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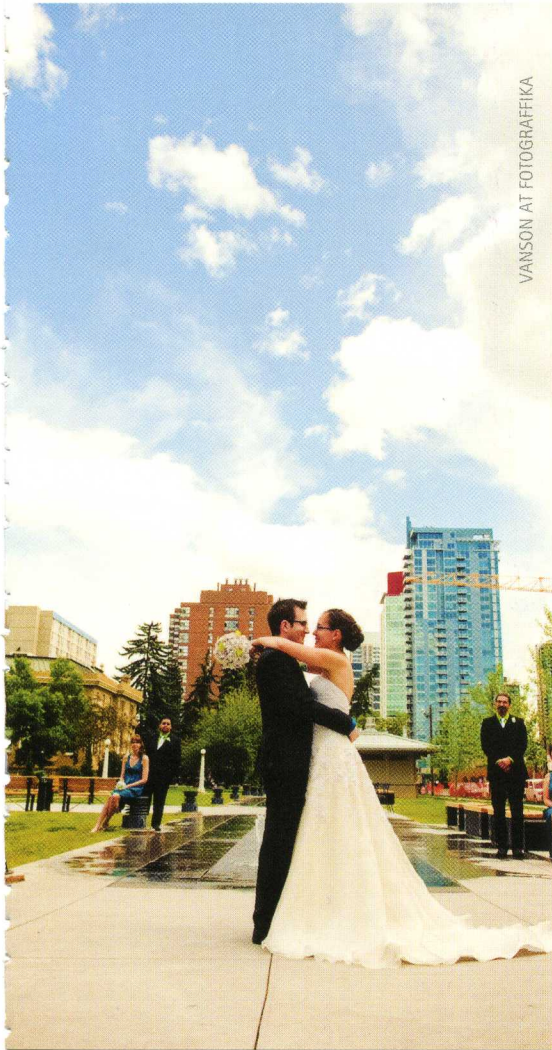


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THE GIFT OF GUESTS

A PARADISE DESTINATION WEDDING

BY MICHELLE GREYSEN
PHOTOGRAPHY BY
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FOR CALGARY HIGH SCHOOL SWEETHEARTS LINDSAY AND KEVIN KERR, THE LAST 14 YEARS HAVE BEEN FULL OF LOVE BUT ESPECIALLY THIS PAST YEAR OF THEIR ENGAGEMENT AND WEDDING.

For Calgary high school sweethearts Lindsay and Kevin Kerr, the last 14 years have been full of love but especially this past year of their engagement and wedding.

Kevin shared his joy in the magic lead-up to asking Lindsay to be his wife. "There was a series of commercials for a US jewellery company that used to run where the husband put a necklace on his wife while she was sleeping, and much to her surprise, she found the sparkling diamond when she awoke. I started doing this with Lindsay a few years back like slipping a new pair of shoes on her while she slept and once I flashed a picture of her sleeping with the new camera I just bought her. When it came time to propose, following this theme seemed like the most appropriate thing to do." The day he secretly picked up the ring, he was too excited to wait to have it sized and instead hid it under the bed, waiting for her to fall asleep that night so he could slip it on her finger.

"She woke up midway through and felt her finger. Still half asleep in the dark confusion, she asked me 'what is this...is this your ring?'"

Lindsay chimed in, "I couldn't believe it. What a surprise. I was so happy that we were able to have the moment together. And of course I said yes!"

They opted for a destination wedding to keep the event intimate and enjoyable with close family and friends. Choosing Maui as their favourite place to be, along with the help of White Orchid Wedding, they set out to plan their special Hawaiian dream day. Selecting a summer wedding for ease of travelling guests, the couple visited six months ahead of the day, picking the ceremony location at a beachfront estate in Makena and the reception at the historic Haiku Sugar Mill.

Island floral, white roses and orchids were the feature, with purple and aqua accents playing off everything from their save the dates and invitations to candles and ribbons. Even a special fan embossed with their names and the date were thoughtfully placed on each of the chairs at the ceremony for guests to use in the tropical paradise humidity. The simple but elegant theme focused on the destination including bamboo chairs, bride and groom traditional leis, and a stunning display of 200 orchid petals lining the aisle.

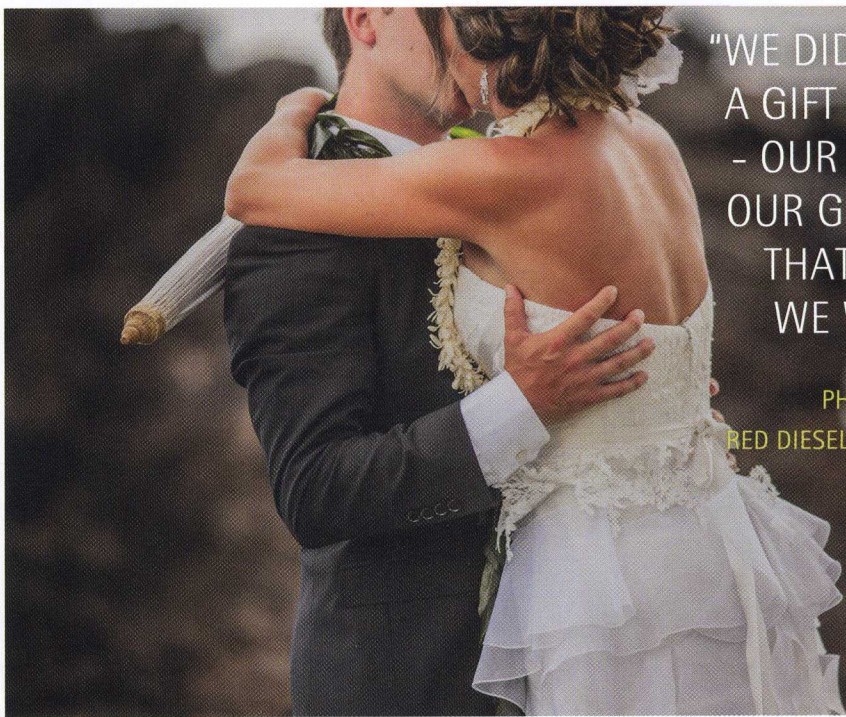
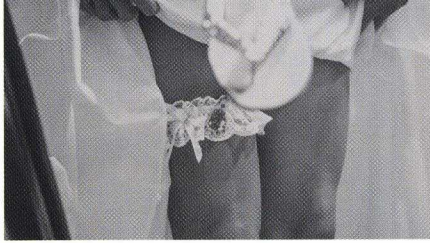
Planning a destination wedding was surprisingly simpler than they imagined with high praise to White Orchid Wedding for guiding them through it all, keeping them on track and in theme. Hawaiian traditional vows, exchanging of leis, island drums and musicians, hula dancing, amazing food - five

bridesmaids and five groomsmen helped to host the perfect occasion for just over 100 guests.

The only damper on the day was the blessing of rain and then even more blessed rain. For Kevin, waking up to the downpour was not in the plan. "Our wedding planner called, telling me to stay calm and asking if we should get a back-up tent for the ceremony." After a lot of morning scrambling everything was covered, and by the time the bride arrived the sun came out beautifully for the mid-day ceremony. The rain staged a comeback for the reception but according to the bride it actually seemed to make everything a little more special.

"It was very humid and everything was glistening. Kids were tearing around soaking wet and everyone else simply enjoyed the food and good company."

Most special for them was that both Lindsay and Kevin were blessed with sharing their Hawaiian wedding day with grandparents, all in their 80s, who were able to make the journey to Maui. This loving couple wouldn't have changed a thing. "We didn't have a gift registry - our gift was our guests, as that was all we wanted."



"WE DIDN'T HAVE A GIFT REGISTRY - OUR GIFT WAS OUR GUESTS, AS THAT WAS ALL WE WANTED."

PHOTOGRAPHY BY RED DIESEL PHOTOGRAPHY



LINDSAY & KEVIN

