Thank you Ritika [or Amit.. or just “Thank you” if it is the DJ]

Hello everybody! [Are you enjoying this?..]

As I stand here, I remember the day when I first saw Atul many years ago.

Atul, I remember the first time when mom carried you into our house wrapped in a tiny blanket. At that moment, I was excited to have a little compadre who I could teach things to and whowould follow my lead. I soon found out that my little brother has his own ideas [about that].

Over the years, as we grew up, I found that you and I were different in a few ways.

The same mom who wouldn’t let me watch PG-13 movies even after I turned 13, you somehow convinced to let you ride a motorcycle when you were 17. Not fair, mom.

[For example,] you managed to convince mom, when you were [only]17, to you let ride a motorcycle and even buy one. This is the same mom who wouldn’t let me watch a PG 13 movie after I turned 13! Not fair, mom!

I also always thought of myself as an introvert, whereas you were a little more of a partier. ~~For example,~~ I remember when you lived in that big house in college with like 11 of your crazy friends. I think some of those guys are even here today, make some noise table number 13.

But more recently, I have found that you and I started to come closer on more things. Over the last few years I’ve seen you change in many ways. You’ve always been there to talk to, and I’ve learned so much about myself through our conversations. Thank you for not only listening to me, but also understanding me. I see that you carry on the values that dad and mom taught us, while also shaping yourself on your own through your life’s experiences.

But I don’t think we should give all the credit to you [for what you have become] [,Atul]. Since Ridhima has come into your life, I can tell that she has brought you happiness, and I know she’s made you a better person.

Ridhima – I’ve always thought of you like the little sister that I never had. You’ve given me advice, and of course helped me keep my brother in check. You show caring and love for Atul. You and your family have always made me feel so welcome and for that I’m thankful. From what I’ve learned about you, I know you’ll be a positive influence on our family. Actually, I’m as excited to have you join our family today as I was the day that Atul joined us 25 years ago.

So on that note, I’d like you all to raise your glass to Atul and Ridhima and to the love between them.