



Tiffany Archie and Billy Jenkins

May 15, 2004

When Tiffany Archie and Billy Jenkins met in Miami on a date arranged by her best friend, they knew they were destined to spend their lives together. After two years of dating, Billy whisked Tiffany to a much-needed vacation at the Ritz Carlton in Laguna

Nigel in California where he proposed. The beautiful four-carat diamond and platinum ring was presented with dessert as Billy went down on one knee asking Tiffany to marry him. Billy, a Strong Safety, who was part of the St. Louis Rams when they won the Superbowl in 2000, said, "Tiffany saying yes to my proposal was even better than winning the Superbowl!"

Since planning a wedding in Houston while in Denver would be difficult, the couple hired wedding planner Deborah Elias of Elias Events. The couple wed on May 15, 2004 at five pm at the Hotel Derek. The unifying theme throughout the wedding from the invitation to bridesmaid's dresses to the table coverings was the color Platinum. Tiffany wore an exclusive strapless gown designed by Elizabeth Filmore, accessorized by the jewelry gifted by Billy.

As Tiffany and her father walked down the aisle lined with tall column candles, singer Yvonne Washington accompanied by The Dave Zeger Strings, sang "Looking Through the Eyes of Love" by Hamlisch. Once down the aisle, Tiffany's father switched roles from proud parent to the couple's officiant. Family, friends and their attendants, including Best man Eric Brown of the Houston Texans and Billy's son Khalil, the ring bearer, looked on as the couple exchanged vows under a floral and fabric canopy and lit a unity candle.

As guests enjoyed a cocktail reception complete with martini bar, chocolate fountain provided by Fountains of Chocolate and a wonderful fresh fruit tree display, the hotel staff transformed the room from ceremony to a reception setting.

Exquisite table linens from the Linen House, floral centerpieces and candles created a warm and elegant atmosphere as guests dined on lobster and black-angus beef filet with a potato pave and fresh vegetables. Susie's Cakes created the rolled fondant white and silver bride's cake and chocolate groom's cakes.

The Yvonne Washington Band kept everyone on the dance floor grooving to the smooth sounds of Motown, R&B, Pop and the Blues. The photojournalistic style of photographers Laurel and David Lund captured the whole essence of the event. The capable staff of Hotel Derek met and exceeded the expectations of the young couple.

As the couple retreated to their suite under a flurry of rose petals, they agreed it was the best day of their lives.

Story by Deborah Elias
Photography by Wedding Stories