Good Afternoon, For those of you who don’t know me, my name is Maria, and I am the proud younger sister of the stunning bride. Tina, you look absolutely gorgeous today, and are by far the most beautiful bride I have ever seen!

When I sat down to write my speech I thought about what it means to have a sister, and more importantly just how lucky I am to have a sister like Tina. A Sister is a friend for life, someone who is always there for you, someone to lift you up when you need it.  A Sister is a confidant; she know all your secrets & innermost feelings.  They tell you the truth, even when you don’t really want to hear it.  They believe in you and love you unconditionally.  They’re someone to laugh with, shop with, hang out with, cry with, the list goes on and on... My sister Tina encompasses all of that and so much more.

Tina is literally the best sister anyone could wish for, and even though we are sisters purely by chance she is my best friend by choice.

I’ve always looked up to my big sister. Growing up anything that Tina did, I wanted to do. The clothes Tina would wear, I’d have to wear. The music she’d listen to , I’d have to listen to. The sports she played, I had to play. I literally followed her around all day long. If she stopped short I most likely would’ve bumped into her! Yup, I was that little sister. I clearly annoyed the complete and total crap out of her! But I couldn’t help it. I always wanted to be like her, and to this day….I still do! My mom used to try to help me out and would say to her “Tina, just take it as a compliment”. And Eventually she did, and we made it through the copy cat years and shared a special bond that could never be broken. The one good thing about us getting older is the older we get, the closer our relationship becomes. Tina truly is my best friend and the one person I cannot go one day without speaking too. I mean it would be weird If we didn’t have some sort of conversation before 9 am in the morning! Come to think of it I don’t think that has ever happened!

For those of you who don’t know just how close Tina and I are, let me give you a few examples. After college I began working at an accounting firm in the city. A few years into my new career, Tina accepted a job at the same firm. My boss asked me what desk she should sit at, and of course I happily responded, “right next to me!” So for the next couple of years we sat next to each other every day, had our morning coffee & oatmeal together, and ate lunch together. Once the day was over I would walk home and she’d start her commute back to long island. When she got into her car she’d call me and we would gossip the whole drive home. We were inseperable, and I loved every minute of it! After a few years I resigned and moved onto another firm. Tina lasted for about 3 months after I left and then joined me at the new firm. We were Reunited and it felt so good! Shortly after that, it was time for Tina to move into the city. I helped her with her search by only looking for apartments in my building. Next thing you know, tina moved into my building a few floors above me, and I couldn’t be happier! Tina has always been by my side, and I am so thankful for the relationship that we have.

The first time I saw Tina and Blake together I knew he was the one. She was relaxed, happy, and carefree. This must have been the way that Blake made her feel, like the princess she is. He has shown her true love. And Tina and Blake, its hard to put into words how seeing you together, so happy, makes all of us here today feel. And when we witnessed you exchange your vows today we all knew they would last forever

Notes:

\*I am married and would like to offer some advice (funny)

\*Blake has a daughter named Jayce, who is a sweetheart and we absolultey adore. She is amzing with my son Dylan, and he loves her!