**WEDDING SPEECH**

**FOR**

**ADRIENNE HARDY**

Hello everyone!! For those of you that may not know, I am Adrienne and I am very proud and humbled to be Taryne’s matron of honor. As I look around and see **so many** happy, smiling, enthusiastic faces, all here to support and celebrate Taryne and Brittany on this, one of the most important days of their lives, I have to say that it really is an honor to stand up in this capacity for my best friend. We’ve been through a lot together... and whether it’s been the “thrill of victory,” or the “agony of defeat”... or **DE** **FEET**... **get it**? ... some of those training sessions we had to endure were **KILLERS**!!! (**Wait for the laugh**) ... Taryne has always been consistent... whether in sports... life... friendship... or love... she has **ALWAYS** risen to opportunities with grace, enthusiasm, humor..... and don’t forget that **DAZZLING** smile... And, as we all know, she’s also always managed to do it **ALL,** looking **FABULOUS**... so, of course, today is no exception!!! Taryne, both you and Brittany look gorgeous... it’s obvious that the glow comes from within the both of you and it radiates out to all of us... We **GET IT!**!! (**Do you want to acknowledge and congratulate Taryne’s parents if appropriate?**). I would like to congratulate Taryne’s family, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and (**Name any brothers and sisters**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, as your family grows, and Brittany becomes your newly official daughter.... I know I speak for everyone here when I say that we all look forward to many happy, memorable moments inspired by this beautiful couple.

Taryne and I met fourteen years ago... to some, that’s half a lifetime.... but **BOY**!!! Did that time go quickly!!! We met at the University of Arizona... we played softball together... and even back then, Taryne was true to herself... she’s always been exactly who she is... and clearly that’s a **WINNING** formula... I have so many memories of our time together in college... we were roommates... and it turns out we were part of a pretty good... no **REALLY** good team... we won two national championships.... we met President Bush.... Taryne went on to win **TWO** Espy awards, and through it all, we laughed... we ached... from all of those conditioning sessions ... we did each others’ hair... **I mean**... in the words of that character from Saturday Night Live... “It’s better to **look good** than to **FEEL** good...” (**Wait for the laugh**)... that same character also said... **YOU**. **LOOK**. **MARVELOUS**!!! And we did!!! We dressed for the success we knew we’d achieve.

We concentrated on our sport.... we focused... we practiced... we strategized... we pre-gamed.... of course and she may not readily admit it... Taryne had a “**secret sauce**...”. I **know**... if there are any of her former coaches or managers out there, cover your eyes and ears til I say you can look... How do I know... I’ve smuggled it to her **A THOUSAND TIMES**... (**Pop a can of Diet Dr. Pepper and wait for the laugh**). Hey!!! Whatever works, **RIGHT**??? Yes... our girl has “chased the monkey” ... I mean Diet Dr. Pepper... yes... on top of everything else, she’s a **PEPPER TOO**!!

No matter what we’ve done... what we do... what we **will** do... now and in the future, Taryne and I are bound by the ties of an amazing sisterhood, and everything centers around a true joy and appreciation of life, love, sports, and friendship.... welllll mostly... Taryne has been my maid of honor and she’s danced at my wedding... which was really tough... it’s not like she doesn’t **LOVE** to dance or anything... we’ve gone on stealth missions together... sneaking out past our coaches at night to go on “discovery missions...” okay we went out to buy wine... **COACHES**... all of your eyes and ears should still be covered!! (**Wait for the laugh**). She visited me in Baltimore... the good news is... we decided to be adventurous and tube down the river... the **BAD** news??? Wellllll.... there was that **VERY DEAD** deer... whose antlers could have punctured our tubes... **YIKES**... and there was that **LITTLE** issue of missing the turn off to get back to shore...Sorry random person whose door we had to knock on to beg for a ride back to the starting point... **WOOPS**!!! But through it all.... we smiled... we laughed... and most importantly, our hair. Looked. **MARVELOUS**!!! (**Wait for the laugh**). I could go on... the Barbasol... making spaghetti sauce... **NOT** at the same time!!! You get the picture... **Nothing** is as great as having a true friend... I need to say that... no. **REALLY**... she knows **TOO MANY** of my secrets!!! (**Wait for the laugh**).

And now Taryne and Brittany are married... the culmination of six years together... the beginning of a lifetime as one great, married couple. I am thrilled for both and I love Brittany because Taryne is so happy with her. I thought my life was enriched because I had such a great friend in Taryne... now I know I am **DOUBLY** blessed... girls, please don’t ever forget... I am here for you both... (**do you want to add**)... as long as no dead deer are involved... (**and wait for the laugh**).

Taryne and Brittany... this is **IT**... the true beginning of a life together, filled with teamwork and mutual support... love, laughter, great health and even better fortune. Emily Dickinson wrote,

“That Love is all there is,

Is all we know of Love;

It is enough, the freight should be

Proportioned to the groove...”

Marriage takes time... patience... commitment... understanding... communication... humor... focus... all things at which you both excel... oh... one more thing... **hair**... it takes great **hair**... (**Wait for the laugh**).

I’d like to invite all of you to raise a glass as I propose a toast (**perhaps arrange to have Diet Dr. Peppers for everyone or just pass a can to Taryne and Brittany and have one yourself**)

Here’s to Taryne and Brittany... and a lifetime filled with more than you could ever wish for!! Congratulations!! We love you!!