**Shohet Speech [EZ Speech No. 16112]**

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Remarks by Mrs. Alla Shohet on the occasion of her son, Mark’s wedding to Anna Hymowitz.

GOOD [AFTERNOON/EVENING], everybody. MARK’S DAD, leonard, and i are so grateful to all of you for joining us AT this joyOUS event HERE [THIS AFTEROON/EVENING]

now, AS MOST OF YOU KNOW, I’M Alla shohet, AND I’M the proud and doting MOTHER of [pointing to mark] that incredibly handsome, dashing young man over there who, if you ask me, should’ve been a movie star. blush all you want to, mark, but i know you’d have given george clooney ONE heckuva run for his money. but instead of going to hollywood, mark decided to go into finance, and so i regret to say that there won’t be any oscars in OUR future. but mark has won a prize much more beautiful and much more precious than a little gold statue: He’s won the hand of anna hymowitz [gesture toward anna], that gorgeous, sophisticated woman sitting there next to him.

now, as every MOTHER knows who’s ever WATCHED her son stride proudly down the aisle ON his wedding DAY, there’s a temendous mish-mosh of emotions tumbling around in your heart at a time like this.

on the one hand, you’re faced with the stark reality that you’re losing your little boy, and there’s a certain sadness to this that only a PARENT can know. the fact is, he’ll never stop being, at least in your mind, “MOMMy’s shinINg star.” BUT, ON THE OTHER HAND, you couldn’t possibly be *happier* than you are right now, BECAUSE you realize that your little boy is marrying the woman of his dreams, a woman you’ve come to know and love and appreciate as a woman of substance, who loves and cherishes your son truly and deeply, just as you’d PRAYED his wife would. and gaining such a wonderful daughter-in-law as anna makes me happier than i could possibly express.

NOW, let me tell you a few things about mark that you might not know.

first of all, i must tell you that, as a child, mark hated walking. i remember one time when we were living in [name of town/city], mark and i were going somewhere, walking to a [type of] store. we hadn’t gone more than about half a block when mark stopped in his tracks and said, “that’s it! i’m not walking any more! go get the car!” this from a little boy of [number of years]. all that went out the window, of course, when marke settled in manhattan[?], a walker’s paradise and a driver’s nightmare.

at age [no.], mark decided that his quote-unquote “role model” was the actress, sandra bullock. he had a crush on her for a long time. it all kind of fits together, doesn’t it: hollywood’s sandra bullock . . . my “george clooney” . . . Now, for my money, i don’t think sandra bullock’s got a *thing* on anna hymowitz in the beauty department; but in any case, i just knew that if and when mark got married, he would choose a stunning woman like anna for his bride.

[one or two more stories — hopefully funny — about mark, anna, or them as a couple.]

i’d LIKE TO END my remarks, NOW, first, with a shout-out and apology to our dear, sweet daughter, rebecca, whose 21st birthday was today. [to rebecca] i’m sorry, DARLING, THAT we weren’t able to find a date for mark and anna’s wedding that didn’t conflict with the momentous event of your reaching drinking age. BUT at least you can now join us legally in raising a glass to the newlyweds.

SO: A TOAST TO MY DEAR, SWEET SON AND MY WONDERFUL NEW DAUGHTER-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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