

**Remarks [English Version] at the Rehearsal Dinner for
Elena Nicole Strauss [AKA the Bride] and Olivier Peraud [AKA the Groom]**

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Orlando, Florida

By

Bob Strauss

[AKA Elena's Dad]

Good evening.

It is traditional at the Rehearsal Dinner for the father of the bride to make some remarks. Since talking is how I make a living, let's get started.

First and foremost, Celeste and I want to express our love and support for this wonderful union. We see in Olivier and Elena great care and love for each other, and predict that their relationship will grow and prosper. We express our hope that sometime (preferably sooner than later) along their life's journey, they will provide grandchildren for us to love and spoil. I'm sure that Olivier's mom and dad are looking forward to this as well.

This being the third time they *officially* expressed their desire to spend their lives together is a testimony to how much they care for each other. We conclude that one thing Elena and Olivier believe in is the common wedding vow "forsaking all others 'til death do us part."

Second, I would like to remind everybody here tonight about certain aspects of our youngest daughter which I would like to share with all of you, and, especially with Olivier. I'm pretty sure he's already figured these things out, but in the interests of full disclosure, from the perspective of her loving father, who is about to walk her down the aisle to give her away to her loving fiancé/husband, it will be useful for him to understand a few things about Elena.

As a Strauss woman, Elena shares the trait of being persistent, stubborn and willing to express and stand by her opinions. Basically the message here is one does not cross her with impunity. However, she is also an extremely reasonable and logical person, so she is willing to change her mind if you can convince her.

There is a genetic explanation for Elena's stubbornness and persistence, her mom is very stubborn and holds strong opinions (she's Taurus born on May 1, and I'm Taurus born on May

11.) Taureans are reputed to be the stubborn sign of the Zodiace. But we believe that Aries, (Elena was born in March) have Taureans beat by a mile!

The next characteristic about Elena I want to remind you about is that she is very creative. She was born into a family that basically tends to gravitate to the scientific and logical types of professions. Elena, however, excels and prefers the creative types of activities and occupations. While we realize that the left brain/right brain theory has been outmoded and debunked, Elena's way of looking at the world is different than her parents and brother and sister. We love this about her! It is so refreshing. She comes by this artistic leaning honestly too. Her grandmother, (my mother) was an artist and musician and her Aunt Judy, (my sister) was a celebrated Jazz Pianist.

Obviously, there is so much more about Elena, and while I know all of her most wonderful characteristics, and would like to tout them as her very proud father, I notice that you are shuffling out there, and some of you are looking at your cell phones and watches, and may be wondering when I will quit talking.

So let me end where I started, by saying how happy Celeste and I are for your union. We love how you obviously love each other and we wish you all the best in your life together, and do so with much love and affection.

Olivier, here's something from the 1960's that is a very good piece of advice. Please take good care of our baby!

[by Bobby Vee, his number one hit in 1961:

http://r.search.yahoo.com/_ylt=A0LEVip3YDdW64oAPIEnnIIQ;_ylu=X3oDMTEyZmVrazloBGNvbG8DYmYxBHBvcwMxBHZ0aWQDQjExMTVfMQRzZWMDc3I-/RV=2/RE=1446498551/RO=10/RU=http%3a%2f%2fwww.youtube.com%2fwatch%3fv%3dawNqLO6auQA/RK=0/RS=l1r_i2xLVboawAgl2IcxbchGBwg-]

