

*The*  
*White Swan*

VOLUME ONE







# Kristen and Mike

“ One of the most awesome dynamics about weddings, is seeing a couple surrounded by their family and all those that love them - and just having that love showered down on them that day. It really brings a special glow to the couple, and you can definitely see that in Kristen and Mike’s wedding day! They filled their day with those that they love, as well as some

of their most favorite things - like a Mai Tai drink perfected by Mike, and their favorite Book ‘Everybody Always’ which they gave out as wedding favors. Kristen’s sister has special needs and wrote a speech as the maid of honor which another bridesmaid helped her deliver, which was so sweet! We hope you love hearing this couples story as much as we love sharing it.







## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

### DESCRIBE A HURDLE YOU HAD TO OVERCOME WHILE PLANNING

Timing – planning everything in 9 months was a lot! Costs – I think that is just something everyone goes through. Deciding what the most important things are and then working the budget from there.

### WHAT IS THE BEST THING YOU'VE LEARNED FROM EACH OTHER?

I love that Mike helps me to execute, to jump, to say yes to the idea. He is bold, decisive, an amazing leader, and the most fun. I honestly just respect who he is so much.

*“I honestly just respect who he is so much.”*

### ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL WAYS YOU INCORPORATED YOUR FAMILY?

Our pastor spoke about what we wanted to say to our parents during his sermon at the ceremony. It was a special moment to honor them in front of everyone. My mom also had a piece of her wedding dress sewn into my dress as a surprise.

### WHAT IS THE MOST HONEST THING YOU CAN SAY ABOUT LOVE?

Don't get lost in the wedding details – remember at the end of the day you are celebrating your love. Don't lose yourself in the production of it all. Also, invest in learning about each other. Whether it's reading books like the 5 languages of love, taking a premarital class, taking personality and then talking it through - understanding each other and how the other person is different from you is so important.

## THEIR FAVORITE PART

We wanted all of our family and friends invited to know how special they are to us... So it was fun to be creative in thinking how to create that kind of atmosphere at our wedding. The highlight of this was giving one of our favorite books “Everybody Always” by Bob Goff as our wedding favor. Mike emailed Bob Goff and told him our idea and within weeks we had pallets of books being delivered.

Mike spent countless hours perfecting the perfect Mai Tai to be served as one of our signature cocktails. His obsession with drinks with umbrellas is a running joke and people loved it.

I (Kristen) am a designer so it was so special for me to have the chance to design all of our wedding paper. I incorporated a lot of meaningful details – lyrics to our favorite song were faintly in the background of the details card, a snippet from a note Mike wrote to me on our first Valentine’s day was the on the back of our invite, a personal note to our guests on the menu **IT WAS SPECIAL** card at the reception, a **FOR ME TO HAVE** custom book-mark that we **A CHANCE TO** signed... Little things like **DESIGN ALL OF** that. Would I do it again – yes, **OUR WEDDING** but designing for yourself **PAPER** is truly the hardest thing. The paper was one of the most stressful yet rewarding projects during the wedding for me. I was so behind in getting things printed because I kept making changes. Finally my mom was like – Kristen – you have to stop the madness and print these things!

*photography: Lauren Renee Photography / venue: Pittsburgh Field Club / stylist, planner, invitation designer, and paper goods: Kristen MacMillan / floral designer: Mt. Lebanon Floral / dress boutique: Bridal Beginning / dress designer: Badgley Mischka / shoes: Badgley Mischka / bridesmaid dresses: Amsale / cake designer: Bella Christie / makeup artist & hair stylist: Hannah Conard Beauty / groom’s formalwear: David Allan / groomsmen: Men’s Wearhouse / videographer: Light and Motion Studios / band: No Bad Juju / film lab: Richard Photo Lab*



