meant to be together, that one plus one equals one wonderful bond. We wish you both all the best! We love you. Thank you all!