MAID OF HONOR SPEECH

FOR

ALI CRAIGO

Hi everyone!!! Isn’t this the best wedding ever? I’m so happy to see Zach so happy and I’m thrilled, as we all are, to officially welcome Brittney to our family. (**If you want to congratulate Brittney’s family you can do that here**) I would like to congratulate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (**her parents**) and (**any brothers and sisters**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. This newly extended family is gonna have **FUN**!! It’s incredible to be at this great celebration with our closest friends and loved ones and if I **thought** we knew how to have fun before, all those great times were nothing compared to this wedding!!! Tonight’s really a once in a lifetime event- everyone is all dressed up and looking gorgeous (**If you want to make a joke you can say**) uh… even **YOU** too, Zach!! Just kidding…. everyone knows how much you love Brittney and that look in your eye that you get when you see her face makes you more handsome than any “**manscaping**” could possibly ever achieve!! (**Wait for the laugh**)…. but the suit (**tux?**) helps too. Brittney, you look absolutely gorgeous and radiant today, but hey, let’s face it, Brittney on an average day is basically every other “mere mortal” after a team of twenty whipped out the heavy artillery and worked for ten hours contouring, shadowing, spackling, and fluffing to get us up to presentable!! (**Wait for the laugh**). I hope you know I’m kidding… right? I mean, I’m doing my best to keep up a brave face; after all, there is a loss that probably only I will feel because of this **official** union… You see I may be gaining the best sister-in-law ever, but on the other hand I’m losing one **helluva** (**heckuva?? Say whichever feels more appropriate**) legendary, awesome, unparalleled **WINGWOMAN**!! (**Wait for the laugh**).

Yes, in the Pantheon of wingwomen, you were up there with the greats but I’m so thankful you were and are mine. Now that you’re married, do we have to think of a new name for that time-honored position? WingWIFE? WingNUT? (**Wait for the laugh**). Of course we didn’t quite start out that way… I will never forget what it was like when we first met. Because in freshman year I chose to go to a college with a more “urban” campus… read: **NO** frats. **NO** sororities. **NO** college experience. **NADA. ZIP. ZILCH. ZERO**…. I had to make do at Zach’s while he was at Greeley… WOW!! Hanging with my **BIG BROTHER**!!! Older kids!! House parties!! Stories I can’t repeat!!! (**If you want to make a joke you get very calm and demure and say**) Sorry Mom and Dad… I mean he DID watch out for me like a good big brother should… Okay… where was I??? Oh yeah.. House parties!! Ragers!!! **FERTILIZER**!?!? Remember… we were young and it **WAS** a **stinky** cow town… (**Wait for the laugh**)… Zach was and is an amazing older brother and a really “great” host…. He rolled out the red carpet and I got the royal treatment…. until he really got to know **HER** (**If you want you can make a mock side eye glare in Brittney’s direction**)…. and I got to know his **COUCH**… **WAY** more than I wanted!! (**And wait for the laugh**).

I have to admit, I may not have been the easiest person to get along with early on in their relationship…. I mean… you’ve heard of **RBF**… **RESTING BITCH** **FACE?** (**I hope this isn’t too harsh?)** Well I had **RSF**… Resting **SIS** face!!! I’ll admit it, I’m a super tough sister to befriend and impress, but our Brittney… man… she can turn even the coldest of hearts… I remember my “**AHA!!** **Moment**” with her. I decided to invite Brittney to my annual birthday weekend in Vail with the girls. She **KILLED IT!**!! ... In the best way possible! She scored us drinks, formed the dance circle, and was the most fearless, bold wingwoman I have **EVER SEEN**. And as if **THAT** weren’t enough, in the morning she was the first one up to make Mimosas, the first one to jump into the pool, **THE** **ONE** to **REALLY** show us how to EMBRACE life and live to the fullest. Thanks to Brittney and her incredible, boundless energy and spirit, we all felt confident, filled with fun, and unstoppable… and it was super clear why Zach was falling in love with her… thank goodness!!

From that time on I’ve been so proud to call Brittney one of my very best friends and today it is with a heart filled with love and admiration that I can finally and officially call her **SISTER**. I can’t imagine anyone else I would rather have in our family. Brittney is a real keeper. She’s the kind of girl that can make friends with anyone…. even **ME**… with my resting sis face!! She’s the buffer and diplomat in awkward situations. She has the ability to entice anyone to do the silliest things they **NEVER** thought they would do…. and have an **OUTRAGEOUS TIME** in the process. She’s a true chameleon. She’s kind and patient, smart and loving, enthusiastic and compassionate…. but can she cook??? We’ll see about that!! (**Wait for the laugh and if you want to mention something she is notoriously bad at you can also add**…)…. and oh. Can she \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_???? (**Glance at her and wink and wait for the laugh**).

And because sometimes there is truth and justice and **LOVE** in the world, thank goodness he **FINALLY** put a ring on it!! I have come to realize that in life there is no Zach without Britt and no Britt without Zach. What a perfect couple they are! …And when Zach looks lovingly at Britt, it’s like nothing I’ve ever seen from him. His whole body language transforms and it’s clear how drawn he is to her. Together they are each other’s safe haven and **HOME**. I am so proud of the loving, loyal, caring husband my brother has become, and I am so happy that these two love and respect each other so deeply. They balance each other and are clearly meant to be. To Zach and Britt, may the both of you experience more love, health, happiness, respect and partnership than anyone can ever wish for. We love you!! Congratulations!! Thank you!