**James Bannister Best Man Speech**

**Preface:**

* I’m sure there will be some sort of applause for you when you are announced. Let that subside before you begin.
* If you have to walk to the spot where you are giving the speech, be sure to smile and look at Jason and Emily.
* While you are giving the speech, be casual have fun and remember that everyone is impressed with anyone who gets up in front of a large crowd, so there is no need to be worried.
* I would encourage you to add some inside jokes that maybe you and your family have with Emily and Jason.

**The Speech:**

 First and foremost we are glad Jason showed up and on time for his wedding. He has a knack for showing up fashionably late to events. All kidding aside Jason we are all so happy for you and Emily. What a privilege it is to stand here today and be a part of one of the greatest moments in your life. For you that might not know me, I’m Jason’s older and some would say better looking brother. I’ll leave that up to you all to decide.

 I would like to thank Jason and Emily for bringing us all together today to celebrate this wonderful day. In case you’re not all aware on how these two love birds met, let me take you down lovers lane and tell you the sweet sweet love story of Jason and Emily.

 Jason had seen Emily around D.C. a few times while he was out. He was blinded by her beauty, but didn't know how to approach her or even what to say. It wasn't until a couple months later that my little brother Jason grew up and got the courage to say “hi”. As if it isn't awkward enough to say “hi” little Jason couldn't muster up anything more, and thats where that conversation ended. However, thanks to Mark Zuckerberg, Founder of Facebook; a place for friends. Jason was able to find Emily and even ask her out to dinner. And the rest is history!

 All joking aside Jason is one of my best friends and it means so much to see him happy. That’s why I knew Emily was the woman for him. When I first saw him and Emily together I noticed a change for the better in him. He stopped being so analytical and “fashionably late” everywhere and his style picked up too. Then there’s Emily, I don't have enough good things to say about her. She is kind, considerate, intelligent, strong, independent, determined, honest, beautiful… Should I let the list continue? In all honesty her beauty is ever more apparent here today. Jason you truly have a great woman by your side, don’t ever forget that. Emily, you are an amazing woman, Jason is lucky to have you by his side. I know you two will lift each other up when you are down, you will encourage each other you are hurt and you will comfort each other when you feel alone. I think I can speak for all of us here today when I say that we are all so lucky to be a part of your lives and to see you two happy brightens our day.

 Jason and I are already family, but now I have the pleasure of welcoming Emily and all of her family into ours. I cant wait to see what great times, better stories and crazy memories come of this family. Let’s start with tonight.

 Now ladies and gentlemen, if you will raise your glasses with mine. I would like to propose a toast, a toast to the longevity of Jason and Emily’s marriage, to the love and respect that these two share with each other now and forever more. The love that you two share will set an example for all those who come in contact with you.

(TOAST)

And Jason, one last thing I would like to remind you of. Today, when Emily said “I do,” what she was really saying is, “I don't do that anymore.”