

How did you 2 meet?

We were introduced by our dear friends. His best and my best friend (who are married to each other) thought we would be good for one another. . . . and they were right! Jake immediately felt “it” and chased after me for 5 months while I tried to comprehend that this amazing guy was REAL and that I didn’t need to keep looking for the flaw or the phony because it wasn’t there! He was as amazing as he appeared to be and, after 5 months, I finally embraced the opportunity God had given me and was lucky enough that Jake hadn’t tired of waiting!

What was it that attracted you to each other? (personality, looks, eyes, quirks...you get the idea)

My attraction to Jake - Jake has a magnetic personality. It’s not that he is the loudest most outgoing guy (unless he is in a room of those he knows) but he has this “aura” that makes him seem trustworthy and safe. I always felt so calm and comfortable with him. He is also hilarious, handsome, and treats me like a queen :). Oh and he sings and plays guitar and piano beautifully.

Jake’s attraction to me- Lindsey was, of course, the most beautiful person I had ever met. She was very motivated, and she ignored me! Since I was pretty much a nerd at the time, it was very attractive of her to ignore me. I was amazed by her love for her family, which is a characteristic her and I both share. I was also very attracted to her excitement for life and her focus and love for her savior, Jesus Christ. I am very blessed to have found someone so special.

How did he propose?

We were on a trip to Sedona, Arizona. We had done some sight-seeing and were deciding what to do for dinner. . . well Jake never can make a decision about dinner so I ALWAYS did. However, on this night, Jake said he would figure something out. . . . what?!?! Well when we pulled up to the very nice Italian restaurant (my favorite kind food) he walked right up and gave his name. . . .we had reservations! We were escorted to our secluded table where we made nervous chit chat for 20 minutes when Jake said he had to use the restroom. . . he got up then got down on one knee! He gave a beautiful speech that I made note to remember every word and can, sometimes, remember pieces but I was so caught in the moment that all I truly remember were his shaking hands, watery eyes, amazing passion in his words and the fact that he first tried to put the ring on the wrong hand!

How long were you together before the proposal?

We had spent every day together for about a year. Minus the 5 months of “just friends” put us at 7 months of relationship status.

How did you pick your location?

The summer that we were “just friends” was a crazy summer spent as a group of

us and some of our close friends (including the couple that introduced us). We all spent everyday together and made everyday an adventure. . . going to concerts, taking road trips, and seeing what there was to see. One of the places we went to often was Prospect Park right next to Kimberly Crest. KC always seemed like such an interesting place and is a beautiful venue for a wedding. For Jake and I it also had some sentiment reminding us of our beginnings.

What were your colors and why did you choose them?

I chose a soft pale yellow and chocolate brown for the colors of our wedding. Our backdrop was the beautiful greenery of Kimberly Crest and I love natural colors that complement one another. I had my girls in pale yellow dresses and the boys in deep brown suits so that Jake and I stood apart in our traditional black and white. The theme I was trying to achieve was simple elegance with a romantic flair.

What did you like about your flowers?

I chose tiger lilies and calla lilies as my main flower. I did not want a tight and “perfect” looking flower but one that was more “wild” and big. I love big cascading flowers. Also, many of my flowers were fake! Most people couldn’t tell and it made flower arrangements and bouquets less stressful since they could be made in advance. I also had an amazing florist. . . Chama (a dear family friend).

What did you love most about your location?

Besides the amazing coordinator (Katherine) I loved the garden feel and the beautiful view and the fact that the whole location embodied the theme I was going for. I got SO MANY compliments on how beautiful the venue was. Our reception was held in downtown Redlands that also embodied the romanticism I was looking for with chandelier lighting and beautiful big mirrors to reflect the candlelight.

Did you have help planning your wedding? If so, who?

My Mom, Sister and Mom’s amazing crew of friends helped so much. Her long friend who I refer to as Aunt Tootie was a big help. . . especially at keeping my Mom calm during the year of planning:).

Was anything chosen for your wedding that had meaningful significance?

On my right ring finger I wore my Grandmother’s wedding ring. It was my something used and my way of having my Grandparents with me that day. Also, many of the song choices (my wedding march and our first dance) were not well-known songs but songs that had meaning to us. Revelation by The Wedding (my wedding march) and Summersong by Wavorly (our first dance) were songs that we had first heard over the eventful summer we met but they also spoke of what we felt about that day.

What was the most exciting part about planning your special day?

It's the day every girl dreams about. I loved getting my dress, I loved finding the location, and I loved picking our photographers :). It all was SO exciting. My most exciting aspect was just the fact that I found someone to give me a reason to plan such an event!!

What did you look forward to the most?

I am aware of how cheesy some of my answers are. . . but I guess love makes you cheesy, haha. I really did look forward to calling Jake my husband and getting to have a true forever best friend!

What was your most memorable experience of your wedding?

It was a nice day but a little cloudy. I was a little worried that it might rain but as my Dad and I were getting ready to make our big entrance out of the beautiful house, the wind calmed and the sun shone down. And as I walked down the aisle I remember Jake's face and how I wasn't nervous at all once I saw his face and I just wanted to cry with joy.

Looking back, what might you have changed?

There were times when I let the stress get to me. . .all the planning and deadlines. . . and I would forget what it was all for. I wish I didn't let the stress dull some of the most exciting times of all the planning.

Do you have any comments about your vendors?

I was very lucky with most of my vendors. Katherine was amazing, you guys were awesome, and we had a great DJ. I didn't have to think about anything going on because I had so many wonderful people making my day go as smooth as possible.

If you took a honeymoon, where did you go?

We traveled up the California central coast. It was relaxing and beautiful and planned but not rigidly planned. We were free to do what we wanted and take our time but enjoy the Coast. We saw Hearst castle, enjoyed Santa Barbara, and had a unique stay and the famous Madonna Inn in San Luis Obispo.