BEST MAN SPEECH

FOR

DALE PERRY

Hello everyone! I’m Dale and it’s a great honor for me to be here to stand up for my best friend, our groom, Joe. Many of you know me as you know Joe but I bet lots of you that know us may not know how the legend of Dale and Joe began. Well, it began at the **beginning**… over twenty years ago… in **kindergarten**. We met and bonded over a profound appreciation of the most important things in life…. Lego’s and Star Wars and our friendship and connection has grown ever since. The affinity we shared back then was **MAGIC**. It was **THE** sign and I knew without any hesitation… this was my **MAIN MAN**… Pardon the pun, but even as kids we knew “the pieces fit” and we would build an amazing and multi-faceted, changeable, and creative friendship, and here we are… twenty years later. As it turned out, and as we are able to see now, like the movie said, “Everything **is** awesome!!”

Growing up with Joe was great… his family was like my own… really more like my second family, and since he was only a short bike ride away I spent the weekends hanging out and sleeping over at Joe’s mother’s or father’s house exploring, discovering and debating the nuances of life and alternative uses for light sabers. One thing I remember so clearly was that Joe’s father, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was and is such a good sport with us. He was ready to do stuff with us at the drop of a hat and whether it was to go fishing near Joe’s Grandma’s house or go-karting, or even just to toss around a football, we knew we had a great companion in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Come to think of it…. maybe the purpose wasn’t just to play with us…. although … don’t get me wrong… Joe and I were **tons** of fun…. but maybe the plan was to get us away from Joe’s sister \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I wouldn’t go so far as to use the word ‘**torment**,”… **THAT** was reserved for private school… but Joe and I were masters of **snark** … even in our formative years and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was our control test subject… (**Wait for the laugh and you can wave and acknowledge the sister**) Hi \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ how goes it???

… **(If you want to make a joke you can say to Joe’s parents**), to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, my parents want to extend their most sincere congratulations to both of you on Joe’s marriage to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. This is a wonderful moment for your family and they wish the happy couple all the best for a wonderful, healthy future. Oh. … And they want to **REALLY** thank you for keeping me out of their hair as much as you did (**And wait for the laugh**).

Joe and I lived together for several years in college and… oh… notice how I just conveniently skipped over… \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (**Name the private grade school you hated**)??? Wow that was a rough spot… and it was in those years when we did our “**hard time**” that Joe and I and some more survivors like (**Name some of your school mates that are at the wedding**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ found deeper bonds in our mutual suffering and dread. That place with its “eccentricities” gave us the willies, but it also gave us the strength to go on to endure the trip down the rabbit hole known as (**Name the high school**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ where we found new and exotic and equally bizarre characters. Just when we thought that life couldn’t possibly get any weirder, it **DID**. But Joe and I toughed it out and found our way to FSU.

Ahhhh… FSU… land of the free…. home of the brave… I mean the **Seminoles**… Yes… as Joe and I grew older and wiser, our bond continued to grow and strengthen thanks to our mutual passion for the Seminoles. Some may talk smack but we know the truth… Go Seminoles (**or say what you would say to cheer the team**). We found our passion for team spirit at FSU and it was also the place in which Joe found his beautiful destiny…. I mean (**Name the bride**)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

(**Name the bride**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, I have to say you are the nicest, sweetest girl ever and I am so happy for the two of you, but do you **REALLY KNOW** what you’re getting yourself into? Look, I’ve lived with the guy and I **KNOW** what you’ll be facing for the rest of your life. I don’t want to scare you or butt in to your marriage **THIS** early in the game, but there are two bits of advice I’d like to share…. **ONE**…Let’s believe **that love is blind**…. and **TWO**…let’s also believe that, as all 3 million, 3 hundred thousand plus hits on Google claim…. **messiness** is a sign of **creative genius**. (**Wait for the laugh**). I mean, we saw his technique way back in the beginning with **ALL** of those Lego’s… but who knew…I guess it’s true when the psychologists say, “Give me the child… **and the mess**… when he is five years old and I will show you the man…” (**Wait for the laugh**).

**(If you want to propose a toast you can say the following. If no toast you can eliminate “I’d like to propose….**)

Ladies and gentlemen, I’d like to invite you to raise a glass as I propose a toast to the bride and groom:

To \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Joe… Here’s to a lifetime of building dreams, sharing goals, and to living life to the fullest in health, happiness, success and prosperity. **May the Force Be With You!!!** Congratulations!! We love you!! Thank you all!