

Wedding Wishes

Written by

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INT. CHURCH BAPTISTRY - DAY

GROOM is stood by the baptismal font.

OVER O.S. AND THEN OVER BLACK

MUM
That's sorted then.

GROOM
Yea, nearly there.

Groom's MUM walks into frame.

CUT TO SCENE

MUM
It's a gorgeous space.

GROOM
Yea. Everything is shaping up now.
I'm a bit nervous.

MUM
Oh don't worry, love. We'll have a
great time.

GROOM
Yea we will. Jake already called
five times. He's so excited about
this place.

MUM
Oh he's so lovely, isn't he.
You found yourself a keeper.

GROOM
Yea.

Mum let's out a long sigh.

GROOM (CONT'D)
Dad said he won't be able to make
it to the wedding. He didn't say
why.

(PAUSE)

Mum?

MUM

Mm?

(PAUSE)

GROOM

Where did you go just then?

MUM

Oh.. nowhere.

(PAUSE)

GROOM

Shall we go?

MUM

You know I really regret spending all those years trying to make it work with him. Trying to make him happy. I thought that maybe if I did that, he'd want to spend more time with you. All my attention went into that, and I never realised it was all at your expense. But I felt like he needed me more. And you. You were such a bundle of energy from the moment you opened your eyes. So determined to do things yourself. To look after yourself. And when I saw that, I thought you were OK. And I never questioned it, till after he left and I was on my own. After the loneliness that followed. And then I thought of you and I realised how lonely it must have been for you, and how much you still needed your mother.

GROOM

Mum! It's OK.

MUM

No. It's not. I should have been there for you. And I'm so sorry I wasn't.

Groom gets teary.

MUM (CONT'D)

I wish things were different. I wish he was a better man.

(MORE)

MUM (CONT'D)

I wish he was there to teach you how to ride a bike and how to chase after boys. But most of all, I wish he cared. And it breaks my heart to know he doesn't.
Can you forgive me?

GROOM

Of course I forgive you, mum.
And I know he doesn't

MUM

Don't. Don't say it. I can't bare it.

(PAUSE)

Marriage is hard and sometimes it can be get lonely, even next to someone as wonderful as Jake. But you two will look after each other the way I should have looked after you. And I'm so grateful to Jake for that.
You two will have a great life together and I can't wait to be part of it. I'm so proud of you, my boy. And I love you so much.
I know I wasn't there then but I am here now. And I will always be here for you. So whenever it gets hard and you feel lonely, just know I'm here, and I have time to make up for.

GROOM

Thank you, mum.

MUM

Right. Shall we?

GROOM

Let's go.

THE END.