

# Southern Bride®



SUMMER/FALL 2016

**OLYMPIC  
GOLD MEDALIST**

*Shawn  
Johnson*

**GETS MARRIED**

**MARTHA STEWART  
helps you plan**

**JOURNEY TO  
DESTINATIONS IN THE**  
*florida keys*



A full-page wedding photograph of a couple in a field. The bride, with long blonde hair, is wearing a white lace dress and looking up at the groom. The groom, in a dark suit with a white boutonniere, is looking down at the bride. The background is a soft-focus green field under a clear sky.

*we could  
have danced  
all night*

SHAWN JOHNSON AND ANDREW EAST  
FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE   APRIL 16, 2016





**THE FIRST ENCOUNTER** Andrew and I met when I was in London working for the Today Show at the Olympics, I went to a cycling race to cheer on a friend of mine competing and met this teammate of his named Guy East. Guy and I started talking and all he wanted to talk about was this younger brother of his that I just had to meet. He was convinced it was a match made in heaven. So, once I flew back to the states he introduced us, and it worked!

**IN PREPARATION** Getting ready for the wedding was one of my favorite parts. Andrew and all of his groomsmen stayed in a hotel and got ready together while all of my bridesmaids and I stayed together at my house. It was like one giant slumber party. We blew up air mattresses and crowded into beds together just like we did growing up. We gossiped about life and my soon to be #wifeline and just had the best girl time. The day of the wedding all of the girls fixed breakfast for me, we went for a long walk, and then started getting ready for the big day. My girls are my 'everything' so it was perfect.

After we got through all of our bridal party pictures, separately, we each got in our own cars and made our way out to this private estate a mile or so down the road from our venue to have our own private "first look". When I arrived I was shaking so bad! I was so nervous to see my handsome soon to be husband and I was nervous for him to see me! Our photographers got us set up and when they said go I walked over to him and asked him to turn around and the look on his face made everything perfect. It was pure shock and pure love and everything just felt right.

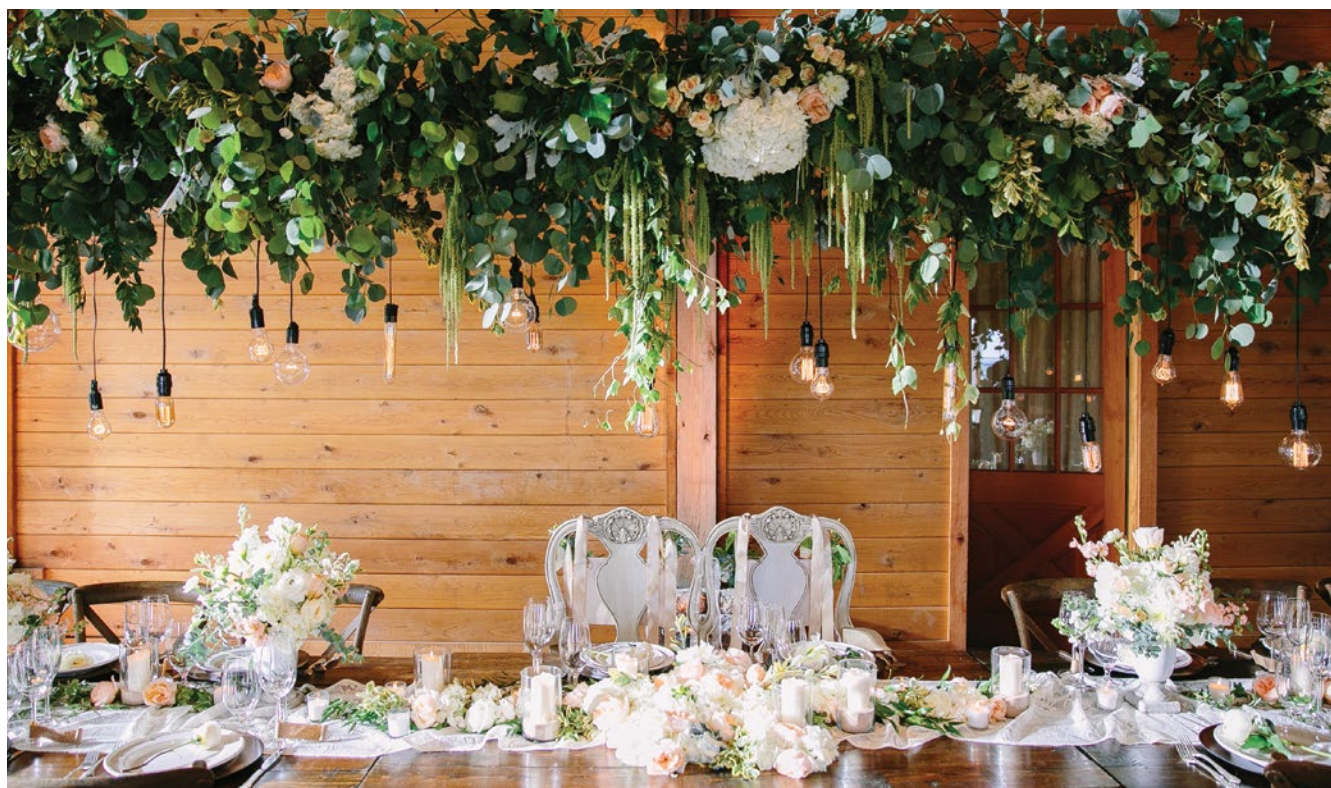




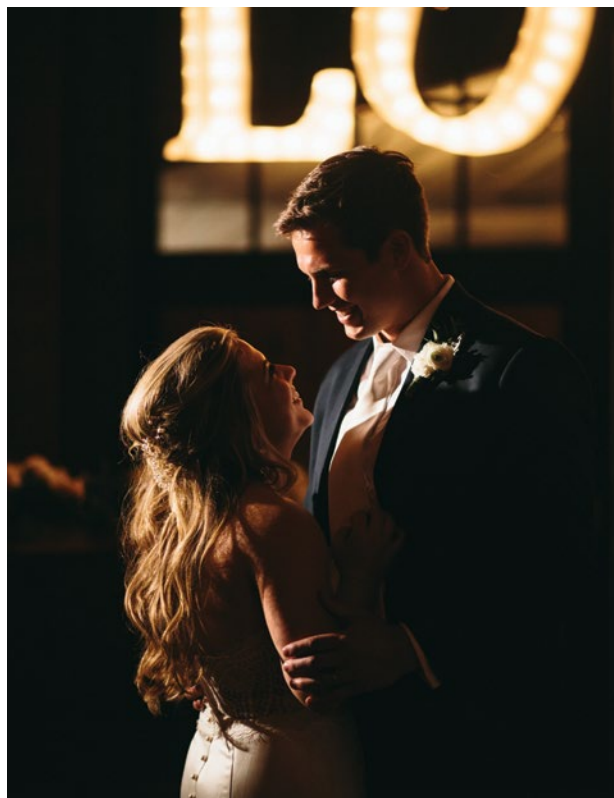


**THE BIG DAY** The day was absolutely perfect. It was everything I could have dreamed of and more. Our ceremony was meaningful and unique to us and getting to kiss Andrew for the first time as husband and wife gave me the craziest but best goosebumps ever. We danced all night long at the reception, enjoyed our favorite food, mingled with 350 of our closest friends and family, and I even got serenaded in front of them all by my husband!! And, I may be biased, but we had the best exit ever in a vintage Rolls Royce after running through an aisle of sparklers. It was perfect.

**THE RETREAT** Well, we haven't technically gone on our honeymoon yet. The funny thing that happened when Andrew got picked up by the Raiders was that they told him that he had to report to training camp **THE MORNING AFTER** our wedding! Crazy, I know. So, the next morning we packed up our house with the help of our families and boarded our flight to our new home in Oakland. We did spend a few days in Napa Valley but our real honeymoon will be a South American cruise in late July when he gets a break from training!







## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PHOTOGRAPHER Wild Native Photography, [wildnative.com](http://wildnative.com)

WEDDING PLANNER Fête Nashville, [fetenashville.com](http://fetenashville.com)

CEREMONY AND RECEPTION VENUE Trinity View Farms, [trinityviewfarm.com](http://trinityviewfarm.com)

CATERER Chef's Market, [chefsmarket.com](http://chefsmarket.com)

WEDDING CAKE Dulce Desserts, [dulcedesserts.com](http://dulcedesserts.com)

FLORIST Enchanted Florist, [enchantedfloristtn.com](http://enchantedfloristtn.com)

INVITATIONS Minted, [minted.com](http://minted.com)

WEDDING GOWN, BRIDESMAID DRESSES & MENSWEAR Olia Zavozina, [oliazavozina.com](http://oliazavozina.com)

BRIDE'S HAIRPIECE Elena Zavozina, [elenazavozina.com](http://elenazavozina.com)

RENTALS Southern Events, [southerneventsonline.com](http://southerneventsonline.com)

CALLIGRAPHY Eliza Gwendalyn Calligraphy, [elizagwendalyn.com](http://elizagwendalyn.com)

VIDEOGRAPHY White in Revery, [whiteinrevery.com](http://whiteinrevery.com)

PR Shade Global Inc.