BROTHER OF THE BRIDE SPEECH

FOR

NALONNIL JOSE

Hello everyone!! What a beautiful and happy day this is for the Jose family!! I am Kevin and I am Christina’s older brother…. but most of you know that already! Today we are here to celebrate the wedding of Christina and Naveen. Christina,,, you are a beautiful bride and Naveen, we are so happy to welcome such a handsome and fine groom to our family. If anyone would have asked me when we were kids what Christina’s wedding day might be like, I would have imagined something close to this, but I could never have imagined all the love and light that fills this room right now. These are really two wonderful people and I am so personally thrilled to think that our family heritage and faith will continue through this wonderful, caring and loving couple.

For those of you that know Christina as an intelligent, accomplished young woman, you may be wondering, “What was it like growing up with her as your little sister?” In a word, I can say, “**Interesting**…” Hmmmm (**Wait for the laugh**). … Naveen, you might want to pay a little **extra attention** to **this part** of my speech…. Someone once said, “Having a sister is like having a best friend… that you **can’t get rid of**. You know whatever you do they’ll still be there….” Welllll… That’s the **good** news and the **bad**…. sort of…. Mind you, I am **NOT** complaining… growing up she was a great companion and we had lots of fun together. Of course most people thought we were a little **OFF** when we indulged in some of our antics…. We thought we were **IT** when we formed our invisible band and played our fake instruments. Boy were we a site!!! Just ask (**Name your cousins who would witness this**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. We thought we were the **SLICKEST** things on earth!!! And then we opened our mouths…. The off-tune singing….. The neighborhood cats and dogs are **STILL** hiding!!! And I think more than a few times we might have almost damaged some eardrums…. right \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (**name one of the cousins again and wait for the laugh**). There were times we pretended to be the new and improved Mickey Mouse Club…. all I can say is… Christina, thank goodness you were and are a brilliant student and found yourself a fascinating career…. far, **FAR** from a Karaoke bar!! (**Wait for the laugh**). That experience really used to make us laugh while others cringed, but you know what I just realized? It’s the perfect example of the special communication the two of us had as we were growing up.

And thank goodness that Christina was so much more than a pretty face and a questionable singing talent growing up. She was a caring, trustworthy, humble, hard-working, helpful, considerate, religious, respectful sister, daughter and friend, and she still is… even more so. Growing up I remember how much she loved playing basketball and lacrosse… so be prepared to be kept on your toes, Naveen!! I also remember something else about growing up with Christina. I remember that if I told her a secret or we did something wrong, she would tell on us. Some may think that was the actions of a bratty little sister… but you know what, now that I look at those times as an adult, I see she could not accept the burden of carrying a secret or participating in something that compromised her integrity…. that’s how pure and sweet and thoughtful… and **LOUD** she could be (**Wait for the laugh**).

And now she has married Naveen and I have a new brother!! I have to admit that I felt more than a little satisfaction when I heard that Naveen was a little anxious to meet me. **GOOD!**! After all, I am the **BIG BROTHER**. Of course I’m going to check you out, Naveen, but I also share Christina’s DNA… and people, I did my best to make him feel at home while observing and making sure he was good for my sister. But you know what I discovered? It’s clear that God put them together. For all of Christina’s admirable qualities, Naveen has a complimentary one. Naveen is humble, caring, religious and comes from a great family, and Christina, is dependable, supportive, loving and loyal. These two are blessed to have each other. And speaking of blessed, there are two other people I must acknowledge, without who none of this would be possible… to our parents, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, we are all so doubly blessed to have **YOUR** love and support, guidance and patience. Without you neither of us would be the people we are today… (**If you want to make a joke you can say**)…. of course you did also give us those singing voices…. (**And wait for the laugh**).

Christina and Naveen, this is an incredible turnout and you can see so many people want to celebrate your marriage and dance at your wedding. I wish you both several lifetimes of love and partnership, understanding and happiness, good health and all that you both might ever pray for. Congratulations!!! We love you!! Thank you all and God bless!