Best man speech mistakes and how to avoid them

The mistakes that sink speeches are usually structural, not a missing joke: too long, too many thin stories, no line about the partner, burying your face in a phone, and drinking courage until the mic arrives. Fix the shape first, then polish lines.

Checklist

- [ ] Timed standing read within the couple's limit
- [ ] Partner named with one specific line
- [ ] One main story, safety-tested
- [ ] Toast wording exact, both names correct
- [ ] Cards or anchors ready; phone on silent as backup only
- [ ] Drink limit agreed with yourself before the reception

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