**WEDDING SPEECH**

**FOR**

**KIMBERLY BOBO CHAINANI**

Hello everyone. As we all are experiencing, right now, individually and as a group, weddings provide so many moments and serve many functions besides the obvious. They’re a great excuse to dress up… to come together…. to share history …. to declare hopes and dreams for the future, to explore connection and define why it means so much to us…. and most of all, to celebrate the mystical, magical, generally elusive thing called **love**.

Love… much has been said about it… there are endless definitions used to describe it…. There are so many different kinds of love…. But tonight, we celebrate the love that has brought the two of you together….. Some people wonder… how do you **KNOW**??? Others wonder, How do you **NOT** know? What’s **REAL**??? Is it the first flush one feels when that person realizes he or she isn’t sick… doesn’t really have symptoms….but knows that feeling, in the pit of one’s being, that something irretrievable has been touched? It’s touched by ordinary moments, by knowing glances, by mutual thoughts, by common concerns…. By the joy one gets in experiencing that joy for two…. Whether in a supermarket…. exploring nature….. or sharing genuine concern about Shayne’s ultimate well being… (**Wait for the laugh**) yes….. love might not have been blind for him but in reality Shayne’s challenges also remind us how important it is to laugh… to share a sense of the absurd…. to never forget to go with the flow… have patience, respect, and encouragement for one another.

Real love is knowing you care more for someone else than you do for yourself…. It’s feeling joy for someone’s victories…. it’s feeling pain as though it were your own… because it **IS**. When two become one, it’s an all inclusive deal!!! (**Wait for the laugh).**

Sonia (**Do you call her Sonia?? If not, change**) and Justin, tonight signifies the official beginning of your path together… you’re individuals, yet traveling through life in tandem…. I’ve been thinking of what kind of advice I might impart, but the truth is, I just did…. You two are terrific together… bound in love, laughter, faith, and mutual respect. That’s all the ingredients for the “secret sauce” of love…. And because I know the importance of faith in this family, I want to share a little blessing with you…..

In 1 Corinthians 13:2, we learn, “If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.” Here’s to a lifetime filled with partnership, joy, health, happiness, and most of all, **LOVE**… Bless you both!! Thank you.