

The deep blue sea: "Before deciding on any theme, I had already collected navy blue swatches, seashells and pearls," says bride and planner Jessica Lussier McLean of Weddings by Blue Plate. "It was [husband] David who pointed out the common thread of my childhood home." Eventually, even the cake—by Amy Beck Cake Design—became navy blue, decorated with shells and sugar "pearls" (2). Internally lit tables give the event a surreal, aquatic feel. "I couldn't believe how many guests told us they felt as though they'd spent the evening underwater," she notes (1).



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more than the food, inspired by her father's historic Cape Cod restaurant, the Captain Linnell House. Because Lussier McLean and her fiancé wanted to offer guests "more fun and flavor than a plated dinner involves but a more elegant experience than a buffet," they opted to downsize her father's dishes and serve them at stations scattered throughout the reception area. The small plates sampler included Lussier McLean's favorite duck entree as well as dishes that featured New England ingredients such as scallops, halibut, beets and sweet corn. As for the cake, the bride opted for a six-tier chocolate masterpiece, frosted in navy blue icing and encrusted with sugar "pearls." She admits the color choice was "a bit extreme" but adds, "the focal point that it created in the room was unforgettable and, of course, delicious." ●

Photos by Amy Beck

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