

THIS WEDDING IS KILLING ME

Cast of Characters

Groom – Michael – Michael works in his father’s restaurant. He’s been in a little trouble in his day but nothing too serious. He is marrying Brenda who up until 4 months ago was the girlfriend of his brother Tony.

Bride – Brenda – Brenda comes from a well to do family. She had a previous relationship with Tony that lost its fire about 6 months ago. They mutually decided to end it 4 months ago. She always knew Michael and drifted into a relationship soon after her break-up. They decided to get married knowing that some of their friends and family would think it weird to be marrying the brother of an old boyfriend. Brenda is a school teacher with lots of friends and a loving family.

Best Man – Tony – Tony has decided to be a ladies man for a while. He wasn’t ready to settle down. He knew that Brenda was so he decided to end the relationship. He was a bit surprised to see Brenda going out with and subsequently marrying his brother. Nobody really knows what Tony does for a living but he always has money.

Father of Groom – Joe – Joe runs his Italian restaurant that he has owned for years. He’s never been in trouble but there are lots of rumors that his business is more than spaghetti.

Mother of Groom – Mary – Mary is the head cook at the restaurant. She loves her boys and thinks they can do no wrong.

Maid of Honor – Sharon – Sharon has been Brenda’s best friend since Junior High. She is currently going out with Tony and enjoys the fun. Fun is one thing but she certainly has no long range plans because she fears Tony has some significant character flaws. She is also a little nervous about Michael and has counseled Brenda to be sure that this marriage is a good idea.

Father of Bride – John – John loves his daughter but is unhappy about this marriage. The only thing that could be worse is if she was marrying that low-life brother. He even turned down the offer to have the reception at Joe’s restaurant. John is a lawyer and fears that the two families have little in common.

Mother of Bride - Pam – Pam is a great lady that always sees the best in everyone. She likes Michael and Tony even though they are colorful. She tries to make her husband more accepting of the marriage. That’s not working too well.

Bride’s Maid – Sue – Cousin of Brenda from out of town. She has been in trouble in her day. She too is fearful of the groom’s family history. She has run with guys like Tony before and always found them to be exciting but dangerous.

Usher – Tom – Tom has always been best friends with Michael which is a little strange because he is a bit of a nerd. He's not too successful with the ladies and has always had a crush on Brenda.

Photographer – Frank – Long time friend of John. He has known Brenda for her whole life. His wedding present is to take the pictures and video of the wedding.

Narrator - Bride preparing for wedding with her family and wedding party all girls and Frank the photographer

Pam – Are you sure you know what you're doing? You still have time to change your mind.

Brenda – Mom!

Pam– She just wants you to be sure.

Brenda – You know I love him.

Sharon – I know that. I even know that he loves you the best he can.

Brenda – What does that mean?

Lois – We're just concerned about character flaws that live on past early romance.

Brenda – Character flaws??!!

Pam – Now honey. Marriage is a decision that should last a life time. Remember if you want to know what a man is going to like later on in life just look at his father.

Brenda – Michael's dad is alright. You can't believe all the stories.

Sue – One or two stories maybe. There's lots of stories about this family.

Brenda – It's just jealous gossip.

Lois – Well, your father is a prudent man and he wouldn't even take Joe's offer to have the reception at his restaurant.

Sharon – Actually that one was a bit of a slap in the face. Hey look your dad's got tons of money and he can have your party anywhere he wants. He'd do anything to make you happy but he will always need to protect you. Look Brenda we all love you we just want to you to be sure.

Brenda – Sharon, you of all people. You're going out with Tony. He's the wild one.

Sharon – Hey I’m just renting the convertible and enjoying the ride. You’re buying the van.

Brenda – Can’t you people be happy for me.

Sue – Yes we can. It’s going to be a beautiful wedding and a great reception. We all love you.

Narrator - Scene 2 – The wedding service is over and the guys start making it to the bar. First to arrive is Michael and his dad Joe.

Joe – Well you’re married now son.

Michael – Yeah I guess I am.

Joe – Its time for some fatherly advice.

Mike – OK

Joe – Be a good husband and in time a good father, .but remember you’ve got to take care of yourself too.

Mike – What do you mean?

Joe – Money for instance. Start building a nest egg that only you know about. That way if you want to go out, golf, take a trip or whatever you can hit the nest egg and not have to beg for permission. Remember women think “community property” long before they think divorce. It’s easier just to have your own.

Mike – I can see that.

Enter Tony and Tom

Tony – If Frank takes my picture one more time I think my face is gonna’ crack.

Tom – It’s all part of the deal. God didn’t Brenda look beautiful? You are so lucky Michael.

Mike – Thanks Tom. She is beautiful isn’t she.

Tony – Her cousin looks hot. I hear she can go fast. I should welcome her to the family.

Tom – Do you need to sleep with the whole family? If you don’t start thinkin’ with the other head I’m gonna have to warn Pam and Gramma.

Joe – Tony, as you get older you'll see that you can still do what you've got to do as long as you don't draw attention to yourself with a lot of flash.

Tony – I'm still young and flash is fun. And tonight cousin Sue could be the one.

Mike – What about Sharon?

Tony – Don't worry about my dance card brother. You're the one that's married, not me.

Joe – Here comes my opposite number John. Lets clean up the talk for the good counselor.

John – I need a drink. Anyone else tired of having their picture taken?

Mike – Yeah we were just talking about that.

Tony – Hey I guess we are all family now.

John – Yeah I guess...I just want everyone to do right by Brenda.

All – Yeah, sure, you got it...

Mike – with my life.

John – It's tough giving away a daughter. The ladies are calling. ALL EXIT

Narrator - The parents of the bride and groom would like to welcome you all to this reception. With great pleasure I'd like to introduce the wedding party. First we have our groomsman Tom escorting our bride's maid Sue. Next we have Tony, brother of groom and Best man escorting Sharon the Maid of Honor. Finally, it is my honor to introduce to you for the first time as husband and wife Michael and Brenda.

Tony – Folks could you all grab a glass. I'd like to propose a toast First I'd like to tell you John that you certainly have a beautiful family. But today it's all about Michael and Brenda. You have taken the big step. You are both ready for that. Some of us need to grow up a little more. I love both of you. You will create a great life together. We all wish you well and I look forward to many more family gatherings. Here, here,

Narrator – The bride and groom are now going to cut the cake.

SET UP At the cake we have Bride Groom and Frank. Brides parents head towards kitchen door. Sharon and Sue go Center stage. All others towards bar.

While the bride and groom are cutting the cake Sidebar conversation between Sharon and Sue;

Sue – Is he kidding or is he really that bad?

Sharon – Well he is a bad boy...but he is real good at it.

Sidebar conversation John and Pam

Pam – That Tony is such a slut. He wants to screw our whole family.

John – I don't have to worry about him or them. I'm worried about the other apple from the same tree that's supposed to take care of my baby for the rest of her life.

Sharon: Lets have all the single ladies up her for the bouquet toss.

Brenda throws and Sue Catches

Michael – Alright all you single guys. Come on its' time for the garder toss.

While Michael is removing the garder from Brenda Tony talks to the other guys

Tony – Look guys I want to catch this garder. Once the free bar is over I'll take care of you for the rest of the night. Help me out keep your hands in your pockets.

Michael tosses garder and Tony catches it. Tony now prepares to place garder on Sue. He does so aggressively.

Narrator - It's time for the first dance for bride and groom.

SET UP: Bride and Groom Center stage. Joe and Mary Stage left. Pam and Frank stage right. All others blend back..

Michael – I can't believe we're married. I love yoi.

Brenda – It's all so beautiful. You wouldn't believe how much money I'm carrying. This bag is full of envelopes that are full of cash.

Michael – That will help on our honeymoon.

Joe – Well we've got our first one married off.

Mary – I think the next one will be harder.

Joe – He'll grow up eventually

Mary – They're such nice boys

Pam – Thanks Frank for doing the photo work.

Frank – I've been taking Brenda's picture since the day you brought her home from the hospital.

Pam – I sure hope this Michael turns out to be a good husband..We'll see.

Narrator – Now it's time for the Daddy daughter dance.

SET UP: John and Brenda center stage. Tom and Tony Stage left. Sue and Sharon Stage right.

John – You are so beautiful.

Brenda – Thanks Dad. Are you happy for me?

John – I'd do anything to make and keep you happy

Tom – I don't believe how lucky you are. First Brenda, then Sharon and now your shooting for Sue.

Tony – Luck has nothing to do with it. Besides you again are thinking small. I could reel in Sue but the challenge tonight is can I convince Sue AND Sharon to play my game.

Tom – You are so strange. I can't believe you gave up Brenda, the best of them all, to live for cheap thrills.

Tony – Who said it's cheap?

Sharon – I wonder when I'll want to get married.

Sue – That depends on when you meet the right guy.

Sharon – Now it's all about fun.

Tony walks over to the girls.

Tony – Hello ladies. Everyone says the bride is always beautiful. Tonight I'm standing between the two hottest ladies in the house.

Sharon – Tony, you will never change.

ALL EXIT

BREAK Narrator asks everyone to write down their guess on who they think will get murdered. Scene resumes.

Brenda – Somebody stole our gifts.

Mike – Our gifts?

Brenda – Yeah the money purse. It's gone.

Mike – Has anyone seen the bridal purse that Brenda was carrying?

Brenda – Oh, that's our honeymoon money.

John – Don't worry. It'll turn up. Nobody, even in this crowd steals from a bride and groom. Besides, I'll cover your honeymoon expenses if need be.

EVERYONE - come on, who would do that, search everybody, this is bullshit, no way, Lets check out the bar.

Everyone exits to bar.

Tom Walk center stage and announces

Tom – Hey guys, here it is. Bad news though it's empty.

All return

Brenda – Hey where's Michael?

Sue – Oh my God, call an ambulance!!

Tom – I'm afraid we don't need an ambulance...we need a cop. Michael is dead.

Brenda - Michael!!

Mary – My boy, my boy

Enter Lt. Hodges, local homicide chief.

All right, all right folks I know this is a tragic end to what was planned to be a glorious day but we need to get to the bottom of this and find out who could be evil enough to commit this terrible deed,

Ladies are crying. With individual lines of my baby, my Michael, who would do this? , how terrible etc.

The guys are doing the same thing with more testosterone. With lines like, I'll kill that son of a bitch, what low life scum bag would do this? On his wedding day, you gotta be kidding me. Etc.

John – I knew there would eventually be trouble but I never thought this. My poor baby

..

Pam – God I feel so bad for Brenda but imagine what Joe and Mary are going through, they lost their son.

John – Something this bad shouldn't even happen to them.

Pam – Now John you behave yourself. Hopefully the police will figure this out.

Narrator – Now it's time to fill out the balance of your who dunnit card.

INTERMISSION

Lt. Hodges – Well I've interviewed all the guests and let me tell you it's like a little Peyton Place here. I always look for motive. . On the surface it would appear that this time the motive is money. The wedding purse was loaded with cash so I initially thought that someone stole the purse and was caught by the groom who was killed in the midst of the robbery. The first suspect that came to mind was Tony.

Tony – What are you talking about? That's my brother. You think I'd kill my brother for money? You're nuts.

Lt Hodges – Hold on. I first thought it was you , quite frankly because I know about some of your activities. We can't prove anything yet but were looking. So yeah, I thought if you were slimey enough to do some of the crap I know you're doing I had to evaluate if you could do this.

Thankfully, you were talking to Pam when the deed was done. You're still a low life but you have an alibi.

Tony – Low life!! You stupid old fart. I didn't do this and I don't think you are smart enough to figure out who did.

Lt. Hodges – Well that's where you are wrong. I have interviewed everyone looking for motive and opportunity. With Tony's alibi came one for Pam as well. So they're off the list.

Tony – Aren't you brilliant?

Lt. Hodges – You settle down hot shot just because you didn't do it doesn't mean I can't cause you some pain tonight.

Joe – You show some respect. My son is dead and now you are trying to roust my other son. You be careful.

Lt. Hodges – Is that a threat sir. You be careful. You were my next likely suspect.

Joe – Me??!!

Lt. Hodges – It takes a certain personality to kill someone up close like this. I know your history too. I think you are capable of killing but not your son, especially not in front of his mother. I then started to think about the young ladies.

Sharon & Sue – You've got to be kidding me. I couldn't do that, I couldn't hurt Brenda, I couldn't kill anybody.

Lt. Hodges – relax. Initially you were both low grade suspects but again you had alibis because when it happened You two were talking to Mary. Even though she likes both of you she certainly wouldn't cover for you in the murder of her son. By process of elimination that brought me to Tom.

Tom – I couldn't kill Michael

Lt. Hodges – I initially thought you had too much character to steal let alone kill.

Tom – Well thanks, I guess.

Lt. Hodges – Then through my other interviews I found out that you have been in Love with Brenda from the start.

Tom – Well maybe so, (Brenda looks up pleasantly surprised with the statement) You think I would kill Michael to get Brenda? That's sick.

Lt Hodges – Then there was a change in the evidence.

All – What, what do you mean etc.

Lt Hodges – The medical examiner found gift checks in Michael's pocket.

Brenda – What do you mean?

Lt Hodges – At this point I didn't know who the killer was but the thief was clearly Michael.

Tony – Bullshit

Mary – No way.

Pam – Oh my God

Tom – Why would he do that? Steal from himself, no way.

Lt. Hodges – Through my interviews I found out that John, the father of the bride would make up whatever losses happened this night and that many of the guests would give again. Michael knew this and figured he'd start his own little nest egg that Brenda wouldn't know about.

John – That's sick. He would steal from his own wife, family and friends. I told you he and his entire family are a band of losers. Maybe we are better off.

Pam – Yes this is one horrible deed but don't blame the whole family.

Frank – I tell you who you need to blame it's him (pointing at Joe)

Joe – Me, what are you nuts. I wouldn't kill my son.

Frank – No but you gave him the idea of the nest egg.

Joe – Yeah but not this way. I meant just skimming some money on the side.

Frank – I overheard your little father son session earlier. What a load of low character advice. You encouraged your kid to hide money for himself so he could party on as he saw fit without having to consult his wife. Well your low life kid took your low life advice and took it to a new place. You're both shits.

Lt. Hodges – I figured it out when I confiscated Frank's camera. After looking at all the normal wedding pictures I came upon the telling photos. That's when I figured out that it was Frank.

All – oh my god, I can't believe it oh my. Etc.

Lt Hodges – you thought you had it all figured out until you made your fatal mistake.

Frank – I know, I know, two mistakes actually. I saw him put the cash in his pants pockets. I didn't notice that the greedy shit was trying to figure out how to cash the checks later on. He put them in his breast pocket to see if he could make use of them later. My other big mistake was not erasing the pictures. I wanted to make sure I had the evidence of him being a thief in case I needed it later on.

John – Frank why did you do this? Why not just bring me the pictures and we'd get the marriage annulled?

Frank – Brenda was so in love she'd have forgiven that asshole again. He's no dam good, (pointing at the other family) none of them are any good. Certainly not good enough for Brenda. People were supposed to think it was a money crime with all suspicion going to that family. I figured I was not only getting rid of this one slug but also keeping the rest of our young women away from the whole family. I screwed up and missed the checks.

Lt. Hodges – You screwed up alright. You are under arrest. Take him away.