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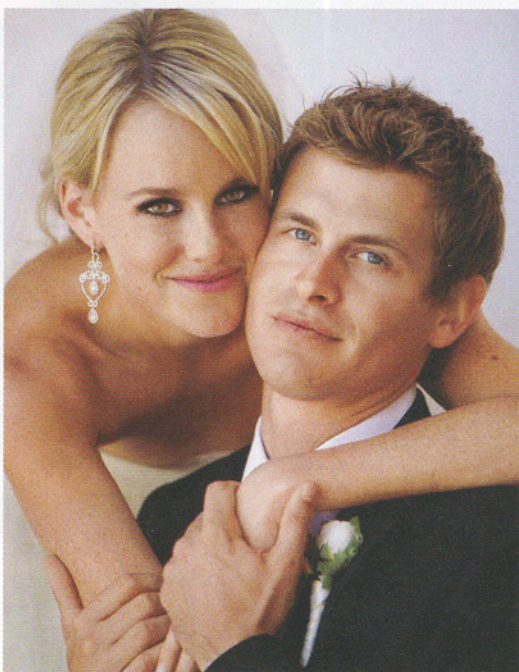
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LIFE STAR
SARAH SHAHI



julie berman & michael grady

A Pacific Palisades wedding is just what the doctor ordered for this *General Hospital* star

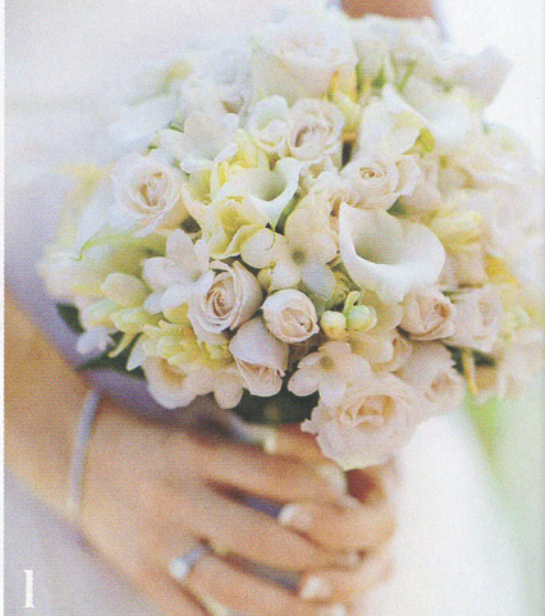
courtship Actress Julie Berman celebrated New Year's 2004 in Lake Tahoe. But the trip took a soap-opera turn when a blizzard forced her to stay an extra night. While snowed in, she met commercial real estate broker Mike Grady and the two exchanged numbers. Grady took Berman out in their hometown of L.A., and they've been together ever since.

proposal In 2007, Grady, 28, popped the question in London on a bench in Buckingham Palace's gardens. "He was saying all these sweet things, but I was distracted by nearby pigeons," says Berman, 25. "I finally noticed that he was down on one knee!" A brilliant-cut diamond ring from Grady G. Taylor Jewelry in L.A. sealed the deal.

ceremony The couple said their vows in front of 200 guests on August 15, 2008, at the Sacred Heart Chapel at Grady's alma mater, Loyola Marymount University in L.A. (where Beverley Mitchell, page 248, also studied). Berman wore an off-white Monique Lhuillier gown that she describes as "dreamy but also modern. I felt like a cloud floating down the aisle."

reception Planner Kelly Meyer ("I would have died without her," quips Berman) made a private ocean-side residence feel lush and organic with abundant fruit and foliage. Late night, guests had pictures taken in a photo booth and grooved to hip-hop tracks. "Knowing that everyone had such a good time made the evening perfect," Berman says. —SHARON BOONE

PHOTOGRAPHED BY NICOLE CALDWELL AND KIP ROOF





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steal this idea

Treat your guests to A.M. yumminess: Everyone took home baskets filled with organic peach jam and fresh scones. Their custom labels added a personal touch.



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1 BOUQUET R. Jack Balthazar, a floral shop in Pasadena, Calif., arranged Berman's creamy bouquet out of mini calla lilies, gardenias, tuberoses, garden roses and stephanotis. **2 COCKTAIL HOUR** On the venue's back patio, which overlooks the Pacific Ocean, guests sipped a signature cocktail of bourbon-laced Midsummer's Night Lemonade. **3 TRANSPORTATION** The newlyweds rode to the reception in a champagne-colored 1963 Rolls-Royce, a treat arranged by Meyer. **4 DECOR** Guests dined at three tables, decorated with fruit and arrangements of hydrangea, tulips, peonies, lisianthus, dahlias and orchids. To illuminate the evening sky, wrought-iron chandeliers were suspended above the tables. **5 DANCE FLOOR DJ** Richard Blade spun tunes while the couple's engagement photos flashed on a projection screen. **6 STATIONERY** The place cards were inspired by a sheet of peach-accented damask wrapping paper that Berman loved. **7 CAKE** Berman's brother and sister-in-law, owners of Vanilla Bake Shop in Santa Monica, made the six-tier passion-fruit-crème-and-strawberries-and-cream cake.



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