

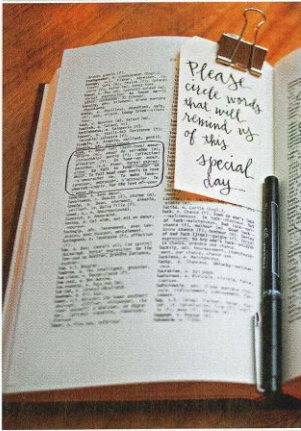
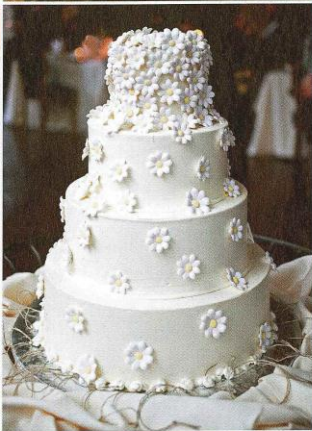
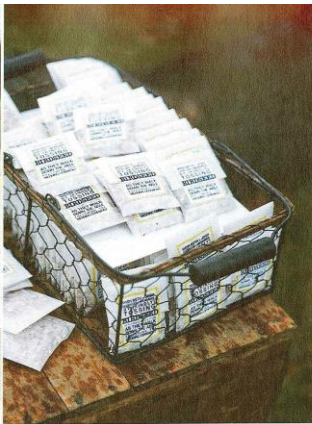
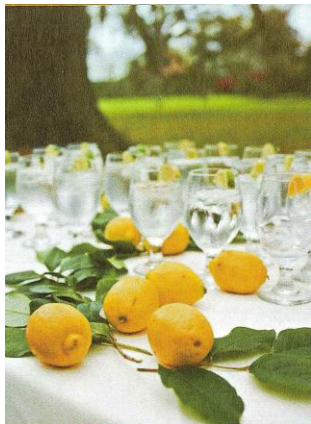
BELOW: The classic architecture of the Houmas House and the live oaks draped in Spanish moss set the stage for a classic Southern ceremony.



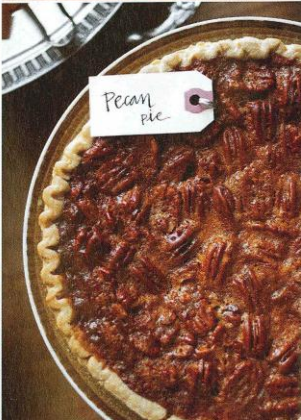
Beth & Josh

MARCH 20, 2010 | DARROW, LOUISIANA

Ihesitated when he asked for my number,” recalls Beth Lundell, who met Josh Garver at a party in New York City. “But when he said ‘If you give me your number, I will definitely call you,’ I was drawn to how intentional he was.” After a year of dating, Beth, who is from Auburn, Alabama, moved to San Francisco, and Josh, a Boston native, followed two years later. A year after that, a trip to Greece was the site of his proposal. For their spring wedding, they decided to celebrate their two backgrounds and create a mini-vacation for family and friends in New Orleans. There, they found the perfect mix of a vibrant city atmosphere and traditional Southern influences. Friday night’s rehearsal dinner at Latrobe’s on Royale in the French Quarter—the historical site of the first Louisiana State Bank—was a nod to Josh’s career in finance, while Beth, an architect, was drawn to the Southern vernacular design of the Houmas House, where they said their vows.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Lemons were the inspiration for Beth's sunny color palette. Birdseed packets were offered to guests to throw as the couple walked down the aisle after the ceremony. Vintage record sleeves held the programs. Beth and Josh asked friends and family to circle words in a Cajun dictionary that would remind them of their Louisiana wedding day. A dessert bar featured Southern favorites, including pecan pie. Mason jars tied with raffia held wildflowers at the reception. Beth's "something old" was a Victorian key brooch pinned to her bouquet. A mass of daisies drifted down the sides of the wedding cake.



BELOW: Guests sent the couple off to their Moroccan honeymoon with sparklers at the end of the night.



ABOVE: Choose simple blooms for bouquets that won't break the bank. White asters, daisies, and local foliage have a charming, casual feel. Let bridesmaids pick their own shoes for comfort and savings.



Real Advice from the Bride

Q ONE DETAIL THAT MADE THE WEDDING 'YOURS':

For the ceremony programs, Beth bought 45 RPM records of blues, jazz, and Southern artists and slid the programs inside. During the cocktail hour, guests played DJ and spun their records.

Q FAVORITE SOUTHERN TOUCH:

Beth was eager to show her guests the beautiful landscape of the South: "Everyone got off the buses at the Houmas House and strolled through the gardens and lawns while the shadows of the rows of Live Oaks were sprinkled over the house's façade. It was just divine." Also, many guests had their first taste of a Southern icon—pecan pie.

Q BEST PIECE OF ADVICE YOU GOT:

"Many people said they couldn't remember the details of their wedding day, and a friend suggested that I walk around the reception area

before the guests arrived and just take it all in," says Beth. "It helped me create a visual memory that I wouldn't have otherwise." The couple also opted to see each other before the ceremony and spend some quiet time on a walk through the streets of New Orleans.

Q WORDS OF WISDOM TO PASS ON:

No wedding is without its mishaps. An hour before the rehearsal dinner, Beth found herself stranded on the side of the interstate with a flat tire. And just before the outdoor ceremony was to begin, a sudden rain shower sent guests scrambling for cover. "You just have to roll with it," says Beth. "You can't control everything."

Q ONE THING YOU PLANNED FOR THAT DIDN'T HAPPEN:

Ever the thoughtful bride, Beth created a garden lounge complete with vintage chandeliers and candlelight under the

stately oak trees for guests who wanted a quiet escape from the dance floor, which was located in an indoor pavilion on the grounds of the Houmas House. "It was one of my favorite details, but because it rained, few people got to see it," she says.

Sources

Ceremony and reception venue: Houmas House
Event coordinator: Get Polished Events
Photographer: A Bryan Photo
Flowers: Dunn & Sonnier Flowers
Cake: The Royal Cakery
Caterer: Latil's Landing Restaurant
Rentals: Urban Earth Studios
Wedding gown: Monique Lhuillier through Bridal Galleria
Groom's tuxedo: Banana Republic

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