**Weber Speech [EZ Speech No. 16203]**

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Remarks by Mr. Gary Weber upon the marriage of his best friend, Jesse.

[**NOTE**: if there’s a band, and if you’re able to arrange it with the drummer, have him stand by for a signal from you to drop a “rimshot” into your speech at a few designated places. AND IF YOU’RE LUCKY ENOUGH TO GET A LAUGH OR CHUCKLE AT THESE SPOTS, DON’T “STEP” ON IT.]

[bring the crowd to order by tapping a glass] good evening, ladies and gentlemen . . .

for those who don’t know me, my name’s gary weber, and jesse’s asked me to be his best man here tonight. of course i said “yes” because he’s my [best/very dear] friend, AND how DO YOU say “no” TO a FRIEND? but then i thought TO MYSELF: [with mock horror] holy [shit/crap/moley] *what the hell am i getting myself* ***into*** *with this whole best man thing*?

so i dialed up a google search, and i asked, *“Google, what the hell am I getting myself into here by agreeing to be jesse’s best man?”*

and google said, “you’ve gotta give a speech.”

“a speech?!?” I asked, hoping that i’d heard wrong.

“yes, a speech,” google said.

“what kind of speech?” i asked.

“the kind that’ll say nice things about your friend and will make those who know him glad they do, and those who don’t wish they did.”

so i asked google, “serious or funny?”

“whatever you want. tell jokes, don’t tell jokes . . . sing a song, don’t sing a song. . . it’s up to you. but above all,” google said, “keep it *short*!”

so apparently i’m supposed to sing jesse’s praises and talk about his finer qualities. unfortunately, i CANNOT sing and i WILL NOT lie. [rimshot]

now . . . at the moment,i know that many of you don’t know jesse [last name] very well; but by the time i’ve finished this speech, most of you will wish you didn’t know him at ***all***! [rimshot]

now it’s my job to tell you the straightforward, unvarnished truth about jesse. so LEMME SEE . . . [begin ‘countin’ on your fingers, one at a time]: Gen-tleman . . . hard worker . . . loyal friend . . . student of life . . . accomplished intellect . . . an inspiration to others . . . [pause]

jesse is none of these things, really [rim shot], . . . but he must have many other fine qualities, because without *something* going for him, he’d never have been able to persuade a woman as lovely, as smart, as accomplished, and as discerning as [bride’s full maiden name] to take a man who still wears jorts, drinks bud light lime, and digs football more than almost anything else in life, as her husband.

but actually, i think marriage is going to be absolutely great for jesse. it’ll teach him loyalty, kindness, compromise, self-restraint, fair play, and all those other qualities he wouldn’t need in the first place if he’d just stayed single! [rim shot]

but seriously, folks . . . I’ve known jesse [last name] for more than 15 years, and I can tell you that — if jesse and [bride’s first name]’s marriage wasn’t made in heaven, it was certainly designed up there — and with a loving hand, FOR SURE. [to the couple] jesse and [bride’s first name]: i could not *imagine* any couple more perfectly fit for one another than you two are. turning toward the audience] so if i may, let me finish my remarks with this ancient toast:

*“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. AND MAY YOU LIVE AS LONG AS YOU WANT AND NEVER WANT FOR AS LONG AS YOU LIVE.”*

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