**[EZ Speech Writers Script No. 1490]**

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Remarks by Best Man Justin Pruetz on the occasion of the marriage of his best friend, Daniel Roberts.

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SO HOW’S THIS FOR an early DATE:

DANIEL [OR “DANNY,” IF THAT WHAT HE’S KNOWN BY] AND I BOTH PLAYED SOCCER IN COLLEGE, AND THIS ONE WEEKEND DURING OUR JUNIOR YEAR, I DROVE UP TO WILMINGTON TO WATCH HIM PLAY AND JUST HANG OUT — which is when, INCIDENTALLy, I FIRST MET THE SWEET AND LOVELY LADY WHO WAS TO BECOME HIS BRIDE . . . [HOLD A WINE GLASS TOWARD AMANDA] . . . AND WE ALL HUNG OUT TOGETHER. BUT AFTER THE LAST EVENING OF FESTIVITIES, IT ENDED UP THAT AMANDA — MUCH TO HER EMBARRASSMENT — FOUND HERSELF THROWING UP VIOLENTLY IN A TOILET BOWL, WITH DANNY AT HER SIDE, TENDERLY HOLDING HER HEAD. NOW, I’M NOT TOTALLY SURE I HEARD THE WORDS, “OH GOD, OH GOD” COMING FROM THAT TOILET BOWL, BUT I ***DO*** KNOW THAT AMANDA HAS A VERY SPECIAL AND VERY, very

PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD — ALTHOUGH MY GUESS IS THAT, ON THAT *PARTICULAR* OCCASION, GOD LEFT AMANDA IN DANNY’S MOST CAPABLE HANDS.

NOW WHEN I SAY “CAPABLE,” I MEAN THAT, FOR AS LONG AS I’VE KNOWN HIM, DANNY’S BEEN DAMNED [OR DARNED] GOOD AT JUST ABOUT ANYTHING HE’S TRIED TO DO.

EXCEPT FOR THIS ONE TIME, MAYBE . . .

WE WERE 14 AND I’D PERSUADED DANNY TO PLAY SOFTBALL THIS ONE SPRING, AND HE JOINED THE TEAM RELUCTANTLY. HE HAD ONE SINGLE HIT THE ENTIRE SEASON. HE WAS NOT DESTINED FOR THE MAJOR LEAGUES, THOUGH I DO RECALL HE ABSOLUTELY ***LOVED*** all THE HOT DOGS AND SKITTLES HE COULD EAT DURING THE GAME.

OH YEAH . . . AND THEN THERE WAS THIS ONE OTHER TIME . .

IT WAS BACK IN [INSERT A DATE AND/OR YEAR], AND I’D GONE OUT TO GET A HAIRCUT. I’D PARKED MY CAR, OF ALL PLACES, RIGHT UNDER BIRD’S NEST, AND OF COURSE IT WAS JUST WHEN THE LITTLE CHICKIES WERE BEGINNING TO HATCH. SO AFTER MY HAIRCUT, I GET MY KEYS OUT, GO OUT TO THE CAR, AND AS I GO TO INSERT MY KEY INTO THE CAR DOOR, HERE COMES THIS BIG OL’ MAMMA BIRD DIVE-BOMBING MY HEAD. AND I MEAN: SHE WAS REALLY ***SERIOUS***, MAN! SHE KEPT SWERLIN’ AND DIVE-BOMBIN’ AND PECKIN’ ON MY HEAD, AND SHE HONEST-T0-GOD WOULDN’T LET ME INTO MY OWN BLEEPIN’ CAR!!

SO WHADDAYA DO WHEN A BIG OL’ MAMMA BIRD WON’T LET YOU INTO YOUR OWN BLEEPIN’ CAR? YOU DON’T CALL GHOST-BUSTERS. YOU CALL DANNY ROBERTS! SO ABOUT [INSERT NUMBER] MINUTES LATER, GOOD OL’ “CAPTAIN CAPABLE” SHOWS UP, LAUGHING his YOU-KNOW-WHAT OFF

EVEN AS HE’S GETTING OUT OF HIS CAR. BUT HE WASN’T LAUGHING LONG, I’M can tell YA, ‘CAUSE JUST AS SOON AS THAT BIG OL’ MAMMA BIRD LAID EYES ON DANNY, SHE BEGAN DIVE-BOMBIN’ ***HIS*** HEAD AND PECKIN’ AT HIM LIKE A ROTTEN TREE!

CAN YOU *PICTURE* THIS? HERE’S THESE TWO GROWN MEN TRYING TO GET INTO A CAR — AND I’M GUESSING WE WEIGHTED WELL OVER 300 POUNDS TOGETHER BACK THEN — AND THIS ONE SINGLE BIRD, WHO COULDN’T POSSIBLY HAVE WEIGHED MORE THAN . . . WHAT? . . . a pound MAYBE, max? . . . WON’T LET US INTO MY [INSERT MODEL OF CAR]. I HAD TO CALL AN OLD GIRLFRIEND OF MINE TO BAIL US OUT!

WELL . . . I COULD TELL YOU A BUNCH OF STORIES LIKE THAT ABOUT DANNY, BUT THAT’S NOT WHY I’M STANDING HERE RIGHT NOW. I’M STANDING HERE RIGHT NOW BECAUSE DANIEL ROBERTS IS VERY SIMPLY THE BEST AND TRUEST friend A GUY COULD EVER HAVE, AND I’M PROUD, HONORED, AND PRIVILEGED TO BE HIS BEST MAN TONIGHT.

UPS AND DOWNS . . . THICK AND THIN . . . HAPPINESS AND JOY — WE’VE SHARED ‘EM ALL, DANNY AND I. WE’VE BEEN AS CLOSE AS TWO NON-BROTHERS COULD BE TO BEING BROTHERS. AND NOW, ON THE EVENING OF YOUR WEDDING,

MY DEAR BROTHER . . . [HOLD A WINE GLASS TOWARD DANNY] . . . I WISH YOU ALL THE JOY, ALL THE HAPPINESS, AND ALL THE FULFILLMENT THE WORLD HAS TO OFFER. AND IF YOU wouldN’T MIND, I’D LIKE TO finish BY QUOTING AN ANCIENT IRISH TOAST: “MAY YOU LIVE AS LONG AS YOU WANT, AND NEVER WANT AS LONG AS YOU LIVE!”

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