

JELICZA & ALEX

a wedding in paradise

AMY ANAIZ PHOTOGRAPHY







The beginning of Jelicza and Alex's relationship can easily be seen as a foreshadowing of what would come. Jelicza was working in retail at Banana Republic when she helped Alex find the perfect outfit for his brother's wedding in Jamaica. She dressed him in a suit, shirt, and tie combo, and she even tied it all together with matching shoes. He walked away not only impressed and satisfied with his new digs, but also with a promising new connection with Jelicza. Little did they know, they too would tie the knot with a Caribbean backdrop and perfectly-styled looks.

The two got engaged during the holiday season on December 23rd. After an evening of surprises, dinner, and presents, Alex proposed with the New York City skyline in the background. Amongst their closest friends and family, he asked Jelicza to be his forever. She knew two things immediately: that she wanted to be his wife, and that she wanted their wedding to be a perfect fusion of their love and their individual cultures.

The two wed in an old-world, historic castle in Port Antonio, Jamaica. Jelicza wanted a unique and inviting atmosphere for her guests, but she also wanted something that represented elegance and romance. It's safe to say she achieved her goal. The castle overlooked the country's Blue Mountains and crystal blue waters. It was intimate, special, and completely beautiful.

The color theme was a mixture of ivory, gold, and blush. The aisle was decorated with candle lights floating in tall, cylindrical vases. At the altar was a draped canopy, dangling chandelier, and large floral arrangements of hydrangeas, roses, and orchids. The bridal party walked down the aisle to a rendition of John Legend's "You & I (Nobody in the World)" played by a live violinist. The bride and groom participated in lighting the unity candle together as well as the rosary lasso ceremony, which symbolizes unity and marriage for the rest of their lives.

Two live DJs set the tone for the evening, and guests danced to current Hip Hop, Hispanic, and Jamaican genres of music. They ate from a 3-course menu that featured a harvest salad, steak or lobster, and creme brulee dessert. The wedding cake was vanilla flavored with pineapple and strawberry filling. It was wrapped in a blush flower and topped with a gold and diamond-encrusted "T." Guests left the ceremony with "welcome bags" full of necessary and helpful items for the weekend. They were full of Jamaican snacks, water bottles, a wedding survival kit, a candle, and monogrammed matchboxes.

Jelicza wore a high neck, fitted white gown with a beaded lace bodice, flowing train, and a cathedral veil. Her makeup was natural with a touch of glam. Alex wore an ivory jacket, tassel loafers, and an oversized bow tie.

The Thomases continued their paradise-style nuptials with a honeymoon in St. Lucia. *Story by Skyy Sandifer*

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