**MAID OF HONOR SPEECH**

**FOR**

**LAURA RIZZELLO**

Hello everyone!!! Today is a really special day for our family, this is an even more special moment, and while I may not be the world’s… or at least Canada’s greatest public speaker, when it comes to honoring my sister Gabby and her **NEW HUSBAND**, Ryan, well…. I’m going to give this my best shot!! Weddings are a great reason to celebrate life, love, family, and connection, and I am happy to say a few words.

First of all, Gabby, thank you for asking me to be in your wedding party. Little did I realize, all those \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years ago, when you were born, that one day, I would be standing here, as your maid of honor, expressing so many thoughts, feelings, and observations. Back then, when you were a baby, you were beautiful… perfect… and as you got older, wellllll…. You just got better, more beautiful…. more fantastic…. It wasn’t long before we realized the truth…. (**Name your older brother**) With \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ our parents had beginner’s luck…. Then I came along… Basically, I was the “**rough draft”** in our family… I guess Mom and Dad worked out the kinks with me…. And you… **LOOK AT YOU**!!! Practice made perfect!!! You’re wonderful!!! You got the height!!! You got that face!!! While some people may think it’s unfortunate to have a **BUTTAH** face, (**you can say**)… you know… everything is great **BUT HER** face… you got the **BETTER** face!! (**Wait for the laugh**). You got the great DNA!!! … except… **RED ONIONS**??? What’s up with **THAT**?? You **DEFINITELY** got the **NICE** genes…. Yes…. I am that dead inside older sister that still really, **REALLY** loves you, loves what you’ve become, and loves being a part of your happy, healthy life. And actually, we’re not **THAT** different…. We love hanging out with each other and always have… we used to love watching cartoons together… and we probably still do…. And of course, we really do love to **CHILL** together, only it’s so much more than that…. It’s more like we love to **FREEZE** together!!! If anyone wants to check and see if Gabby and I really **ARE** related… ask us how cold we are… and bring over some blankets!! Is it true that at one point, you thought of getting a wool wedding gown??? Does anyone even **MAKE** such a thing?? (**Wait for the laugh**).

But now, and I hate to sound corny, but… “**you have your love to keep you warm**….“ Aaaahhhhh, Ryan…. You two started off as friends, way back in high school, which, by the way, is probably the **BEST** way to form a really strong relationship, and here we are…. Ten plus years later, and now you’re my brother!!! I really cannot image life… or Gabby, without you. You’re family now!!! No denying it…. When I think of you and Gabby, a couple of things come to mind. The past couple of years have been interesting??? Challenging??? Completely weird… and heartbreaking at times…. but through it all, at the lowest point, namely when our dog, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ passed, we got to see the real Ryan. You were so concerned and caring, and not only for Gabby, but for me as well. I am so thankful that you made it a point to check up on me, in the weeks following, to see how I was doing, and I want you to know that really mattered to me…. I guess I can be an old softy inside… sometimes… (**Wait for the laugh**). Also, the way you love and care for Gabby made me think of something Kevin Hart said…. “No man wants to settle down. It happens. Eventually you’re going to bump into somebody that makes you go, “Hmmmm I don’t mind seeing this person every day.” What’s amazing to me is that you had that feeling a while ago, and lucky for us, we’re here, dancing at your wedding. You know, Kevin may not always be hysterically funny, but he is wise…

Gabby and Ryan, right now, you two are still in the glow of the wedding… after all… it just took place a few minutes ago… and while I wish you all the happiness, humor, and only the best of times for your life together, we have to be realistic. There will be times when the two of you may not agree. Voices may be raised… temperatures may rise. Of course, for Gabby, that would be a **GOOD THING**… (**Wait for the laugh**)…. But I digress…. So … If I had to share a little wisdom for your marriage, I think I’d have to go back to Kevin Hart, when he shared this… “Ever argue with a female and, in the middle of the argument, you no longer feel **safe** because of her actions? She may start pacing back and forth, **REAL FAST**, breathing out of her nose…You know what **MY** girl does?? When **SHE** gets mad, she starts talking in the third person. That’s scary as **HELL**, because that’s her way of telling me that from this point on, she is **NOT** responsible for **NONE** of her actions.” (**Wait for the laugh)**… and Ryan???? All I can say is… watch for the pacing… (**Wait for the laugh**)…

(**If you want to propose a toast, you can say the following**)

Everyone, I would like to invite you to raise a glass as I propose a toast (**if no toast, you can just say the following**):

To Gabby and Ryan, I can’t imagine there are two people on this planet who are more deserving of all the best in the world. To the two of you, may you have lots of love, health, happiness, good fortune, laughter, and more than you might ever wish for… **INCLUDING** red onions… congratulations!! We love you!! Thank you!!