**14532, Katrena Bethell**

Good Evening Ladies and Gentlemen,

Tonight I have the privilege of the matron of honor for my very best friend Sonya. We have known one another all our lives, literally since we were 15 years old and have done pretty much everything together. When Sonya told me that she was getting married I squealed with delight and told her it was about time she caught up with me since we’d done everything together since we were teens. There is so much I can tell you about Sonya but most importantly, she is a funny, caring person who cares a lot about her family, even if she is a bit spoiled and somewhat obsessed with Beyoncé and reality tv.

As I said, we have done everything together from driving school to getting lost in downtown Baltimore while returning from the Baltimore Aquarium. I have to say that driving with her when she had recently gotten her permit was one of the more scary experiences of my life. Like most teenage girls we had endless sleepovers at her parents’ home, during which time we did our share of prank calling with Ketia, and one time we made a very sad attempt to make battered fried chicken. The meat wasn’t cooked through. But, the batter sure was tasty. We did so many crazy things as teenagers that I can’t remember them all. But, I do remember that we were infamous for movie hopping. I’m not sure we ever watched a movie all the way through.

We use to share all our college experiences, in spite of the fact we went to different universities. I remember we had made a pact to move to Atlanta to go to school but her plans changed. I moved but she stayed in Maryland. Amazingly, we both met our husbands in college. We’ve still continued to remain close friends and have done nearly everything together as adults as well. We once travelled to two countries together when we went to Anguilla and St. Marteen. She was in my wedding as I am in hers today. We gave birth to our kids very close together too. I’ll never forget her first reaction when she found out she was pregnant! She was in shock! Once she got over that initial shock she was so excited and has loved being a mom and since then we have shared endless birthdays together.

I can’t think of anything I’d rather do today than share in my best friend’s joy today as her matron of honor.

Would you all please join me in a toast to Sonya and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (her husband)?

May your joy today grow greater as you grow together and may your love grow stronger as you grow older. I wish you both all the happiness in your lives together.