

AMANDA _____ MOTHER OF THE BRIDE SPEECH

Word count: 1,400 - (discounting the "beats" and direction)

Time: Approx 8 minutes depending on pace and laughter moments

Good evening, everyone, my name is Amanda _____ and I am thrilled to be able to say for the first time in my life, that I am THE MOTHER OF THE BRIDE! (hands up, expect applause here) Five years ago these two soulmates went on their first date, and I would just like to say this on their wedding day, Troy, it's about time mate! (BEAT)

My daughter Jami looks absolutely stunning tonight doesn't she? (prompt audience to react) I always tell Jami you are so gorgeous, you don't need a filter, and she'll say mom, get off my Instagram! (BEAT) All of you here know that Jami is an influencer on Insta, but she's been an influencer long before that in our house, it's why we own so many stray pets. (BEAT) It's like Dr. Dolittle at our house. (BEAT)

And Troy, Captain Redbeard, you look, good too, you great big, cuddly teddy bear. (BEAT) If you saw Troy outside a pub you might think he'd be there to check your ID, (BEAT) he's built like an Australian rules footballer, but on the inside he's soft as a baby's bottom. (BEAT) Secret's out Troy. (BEAT)

I am so pleased to see that so many people have traveled from all over the world, from near and far, to convene here at this beautiful venue, in the Sunshine Coast... just to listen to my toast. (BEAT) It's humbling. (BEAT) Those of you from Queensland are probably thinking, thank God it isn't a destination wedding. But don't thank God, thank the great rate we got from the Mooloobaba. (BEAT) Those of you from overseas are probably thinking, what's a Mooloobaba? (BEAT) Nobody knows. (BEAT)

But honestly, I am grateful to see all of you here tonight, it truly means the world to me and my family.

I'd like to say hello to my adopted daughters, not Jami, she was not adopted, my doctor can attest to that. (BEAT) God can you imagine somebody telling their daughter that during their wedding speech? Congratulations! You're adopted! (BEAT) Anyway, Jami you're not adopted, the adopted daughters I'm referring to are Jami's bridesmaids, Haley, Casey, Tara, and Brittney. Every Monday we have family dinner night where I cook for the girls and usually up to 15 -20 guests, and I live for it. Girls you look beautiful, but next week you're doing the cooking! (BEAT)

It was fun to see Troy coming in on a boat with his groomsmen. You might think it was to make a grand entrance, but I think it's because he recently hit a deer with his car. There are no deers in the ocean. (BEAT) But if there were, Troy would probably hit one. (BEAT)

But let me say this, I absolutely love Troy. From the moment I met him it was love at first sight and I knew he was going to be my son-in-law... I didn't know it would take 5 years, (BEAT) but there you are. I love and admire him for so many reasons. I love how he mispronounces his words sometimes, like when instead of saying, "Quid pro quo", you said "Quick Pro Quo." (BEAT) I love how when he watches golf, I can have an entire conversation with him and he won't remember a single word of it. (BEAT) I love how he'll start the laundry and always, always forget to finish it. (BEAT) There's probably wet laundry full of Troy's clothes sitting in his house as we speak. (BEAT) I would be remiss not to say that Jami has her own laundry issues, she'll put it off and put it off for weeks until she's created a huge laundry monster living in the corner of her bedroom. (BEAT) There's probably one in HER house as we speak! (BEAT)

Troy, I love that you always have such a sweet and pleasant disposition. You're happy and loving no matter what's going on. You're laid back, relaxed, loyal, caring, and protective. And the thing I love the most about you is that your biggest focus in life is loving Jami, and making sure you spend as much time with her as possible... that is of course when you're not playing playstation. (BEAT)

I know you're going to take such great care of my daughter, and that's all a mother can ask for. You may be my son-in-law, but I consider you a son to me. We welcome you with wide open arms into our family. You could have run when you saw all the Tunney family baggage, but instead, you picked up a bag, and asked, "Where would you like me to put it!" (BEAT)

And now onto my daughter. Jami, Jami, Jami, my first-born daughter, light of my life. Your father and I are so proud of the woman you've become. You have such a big heart. Jami loves animals and adopts any stray pet she can, regardless of how stray. At sixteen she painted schools and orphanages in Malawi. She has such a love for children we all thought she was going to go into childcare, but then Instagram was invented. (BEAT)

Jami is a woman of many talents and accomplishments, she works in the fashion and beauty industry, owns a photography studio, and manages a workspace. And she's only 26! Imagine what she'll be doing in 5 years! (Pause) Babies, I hope... that's what I hope she'll be working on. (BEAT) Make it 2 years. Hell how about tonight!! (BEAT)

Jami you bring joy into the hearts of so many people. You've touched the lives of and brought such incredible positivity to so many people all over the world. All of these people here tonight are here for you. You are loving, loyal, quirky, funny, caring, considerate and you are simply radiant inside and out. And one of the most impressive things about you is that you are such a wonderful big sister to your younger brothers. They are so lucky to have you. Me, your father, Joey, and Tony, are so happy for you. I love you so much, today, tomorrow, yesterday, and always.

Destiny has brought these two beautiful souls together in holy matrimony. I was going to tell you the story of how Troy proposed in Daydream Island In Lovers Cove, but the video already has 2.2 million views on TikTok, so if you haven't seen it, where have YOU been? (BEAT)

One of the most important things in any partnership is to have shared interests and passions, and Jami and Troy are such a good match for each other! They both love to travel and have been to so many places together. They love to try new things and are both huge foodies. And Troy doesn't mind at all that Jami will order huge meals and never finish them! (BEAT) They both love cracking jokes and share a huge love and admiration for one another.

Although I will say, my only concern in the beginning of their relationship, was about if Troy would get along with Jami's children... I mean, of course, her dogs Jason and Sarah. (BEAT) But I can assure you, he loves them like they were his own. (BEAT)

If there's one thing I would say to Troy to ensure a long and loving marriage, it is this: don't talk to Jami before she's had her coffee. (BEAT) That's it. Follow this one rule and everything will be dandy. (BEAT)

But really, in my experience, a long and happy marriage is not only about supporting and nourishing each other as individuals, but supporting and nourishing the relationship as well. You can always be there for each other while at same time always value each other's independence. My husband has let me do whatever I want, whenever I want, for 40, and we're still together! (BEAT) Isn't that right, Greg?

In conclusion, as many of you here tonight know, we Tunneys love a good sense of humor. In our family, when we want to say I love you and goodnight, we give each other the bird and "pew". Troy works early in the morning and often will hear Jamie and I giving each other the bird and saying pew, and in his sleep he'll yell out pew from the other room. So in honor of that, to say I love you to the bride and groom, I'd like everyone in this room to give them the bird and say "pew" on my count. 1, 2, 3! (prompt them to give bird and say pew)

Brilliant. To your health, prosperity, and long, long, long and happy life, please raise a glass to beautiful, gorgeous, new husband and wife!

END