**Ramos Speech [EZ Speech No. 16588]**

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Remarks by Melissa Ramos serving as Maid of Honor at her cousin, Moni-ca’s, wedding.

hello, everybody! as most of you know, i’m melissa ramos, and i’m so very honored that my dear, sweet, and adorable cousin, MONICA, asked me to serve as maid of honor at her wedding, and to give a few remarks AT tonights’ CELEBRATION. of course, if she *hadn’t* asked me, i would’ve beaten her to within an inch of her dear, sweet, adorable life, because no one in this world knows her as well as i do OR IS BETTER QUALIFIED TO SERVE IN THIS HONORED ROLE. after all, we grew up together, spent almost every weekend together, and i can’t remember a family holiday where we weren’t together, having fun an making trouble. WE’RE FIRST COUSINS, BUT WE MIGHT AS WELL BE SISTERS.

SO I WANT TO BEGIN THIS LITTLE SPEECH BY SAYING [TO monica] monica: I LOVE YOU dearly. YOU ARE MY BEST FRIEND, MY CONFIDANT, MY SISTER, MY SOULMATE. YOU’RE NOT ONLY THE MOST FORGIVING PERSON, BUT THE KINDEST, MOST LOVING, WARMEST, AND MOST HARD-WORKING PERSON I’VE EVER KNOWN. “BFF” DOESN’T *BEGIN* TO COVER IT, BECAUSE WE’RE SO MUCH MORE THAN FRIENDS, AND I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU FOR BEING THE WONDERFUL PERSON YOU ARE.

NOW, ABOUT THIS MARRIAGE, I CAN ONLY SAY THAT IF IT WEREN’T ACTUALLY *MADE* IN HEAVEN, IT WAS CERTAINLY *DESIGNED* THERE. I DON’T THINK THERE’VE EVER BEEN TWO PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD MORE CLEARLY MEANT FOR EACH OTHER THAN MONICA AND JAMES ARE. THEY LOVE EACH OTHER SO DEEPLY AND UNCONDITIONALLY. THEY SHARE SO MANY OF THE SAME VALUES. THEY LAUGH TOGETHER FREELY, AND THEY LOVE BEING IN EACH OTHER’S COMPANY MORE THAN ALMOST ANYTHING ELSE IN THE WORLD.

AND I MUST SAY, THIS IS REALLY QUITE REMARKABLE, SINCE I DON’T THINK THEY WERE ABLE TO SPEND MORE THAN AN AGGREGATE TOTAL OF MAYBE [NO.] ACTUAL DAYS TOGETHER SINCE THEY MET BACK IN 2013. THAT’S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN HALF A COUPLE IS OFF SAILING THE WORLD AND SERVING OUR COUNTRY AS A MEMBER OF THE NAVY. BUT SOMEHOW, THEY MADE IT WORK, AND ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS SEE THESE TWO LOVEBIRDS TOGETHER TO KNOW JUST HOW WONDERFULLY THEY *DID* MAKE IT WORK.

I’D LIKE TO OFFER A TOAST TO OUR NEWLYWEDS HERE TONIGHT, BUT BEFORE I DO, I THINK IT’D BE REMISS OF ME IF — ON BEHALF OF EVERYONE SITTING IN THIS ROOM — I DIDN’T SAY THANK YOU, JAMES, FOR YOUR SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY. WE OWE A HUGE DEBT OF GRATITUDE TO EVERY MAN AND WOMAN WHO PUTS ON A UNIFORM AND DOES A JOB THAT, AT ANY MOMENT, COULD PLACE THEM IN HARM’S WAY. SO, AGAIN: THANK YOU JAMES; WE’RE SO TERRIBLY PROUD TO HAVE A NAVY MAN AS A MEMBER OF THE RAMOS FAMILY. [BE READY FOR SOME AUDIENCE APPLAUSE.]

SO NOW, AS ADVERTISED,, I’D LIKE TO CLOSE MY LITTLE SPEECH WITH A TOAST. [TO THE AUDIENCE] IF YOU’LL ALL PLEASE JOIN ME: [RAISING A GLASS] TO MONICA AND JAMES, I PRAY THAT GOD WILL BLESS THIS MARRIAGE AND KEEP IT STRONG. MAY YOUR LOVE BE EVER INCREASED, AND MAY IT NEVER BE SUBTRACTED. MAY YOUR HOUSEHOLD MULTIPLY, AND MAY YOUR HEARTS NEVER BE DIVIDED. MAY YOUR GRASS ALWAYS BE GREEN, YOUR SKIES FOREVER BLUE, AND YOUR SUSHI ALWAYS FRESH. MAY YOU LOOK BACK ON THIS DAY ALWAYS AND REMEMBER HOW VERY 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!”

THANK YOU.

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