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How Bethenny Frankel's Wedding Planner Pulled Off Her Dream 'I Do's'

By Michelle Ruiz Posted Jul 9th 2010 08:30AM

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Getty Images / Shawn Rabideau

While it may prove to be one of the most beautiful shotgun weddings of all time, Bethenny Frankel's nuptials on Thursday's 'Bethenny Getting Married?' were far from painless for New York-based wedding planner Shawn Rabideau. Tapped by Bethenny's assistant, who found him on the popular wedding website TheKnot.com, Rabideau was thrust into Bethenny's manic world and asked to create her dream wedding -- at an unattainable location -- in four weeks flat. The newly-minted Bravo reality star chats with PopEater about his cake-tasting skills, Bethenny's threats to maim him and what really made him want to vomit before her big day, after the jump.

We finally got to see Bethenny's big wedding. Was it everything you and Bethenny hoped it would be?

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First of all, I've never planned a wedding in four weeks, so I think short of putting Dixie cups on the table, I think we did a fabulous job. Not that we did put Dixie cups on the table. I was very pleased with it and I think viewers have seen all the hard work and now they're going to see the pay-off. There are a lot of wonderful, beautiful moments.

There were also some not-so-beautiful moments, like during Bethenny's now-infamous hair trial. We love Bethenny, but she was being wicked to you! We thought maybe you might quit after that.

I equated being in the hair salon to Bethenny being like a Dementor from 'Harry Potter.' You know those specters that suck the life out of you? I felt beat down and for a fleeting, like, half a second, I thought about saying "forget it." But, you know what? I wasn't giving up and I knew I could do this and I was going to work my butt off and do an amazing job.

The world wants to know: How did you get the Four Seasons restaurant on four weeks notice, after they initially swore they were booked?

I don't know if it was because I called 20 times a day and literally was begging them. How we got it, I still to this day am not sure how or why they said yes. They did, that's all I care about. After that, I was like, "Fine. The world could crumble down around me. I could care less. I got her venue."

Bethenny even suggested that you should sleep with the owner of the Four Seasons, Julian Niccolini. Is it safe to say you did not do that?

Oh god, no. I did not. But I might have considered it, had it come to that. I said on my blog that I would do anything, including sleep with Julian, and every time I say that, I kind of wanted to vomit in my mouth.

There was also the business of Bethenny's red velvet cake. Did you really go to her favorite bakery in New York and taste the cake so you could duplicate it exactly? She seemed doubtful that you did.

I really did, yes. I got my passport out and I made the trek to the Upper East Side and I tasted the cake. I have a very good photographic memory and so do my taste buds, so yes, I did. I knew if I didn't, I would be losing my "produce section."

Yes -- Bethenny did threaten to maim you a lot.

She did. And for all the times that Bethenny threatened me, Cookie, her dog, took the action. I call Cookie Kujo.

What is up with Cookie? She seems absolutely terrifying.



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You have to know I'm a dog lover. I have two dogs myself and I grew up with dogs. I've literally been able to walk up to a Doberman pinscher that was snarling at me and make them my best friend. There's no reasoning with Cookie. I don't know why, but she terrifies me. I swear, every time I hear her bark, I break out in a cold sweat. She can smell the fear in my veins.



It appears in one of the previews that Bethenny is peeing into a garbage can of some sort before walking down the aisle. Were you aware of this?

Um, was I aware of it? I was there, so I was very much aware of what was happening at that particular moment. Which is why I love doing weddings -- they are so unpredictable.

Are you and Bethenny friends now?

You mean, like, do we do each other's hair and nails every night? No, we do not. But I think we have a great respect for each other.

It's been brought to our attention that you look like Tony Hale, the actor who played Buster Bluth on 'Arrested Development.'

When I first heard that, I was a touch mortified and then I kind of chuckled. I think it's hysterical. I've been compared to Pee Wee Herman, although I don't necessarily think that's the case.

Do you see the resemblance between you and Tony Hale?

I gotta be honest and I feel bad for him -- I really do. I was going through a few photos online and I was like, "Is that me or Tony Hale?" I'm curious if we were separated at birth somewhere down the line. I don't know if he feels the same, so I cannot speak for him. He's probably like, "Who the hell is this person?"

Bethenny Frankel Snapshots



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