BEST MAN SPEECH

FOR

KEVIN BOLDUC

Hello everyone!!! It’s really great to be here to celebrate the marriage of Mike and Rachel. To say that I am happy for this couple would be an understatement. I am **THRILLED** to have been part of the **MAGIC** from the beginning… I was present for the initial meeting… or as the term is known in French… the “**Coup de Foudre**” (**pronounced coo de foodra**), which literally means “thunderclap.” It was obvious at that first meeting that many, **MANY** molecules got “all shook up”… on both sides and here we are celebrating the official “sealing of the deal.” It is an honor to be a part of this wedding party and I would like to acknowledge some people without whom **NONE** of this could have ever been possible. To Tom and Mary, Rachel’s parents, and to Scott and Pat, Mike’s parents, first I want to thank all of you for giving this world two of the best friends a guy could ever want. I’m sure by now you all know how much I love both Rachel and Mike and how happy I am for all of you… Oh… and on behalf of everyone here, thank you for footing the bill on such a terrific party (**If you want to add a little humor you can say**)…. and I promise I will behave… to a point… (**And wait for the laugh**). To Rachel, I have to say, you make a gorgeous bride… married life agrees with you!!! To all of the bridesmaids- Sara, Anna and Kristy, you also all look stunning and on behalf of the groomsmen, thank you all for making **US** look pretty good too!! To Rose and Ella, our flower girls, (**Do you want to say**) I’m not quite ready to rollout the hash tag, “#REASONTOBREED” but you girls are so adorable I think my heart melted!!! You did a fantastic job!! Keep practicing,,,, one never knows how soon the next celebration might be…. (**Writer’s note: I put this in as a set up for the end comment… you’ll see**).

For those of you that may not know, as I said earlier, I was in on this romance… calm down people… as an **OBSERVER**… from the very beginning. (**Act** **sort of wistful and stare above to the ceiling as if this was a flashback and say)** It was our second day at Marquette…. we actually kind of missed the first mandatory day. We were standing in front of McCormick Hall, still “**feeling the effects**” of our “evening activity” from the night before…. I’ll keep those details for the first anniversary party… after all, what happens the first day of Freshman Year at Marquette **STAYS** at Marquette… (**Wait for the laugh**). All I can say is that everything was pretty fuzzy but somehow, like a bolt out of the blue, Rachel walked up to us and that was that. Mike’s jaw hit the ground and the immediate connection was obvious even though we clearly weren’t Chem majors….. “Cue the fireworks…” and they have been together ever since.

As Mike’s roommate throughout college and in grad school, it’s been great to witness their connection and love grow, and every time I see them together it’s reassuring to know that true love really does exist. Although other young men might think that showing too much emotion might be, well, who knows?? Mike was incredibly excited at the prospect of asking Rachel to marry him and I was lucky enough to be in on the plan…Rachel, I don’t know if you’re aware of the psy-ops involved, but we plotted, planned, did an adequate number of recon missions as we scoped out **THE SPOT** at the LaSalle Street Bridge, and when it finally happened, all I can say is… it might have been the greatest moment for **YOU**, but other greatness was going on as well… it might have been because of all that love that was in the air, but the **MOST** unforgettable part … for me at least, was when we wound up at (**name the restaurant**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and had the **BEST. DAMN. ROAST CHICKEN I HAVE EVER EATEN IN MY LIFE!!! (Wait for the laugh).**

Mike, we’ve come a long way since the days in the FFP, and here you are, a married man and Rachel, that vision in front of McCormick Hall, is your **WIFE**. I am so happy for the both of you and I want you to know how much I love you guys and wish you only the best of all that you could ever want in your lifetime.

I would like to invite all of you to raise a glass as I propose a toast:

It’s been said, “That while love may not make the world go ‘round, it’s what makes the ride **worthwhile**.” To Rachel and Mike, May the two of you have the most love filled, worthwhile ride of your lives!! We love you!! ….

Oh and one more thing… (**Turn to Anna and say**) Anna, I hope you didn’t have too much from the buffet tonight because…. how about sharing some of the **BEST. DAMN. ROAST CHICKEN** with me? …. Stay tuned everyone!! (**And wink**) Thank you all!