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Finding the Humor in your Wedding

By Kari White

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Prepare for anything to happen on your wedding day!!

No matter how much preparation you have given to your wedding or reviewed the details; some things can just happen.

One week before my wedding, my father announced he was going in for a major colon operation. Unfortunately, there was no way he could re-schedule this operation and there was also no way we could re-schedule the wedding.

We just had to go on. The operation was a success but by the time the wedding hit he was still in the hospital and was only able to come to the wedding to walk me down the aisle. The poor guy helped pay for the party, had tons of friends there and had to leave. It sucked but there was absolutely nothing we could do about it. It was just the way things played out.

You can never know what might happen. But, the main thing is to go on. My dad not being at my wedding was a huge glitch in my day but it also helped me overlook all the other things.

Say for example:

- ⌘ My fiancé getting a black eye the day before the wedding while kickboxing
- ⌘ The spa screwing up my booking for my pedicure and manicure (on the positive, they did get the bridesmaid's correct)
- ⌘ My aunt spilling a full glass of red wine all down the front of my mothers (pink) dress
- ⌘ Scrambling for a place for pictures as the weather wasn't cooperating for outdoor pictures as planned

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⌘ And the best, a bell man screaming at my husband and I to open our door on our wedding night as he thought we were having a huge party (it was next door) -although my husband always likes saying we made way too much noise that night.

In hindsight, it's all really humorous (well except my dad part)! Make sure you grab your humour on your wedding day about all the things that are out of your control! If you can't seem to find the humour, try to do a few relaxation techniques such as:

⌘ Tighten the muscles in your toes. Hold for a count of 10. Relax and enjoy the sensation of release from tension.

⌘ Breathe deeply and slowly.

⌘ Get a quick breath of fresh air! A quick walk can give you a much-needed "time-out" which will release some tension.

Try to also designate someone to take care of details that you just don't need to worry about. For example, have a friend in charge of the catering or someone for the music etc. When a problem arises, the bride usually hears and then you can just tell your friend and forget about it. You don't need to be wasting your time fighting with the catering or disc jockey.

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Kari White is an experienced event and wedding planner. As a result of numerous requests, she has now completed the Unique Theme Wedding Planning Guide which can be found at her web site along with a free weekly newsletter. Do yourself a favor and check it out today.

Wedding Toast Guide

By Melissa Burton

Standing in front of friends and relatives speaking your wedding toast can be a nerve-wrenching experience. You worry that you will stammer and stutter, or worse get so nervous that everyone will be able to hear the shakiness in your voice. Preparation is the key to relieving yourself of some of this nervousness. As far as what you say, that is a bit trickier. In a mixed crowd (namely one that includes your parents and in-laws), you know that your wedding toast needs to meet a certain standard. There are no rules to follow to create a memorable wedding toast, but as long as your wedding toast includes humor, sentiment, and is an enjoyable length and pace, it will go over well with your guests.

All Jokes Aside It's true that humor can break the ice and help you to feel more at ease about

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presenting your wedding toast, however, don't just throw out jokes. Is there a story about you and your significant other that has a humorous ending? These go over much better than what you might find in a joke book. If you decide to tell a personal story, check with your significant other to make sure it is acceptable. One thing that can definitely ruin a wedding toast is the look of embarrassment or anger on your mate's face.

Tell Them How You Feel Showing public sentiment is typically more difficult for men. So just by adding a bit of emotion to a wedding toast will go over well for the groom. You don't have to make it very deep. Just a few words that show your guests how you feel about your mate are sufficient. Mystery is a good element to couple with emotion when giving your toast. By hinting at something that is only known to you and your mate also makes the toast romantic.

Keep it Moving You know how you're talking to someone and you have the urge to finish their statements for them because they take the round about way to say something? Don't do this with your wedding toast. This is the fastest way to lose your guests and to slow down the reception. It is a good idea to practice your toast several times. Memorize it if that helps.

Keep it Short A wedding toast is a speech, but a **SHORT** one. You don't want to put people to sleep or worse, have people leaving the ceremony. Practice the toast beforehand and make sure that it is no longer than a few minutes.

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