Wedding Toast to My Best Friend Sally

 A toast to the happy couple. I am so happy for both of you and I wish the best for you both in the future. Sal, you’ve been my best friend through everything: breakups, relationships, family problems, you name it. So, I know you’ll not only remain my best friend, but you’ll now become the best wife ever. Tom, you really did find a good one, so keep her!

Being the nerd that I am, I’ve done a lot of research on this whole idea of love. There is this quote that I think y’all would like, “there is no stronger bond between strangers than friendship.”[[1]](#footnote-1) I know what you’re thinking, “well we’re a lot closer than strangers,” yes, I know, but my point is when you’re at your wits end with each other and you drive each other crazy just remember you’re still friends. It’s okay to be mad sometimes, it’s a part of marriage, but the only way to keep yourselves afloat is to remember friends have each other’s back no matter what. In other words, look out for each other, it’s the most important thing you can do as friends! You shared a love for one another even before you became a couple, friendship.

According to one of the books I read back in college, there are several different types of love. C.S. Lewis thinks those types of love are affection, friendship, romantic, and charity.[[2]](#footnote-2) Sal, I’ve seen all four of those types in you. You just have such an amazing amount of love to give, it’s one of your greatest features. From helping nurse a baby bird back to health, talking me through a breakup, the way you look at Tom, and the amazing ministry work you do for God, you fit it all so perfectly. So, with that being said, my advice to you both is not only to love each other unconditionally but love everything and everyone around you unconditionally. It’s contagious! I know you both know the saying, “happy wife, happy life,” well it goes both ways. In order for y’all to have a happy marriage, you have to be happy in other aspects of your life. Be sure to enjoy some time to yourself, with your friends, and working for your community. Of course, you should be putting each other first, but those other things should be a close second.

One thing I’ve learned myself is some types of love we feel are not really true love. Speaking from experience, I’ve caught myself being in relationships just because they are suitable for me, while they may not have been suitable for the other person. However, this is one thing I’ve noticed that I’m sure you two have noticed as well. True love means you want what’s best for your spouse and you want to be able to enjoy that with them by your side. This is actually cited straight from Thomas Aquinas. The most genuine form of love is one that desires “for the good of the beloved” and “union with the beloved.”[[3]](#footnote-3) By the way you two treat each other, I can tell just how much you two desire those things.

You guys know I always talk about mythology and all of the ancient Greek stories, so, here’s something I want to read to you guys. This is a section of Plato’s *Symposium* that talks about Zeus creating two men from one. “Love is born into every human being; it calls back the halves of our original nature together; it tries to make one out of two and heal the wound of human nature.”[[4]](#footnote-4) So, always remember, you two are made to be together and you work best as a whole. Complement each other, encourage each other, teach each other, share your thoughts and make a decision together. Two strong-willed minds are always better than one! You two will make such a great duo, I have no doubt you can take on the world together. Be sure to trust in one another and like the priest said, through thick and thin. I believe a truly unbreakable bond is built on trust, so from this moment on you must believe in one another and trust unconditionally. Be vulnerable and share all of your thoughts whether they are about hardships within yourself or obstacles you must tackle together.

I will leave you two with one more piece of advice not only from me but from the good Lord himself. Ecclesiastes 4 verses 9-12, “Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, for he has no one to help him up. Again, if two lie down together, they will keep warm; but how can one be warm alone? Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken.”[[5]](#footnote-5) You are one now; you must help one another when they need it, comfort one another, and defend one another. I once told a good friend, when they are feeling like 20%, I’ll be there to be their 80%. Be there to provide that extra support even if you don’t feel like 100% yourself; work together to reach that 100%. This marriage thing is a huge commitment, but I know you two will be strong enough for it. As long as you are there to pick each other up when you fall and give unconditional love and support, you’ll be just fine.

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1. Newlyweds Marriage Tips [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Lewis [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Stump, 27 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Plato, 27 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Bible, 787 [↑](#footnote-ref-5)