

LLA talk for Logan & John Wedding; 6/19/16

Congratulations!

And welcome, John, to the family!

Warning: our family may seem a little strange at times – admittedly, most people usually don't vacation in Houston TX in the summer nor tour the Arctic in February – but I guess you've gotten used to us by now.

John – you're marrying a great guy!

A quiet and caring person with a love of video games and art and music.

And Logan: I think you've found a most compatible partner, with many common interests:

- interest in travel
- the same type of music
- even the same jobs and the love of the same video games.

This does seem like an unusual wedding, though: most couples give more advanced notice!

Most couples plan for months in advance, sometimes even a year ahead.

There are wedding planners, florists, the fitting for suits, rehearsals, rehearsal dinners!

– like your cousin Dan's – no wait, they served a jar of Alaskan mosquitos there!

– and then they twirled down the aisle while wearing capes!

Okay, maybe a wedding more like your cousin Anya: they planned ahead – and chose to be married in Argentina, just because it was conveniently midway between Alaska and Australia, alphabetically!

Or you could have had a wedding like your brother Lewis, who got married on a somewhat distant beach – at least it was far enough away that we got stuck in traffic trying to get there and so didn't arrive in time to see his bride "walk down the aisle". At least, by having the wedding here, we don't have to worry about traffic!

How about a wedding like the one your mother and I had, where we were up half the night the evening beforehand, preparing meatballs for the reception – and where neither my parents nor hers chose to attend – but hey!, it was Wisconsin in December!

[Richard and Minerva – Baby – what's your family's style: was your wedding "chaotic" as well, or was it more "traditional"?]

Anyway, Logan and John, this wedding of yours now is starting to look pretty good!

—

You're getting married on Father's Day.

Two years ago, your brother Lewis, who is two years your elder, announced on Father's Day that we were going to become grand-parents.

Leif, I'm curious: you're two years younger than Logan – what are you planning to spring on us on Father's Day, 2018?!

Logan, do you remember how you had, um, 'challenges' in high school?

I told you that life is often straightforward up to about high school or so: a clear path from kindergarten to first grade to second grade and so on, with clear expectations as to what to do next.

But then, upon reaching high school, everything becomes all "higgledy-piggledy" (yes, that is in the dictionary): the path forward a confusing tangle – and there's no clear or obvious path: you've got your choices of classes and subjects, choices of friends, choices in the type of person you want to become: it is complete confusion.

And I tried to reassure you that, once you get past all that, eventually the path would once again become clearer and the next steps more apparent.

I didn't say it at the time – no need to add to the pressure! – but the point was that, once you meet your partner, the next steps do seem to fall in line.

Now you have,

and now that you're married, the path ahead will get easier – but it still won't be "easy".

The Courts have ruled that your marriage is to be recognized as legal in all 50 States now, but there are still some areas that are more *accepting* than others.

You are lucky to live here in the Bay Area (for many reasons!), including large and supportive communities, both gay and straight.

But remember to be careful when traveling, especially abroad, where you may face serious challenges.

>> You will have to be strong and be supportive for one-another.

(And you do also have supportive families, as evidenced by the fact that all the parents, your sister [Jenette], and (at least a majority of) your brothers [Richie; Lewis & Leif] all came to join in. However, you will have to keep in touch regularly so that we don't forget you, especially as we approach our elder years!)

And **it is great** for **each** of you to have someone to share life with!

Someone to love, to talk to about work or the weather or dinner plans, to share the chores with, to be together.

So now, in addition to your brothers (and also a sister, John), and their families, to help guide and support you thru any future rough times, you now will also always **have each other** there to help you.

But note: that this also comes with the responsibility of **you** each supporting each other.

So – Enjoy your lives together!

Good luck, and have fun!