



QUOTH THE MAVEN

BY BEVERLY KING POLLOCK

Wretched Remnant

Today you see before you a wretched remnant of what used to be a simple suburban housewife. I survived my son's Bar Mitzvah only to be confronted with my daughter's wedding next month. I won't say I was busy yesterday. But I took my daughter to the dentist, the florist, the wedding cake maker, the photographer -- and that was only from 4 to 4:30 -- a.m.

I used to laugh and scoff when I heard a brand new mechtunesteh-to-be moaning about the detailed trivia necessary to fuse a series of headaches into a lovely wedding.

But now even I am starting to get flutters. And to alleviate my suffering I decided to consult with a friend whose daughter had just got married. I came right to the point. I said, "Nu?"

And she said, "Don't ask. It's like being the president of an organization and you're overseeing the big affair of the year. Except you have no co-chairmen and no subcommittees and you have to do all the groundwork and make all the contacts yourself."

Personally I found my big trouble started with the invitations. For when you're having a small home wedding with only close family, you can't expect your uninvited neighbors to help address the envelopes.

I thought about hiring someone to make the writing artistic, but I recalled the 32 such beautifully penned envelopes I have received

"THE GANG THAT COULDN'T SHOOT STRAIGHT"

Movie Time

BY MIKE TELL

This week John Echols of the Fox Boulevard Theatre invited me to, "The Gang That Couldn't Shoot Straight."

The movie is a very funny take-off on Italian Mafia life.

The mother of the leader of a small gang instructs her son on how to succeed in life. She teaches him many ways of killing the big Mafia head, Baccola, an Al Capone type.

The mother, of course, is the "Ma Barker" image in the movie. Her son is not bright and is constantly attending funerals of members of his own gang who fail in their attempt to kill the big

man. The son decides to take a lion with him while collecting protection money. The entire movie is a slapstick comedy in addition to hilarious, witty humor.

The Mafia head is played by Lionel Stander. The mother by Jo Van Fleet and the son by Jerry Orbach. If you're in the mood for many laughs and a fun evening, don't miss, "The Gang That Couldn't Shoot Straight."

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in my lifetime -- and I still don't have the heart to throw them away!

The answers to the invitations are the best part. Some are very formal and elegant; but I adore the ones like: "Nothing short of total disaster would keep us away." Or: "It's a good thing you invited us because we were coming anyway!"

It's easy to tell the age of the answerer by the tone of the letter. Those under 70 say positively, "I am coming! I am thrilled that I will be able to share your excitement and joy."

And those over 70 say, "We expect to be at the wedding at the appointed time if all is well and health permits."

Even simple things, such as ordering the wedding cake presented us with problems. (Anything involving a decision means a problem.) Like not only how big the cake should be, but what kind of ornament should be on the top tier.

My daughter thought that bride and groom figures are sorta usual so she chose wedding bells. But now we're wondering -- are wedding bells Jewish?

To all my tsurus my patient mechtunesteh listens. Via my daily progress telephone reports which consist mostly of sighs or an occasional "Oi".

But sometimes I listen to her sigh too. Like the time when she saw the honeymoon plane tickets addressed to her son in the name of Mr. and Mrs.

It's interesting to note that grooms as well as brides get married.

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