

# THE WEDDING OF Ashley Courtney AND Marc Bernstein



**The Date:** March 12, 2011

**The Proud Parents:** John and Beverly Courtney; Michael and Heddy Bernstein

**The Ceremony:** The Waldorf Astoria

**The Reception:** Hilton Bonnet Creek Resort

**The Wedding Planner:** Brittany Sobering of Tickled Pink Brides

**Photography:** Damon Tucci Photography

**Invitations:** Maureen H. Hall Stationery and Invitations

**The Dress:** Alvina Valenta

**Videography:** Simply Cinematic

**Florals:** Greenery Productions

**Hair and Makeup:** Makeover Station

**Ceremony Music:** Beautiful Music

**Band:** Rhythm Nation

**The Honeymoon:** Maui, Hawaii

## THEIR STORY:

A college bar was not a place Ashley or Marc thought they would meet their future spouse, but eight years ago the duo met at a University of Central Florida bar, discovering they had some mutual friends. Marc asked Ashley on a date the very next day and the couple has been together ever since.

## THE PROPOSAL:

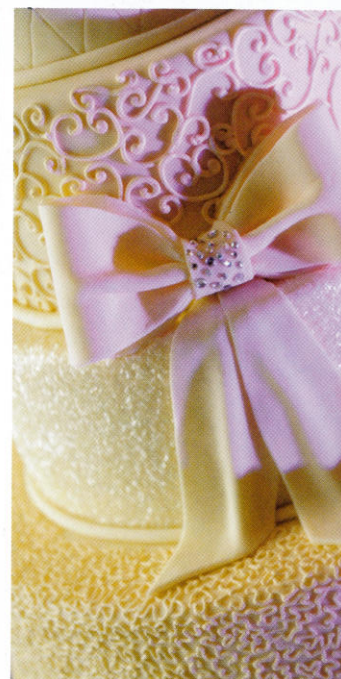
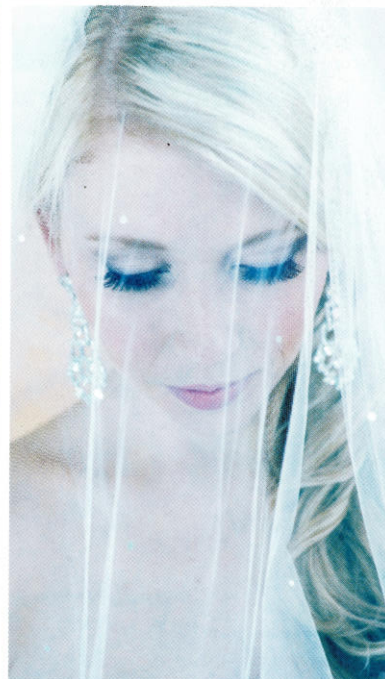
What Marc had planned as a perfect proposal almost didn't happen on that Saturday in March. Marc had booked a massage for Ashley that afternoon, claiming he received it as a gift certificate through work. While Ashley was at her massage, Marc went to work on buying flowers, drinks and other supplies for the proposal. On his way home he got pulled over. When the officer came to the window, Marc frantically said, "Officer, if you're going to give me a ticket please just give it to me quickly. I'm about to propose to my girlfriend in 20 minutes and need to get back right away." Seeing the nervousness in Marc's eyes, the officer wished him luck and let him go with no ticket.

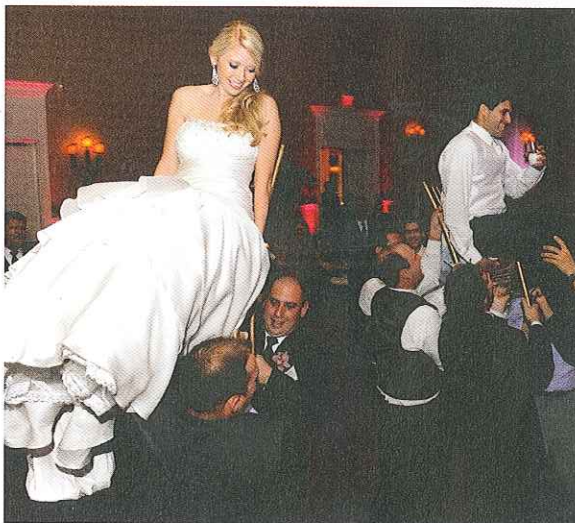
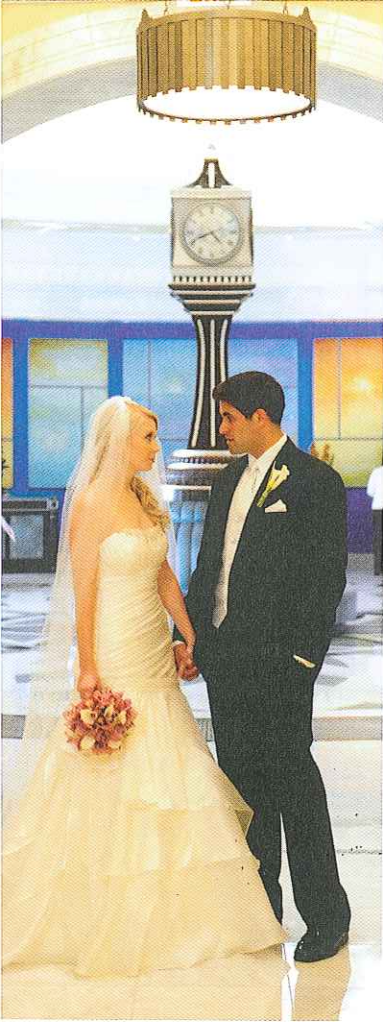
As Ashley returned to the couple's home after her massage, she found Marc standing in the kitchen with a bouquet of flowers behind his back. She smiled, took the flowers and Marc immediately got down on one knee and proposed.

## THE CEREMONY AND RECEPTION:

The couple wed at the Waldorf Astoria/Hilton Bonnet Creek. "We wanted it to feel like a mini-getaway for our local guests, and it was a great place to stay for our many out of town guests," Ashley explains. Her uncle, a Lutheran pastor, and Rabbi Lefkowitz, performed the ceremony together at the Waldorf Astoria's Signature Island. One of the couple's biggest challenges was the combination of their faiths, Christianity and Judaism. "They did a wonderful job in creating a ceremony for us that combined both traditions," Ashley says.

The reception was held in the Hilton Bonnet Creek's Floridian Room. The dance floor was rocking all night long, while guests admired the work of wedding planner, Brittany Sobering.





#### PERSONAL THOUGHTS: ASHLEY

*"I was surprisingly calm and relaxed but very excited," Ashley admits. "I had such a great day with my bridesmaids getting our hair and makeup done, and just hanging out together before the wedding." Although it broke tradition, the couple decided to do a 'first look,' which allowed them to take some photos and helped calm their nerves. "The rest of the night was perfect," Ashley adds. "The dinner and reception were a blast."*

#### WHERE THEY ARE NOW:

*The couple lives in Baldwin Park with their dog, Tebow. Ashley works at Blackwood Industries while Marc owns an insurance brokerage company with his father.*

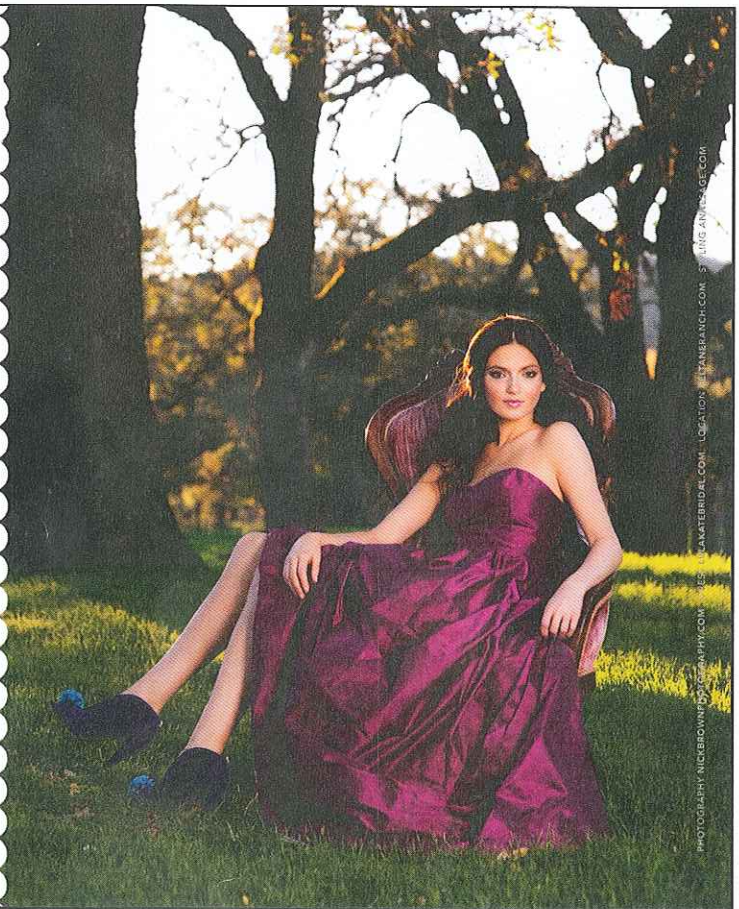
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