**Speaker:** Micah Starkey

**Speech Type:** Best Man

**Speech Preface:**

Micah stands up and looks out over the crowd, looks at Tonya, then at Derrick, holding on each for about 3 seconds. After looking away from Derrick and back towards the audience he starts his speech. Remember that you know these two better than anyone and the crowd is going to love what ever you say. They won’t know if you stray from the speech, so as long as you keep calm and talk about them like they are your friends and not like you’re giving a speech you will do great!

**Best Man:**

What a privilege it is to stand here today and be a part of one of the greatest moments in Derrick’s and Tonya’s life’s. Now, I am not sure how well you all know Derrick and Tonya, so let me help you get to know them both a little better. I remember when I first introduced Derrick to Tonya and right away I knew this was going to be a match made in heaven. From her beauty, which is even more apparent today, to her caring personality, I understand why Derrick fell in love with her. Tonya, I can honestly say you are the most astonishing woman. When Derrick speaks about you his eyes light up, his smile gets a little bigger and you help him in so many ways you aren't aware of.

Then there’s Derrick, I don't have enough good things to say about him… No literally, if any of you have a few good things to say, please tell me now (wait for laughter to subside). In all honesty I have known Derrick for the better part of my life and the memories he and I have shared are among the greatest memories I have had the privilege of making. I remember when Derrick and I were younger… a lot younger and we were inseparable. Derrick, do you remember that one time when we… never mind, We’ll save that story for another time. Derrick, you and I have shared tons of memories together, we have gone places and seen things that we could tell stories about for days, but today marks a new chapter in your life. One that involves an incredible woman. I can only hope that you two share as many memories as you and I did growing up. Although, I am not sure they will be as funny as the ones you and I have, I am sure they will be that much more important.

Tonya, Tonya, Tonya… I don’t even know where to begin with you. You are such an amazing woman and I can’t begin to explain how happy it makes me feel that today is finally happening! Looking back at all the time that has passed since I introduced you two back as sophomores. How the time has flown by, and each day watching you two grow closer together has been a great thing to see.

Now, for everyone that is here today, I am sure you know each other these two fairly well, but in the off chance you don’t know them as well as I do let me tell you a little more. Derrick is one of the most headstrong people I know, he stands up for what he believes in. He is full of courage and is always looking to help others. Tonya is extremely caring and knows how to bring Derrick down to real life. Between the two of them they compliment each other more than any subpar analogy I can think of. These two are going to have an amazing marriage together and that means they will be seeing me just a little more. Since I am their best friend and they’re getting married it’s all more the reason for us to all hang out and have game night, that’s Tonya’s favorite thing in case you all didn't know. All jokes aside… Ladies and gentlemen, if you will raise your glasses with mine. I would like to propose a toast, a toast to the longevity of Derrick and Tonya’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 Derrick, one last thing I would like to remind you of. Today, when Tonya said “I do,” what she was really saying is, “ I don’t do ‘that’ anymore.”