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Indoors, lush greenery and roses formed a magical archway. Gossamer fabric was suspended from the ceiling and cloaked the surrounding walls, while lavender lighting cast a glamorous glow. Round tables were draped in custom tablecloths from India embroidered with borders of gold. Tabletops were festooned with soaring flower arrangements that varied in height and composition, including orchids mixed with purple and pink roses ranging in shade from pale to poppy. Crystal beads draped languorously from the towering centerpieces; lower arrangements featured taut clusters of white and lilac roses upon which fleur-de-lis table numbers were poised. Glimmering glassware was trimmed in gold leaf, and fleur-de-lis-shaped menus were each topped with a single fuchsia flower. "The centerpieces added the perfect amount of color, fragrance, and texture to the reception," recalls the bride. The groom concurs. "I have never seen so many flowers in my life," Patrick says. "They were everywhere and attached to everything! They even built trees out of flowers."



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While the groom was involved in all aspects of the planning process, he was most passionate about the music and the food. He carefully curated a menu of unique dishes that weren't typical wedding fare. "We wanted to honor our guests who came from all over the globe with a memorable dining experience," he reveals. Patrick also arranged for a bar that exclusively featured Scotch of various ages and brands, an original concept that proved a huge hit with guests.

A soaring multi-tiered wedding cake, surrounded by fresh hydrangeas, was adorned with delicate sugar flowers and even boasted a subtle fleur-de-lis. "Not only was it visually decadent, it was flavorfully delicious as well," says the bride of the strawberry-and-crème confection. Melina also surprised Patrick with a groom's cake in the shape of Dodger Stadium to celebrate his beloved hometown team. "I'm a diehard fan, so having that as

my distinct, unique cake was perfect," enthuses the groom.

While there isn't one thing the couple would change about their magical day, they were amazed at how quickly it all passed. "I look at the pictures and I want so badly to step back in time and relive each moment," says Patrick. And the bride who had dreamt of her wedding for so long! Her favorite memory has nothing to do with the details.

"Right after the ceremony, Patrick and I were whisked away to a more secluded part of the property — just close enough to the ocean to hear the waves crashing — where we had a few minutes to just be with each other and take in the moment," Melina recalls. "We didn't realize how profound that time would be for us after everything was said and done, but having those moments alone together to share our feelings was priceless."

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