**[EZ Speech Writers No. 15970]**

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Remarks by Mrs. Loraine Chalmers on the occasion of the marriage of her daughter, Stacy, to Mr. Todd [last name].

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GOOD [AFTERNOON/EVENING], everybody. AS MOST OF YOOU KNOW, I’M LORAINE CHALMERS, AND I’M the proud and doting MOTHER of [pointing to STACY] that gorge-ous SHINING STAR over there: my dear, sweet daugh­ter, STACY, WHO, I CAN ASSURE YOU, IS ABSOLUTE-LY AS BEAUTIFUL ON THE INSIDE AS SHE IS ON THE OUTSIDE.

i’m so grateful to all of you for joining us AT this joyOUS event HERE [THIS AFTEROON/EVENING], ESPECIAL-LY THOSE WHO’VE HAD TO TRAVEL A BIT TO BE HERE. and i’d like to give VERY special THANKS AND APPRECIATION to [NAMES], THE GUILTY PARTIES RESPONSIBLE FOR BRING-ING STACY AND TODD TOGETHER SOME NINE YEARS AGO BY ARRANGING A BLIND DATE BETWEEN THEM. I’M SURE YOU’VE ALL HEARD MANY HORROR STORIES ABOUT BLIND DATES THAT . . . WELL, DIDN’T TURN OUT SO HAPPILY. [GESTURING TO THE COUPLE] BUT YOU GUYS DID ONE [HECK/HELL] OF A JOB IN BRINGING THESE TWO GENTLE SPIRITS TOGETHER! IF YOU EVER DECIDE TO GO INTO THE MATCHMAKING BUSINESS PROFESSIONALY, YOU CAN COUNT ON ME FOR A GREAT TES­TIMONIAL!

now, any of you MOTHERS here who’ve WATCHED YOUR daughter GLIDE down the aisle ON her wedding DAY knows the temendous mish-mosh of emotions every MOTHER goes through at a time like this.

on the one hand, you’re faced with the stark reality that you’re losing your little girl, and there’s a certain sadness to this that only a PARENT can know. of course, she’ll never stop being, at least in your mind, “MOMMy’s little girl.” but now she’s “all growed up,” as they say, a woman in her own right, and a beautiful blushing bride.

on the other hand, you couldn’t possibly be *happier* than you are on YOUR DAUGHTER’S WEDDING DAY, BE-CAUSE you realize that your little girl’s marrying the man of her dreams, a man you’ve come to know and love and appreciate as a man of substance, who loves and cherishes your daughter truly and deep-ly, just as you’d PRAYED her husband would. and gaining such a wonderful son-in-law as TODD makes me happier than i could possibly express.

AS MOST OF YOU KNOW, I LOST MY HUSBAND, AND STACY HER FATHER, A BIT MORE THAN 10 YEARS AGO, AND I MUST TELL YOU THAT I’M NOT AT ALL SURE THAT I COULD’VE KEPT IT TOGETHER AFTER HE DIED. BUT STACY WAS A ROCK FOR ME, AND IT WAS IN NO SMALL MEASURE DUE TO HER LOVE AND SUPPORT AND KINDNESS THAT I WAS ABLE TO GET THROUGH WHAT WAS, AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, A PRETTY ROCKY COUPLE OF YEARS FOR ME.

I’M TOTALLY CONVINCED THAT THE LOVE AFFAIR BETWEEN STACY AND TODD WAS A MATCH MADE IN HEAVEN. THEY SHARE SO MUCH IN COMMON. THEY’RE BOTH QUIET AND SERIOUS PEOPLE . . . THEY LIVE SIMPLE, UNCOMPLICATED LIVES, AND THEY SEEM HAPPIEST WHEN THEY’RE ALONE TOGETHER. THEIR LOVE HAS ONLY GROWN DEEPER SINCE THAT EVENING NINE YEARS AGO WHEN THEY FIRST MET AT [SITE OF THEIR FIRST DATE] IN [LOCATION], AND STACY’S STAR HAS ONLY SHONE MORE BRIGHTLY SINCE THAT EVENT-FUL EVENING.

SO IF I MAY, I’D LIKE TO PROPOSE A TOAST TO MY DEAR, SWEET DAUGHTER AND MY WONDERFUL NEW SON-IN-LAW:

[RAISING A GLASS TOWARD THE BRIDE AND GROOM] MAY YOUR LOVE BE ADDED, AND MAY IT NEVER BE SUBTRACTED. MAY YOUR HOUSEHOLD MULTIPLY AND MAY YOUR HEARTS NEVER BE DIVIDED. MAY YOUR GRASS ALWAYS BE GREEN AND YOUR SKIES FOREVER BLUE. MAY YOU LOOK BACK ON THIS DAY ALWAYS, AND REMEMBER HOW MUCH YOU LOVED EACH OTHER RIGHT AT THIS MOMENT. AND FINALLY, MAY YOU LIVE AS LONG AS YOU WANT AND NEVER WANT FOR AS LONG AS YOU LIVE. GOD BLESS THE TWO OF YOU! I LOVE YOU DEARLY!

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