

A Heartfelt Best Man's Speech That I Stole From The Internet

BY: GREG RUTTER

Can I have everybody's attention please? Hi everyone. For those of you who don't know me, I'm YOUR NAME. I'm the best man today, a position that fills me with great pride. Now in this role, I've got something I'd like to read to you.

Okay here we go.

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Originally Written Greg Rutter

Can I have everybody's attention please? Hi everyone. For those of you who don't know me, I'm "your name." I'm the best man today, a position that fills me with great pride. Now in this role, I've got something I'd like to read to you.

I wanted to be reading the proper, heartfelt best man's speech that I had passionately written for this occasion. But do you have any idea how hard that is? Balancing wit, sentimentality and prosaic acrobatics just right? Let me tell you, it's hard.

After weeks of trying I realized I just couldn't do it. So instead I went on the Internet and borrowed this speech that you're hearing right now from someone that surely stood in my shoes at some point and must have known the nervous weight of obligation that a position like this carries. So I would like to start this speech by having you all toast to that handsome, talented, stone-

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stone-jawed man that let me borrow this. (It says here everybody toasts to how handsome he is).

Now these speeches always include an introduction. So let me introduce myself; I'm the deadbeat best friend of the groom. We've known each other for years. Together he and I have had many good times, a handful bad times, a few too many drunk times that we've forgotten, and one time we're not allowed to talk about.

Next we transition smoothly into warm regards to the bride and groom. They're good people and they'll make each other very happy. But in speeches like this I need to be especially warm and especially regarding to the bride. She's a smart, talented, intelligent woman and because of this probably doesn't trust me as far as she can throw me. I have to actually raise my glass to her, because without her getting a lout like my friend in line, none of this would be happening. Cheers to that.

Now I raise my glass to her groom. Just a little quick one is enough. That's probably more than he deserves.

Next the mothers and fathers. They're paying for today – and this microphone – so I'm not allowed to make any jokes that might insult them. But I did want to thank you for all that you've done raising these two and how you've turned

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them into the fine adults we see in front of us today.

Mother and Father of the Bride, thank you.

Mother and Father of the Groom, thank you.

It's here I'm going to get serious and let my guard down. I'll allude to – but not actually tell – an anecdote from a night from our past that earned me this role as best man. Why a night? Because it's always a night. I'll describe what happened without too many specifics. Trust me, it's better that way. Let's just say that it involved a misunderstanding, possibly a fistfight, probably a woman, a few too many drinks, and maybe – just maybe – the police.

That's as much as I can talk about our youthful misadventures without making the guy in the fancy suit up there seem like a bad guy, so I'll leave it at that. Oh and just to be clear this all happened long before he met his bride.

To most of you this is questionable story about the groom's character. But the writer who wrote this speech was smart enough to think of this anecdote metaphorically. What it's really about is what my friend means to me. What it's really about is the hope of what I mean to him. It's meant to show that we both might be different now, but the times I spent with my friend shaped me. It's about me realizing what his friendship means to me and how much I appreciate it, even if I haven't always said it. It's an excuse for me to be able to say that to him.

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Now I skip quickly to the end so I don't get teary-eyed.

Any of you still paying attention through all this might not remember word-for-word what I've said but hopefully you will remember the groom's one friend brave enough to get up here in front of all of you to do this. Remembering that gesture is more important than the specifics.

Here I'll raise my glass to the bride, the groom, their family, their friends, the weirdos they invited though no one is sure why, anyone else in attendance, and especially the dashing rogue of a writer with a thick, full head of hair that was kind enough to let me borrow these heartfelt words that you too can borrow from A Best Man Speech dot com.

Raise your glasses everyone. Congratulations to both of you, I wish you nothing but the best every day for the rest of your long, happy lives. Cheers!

Now so that we can get back to dancing, eating, drinking and forgetting large chunks of this lovely evening, I'll end with this: thank you.