

Good evening, everyone, and welcome //
to the bit of the day with food in it. //
My name is Dev. Tom's housemate for three years, //
the only one who has eaten more of Priya's lasagne than he has. //
They asked me to keep tonight on time. //
Anyone who has waited for Tom at a train station //
will understand why they did not ask him. //
Bar free till ten · toilets by the band · lawn at 8:45 for the photo.

Please stand and make some noise //
for the people who got these two here. //

Meera and Raj, the parents of the bride. //
Sue, Tom's mum. //

Anika and Jess, the bridesmaids. //
Sam and Lucas, the groomsmen. //

And for the first time as a married couple, //
who met at a pub quiz she won by one point: //
Priya and Tom!

Three people have asked to say a few words, //
five minutes each. None of them will listen to me. //

First, a man who has waited twenty-nine years //
and has been practising on the dog: Priya's dad, Raj. //

Then: Sam, best man, shared a bedroom with Tom for twelve years. //
Then: Anika, maid of honour, 'nothing prepared', four pages.

Thank you, Anika. Glasses up, one more time, //
to Priya and Tom. //

And now the part you came for: dinner is served. //
Tables called from the front. //
Yes, the top table eats first. They did pay for it.

8:45 — This is the waving man moment. //
Drinks in hand, out to the lawn, one photo, //
forty years on the mantelpiece. //

9:00 — A spot round the floor, please. //
One ask from the couple: phones away for this one song. //
Priya and Tom, the floor is yours. //

After — The cake. Two days of Priya's mum. Tom says he helped.

9:30 — The band is on, the floor is open, //
the bar is free for twenty-five more minutes. Go. //

9:55 — Last round on the house, the bar goes cash at ten. //

11:20 — One last dance, taxis at half past from the front. //

Priya and Tom: for the first time in his life, //

Tom is leaving on time. Thank you all.