

Desert mountains created a dramatic backdrop to the Palm Springs wedding.



The Viceroy Palm Springs.



The bridal bouquet of white anemones and white roses.

Jillian Cornejo and husband Kevin Dinkel.



California DREAMING

GUESTS gathered for a *three-day* celebration in Palm Springs, California, for *Vogue's* JILLIAN CORNEJO and KEVIN DINKEL's glamorous wedding.

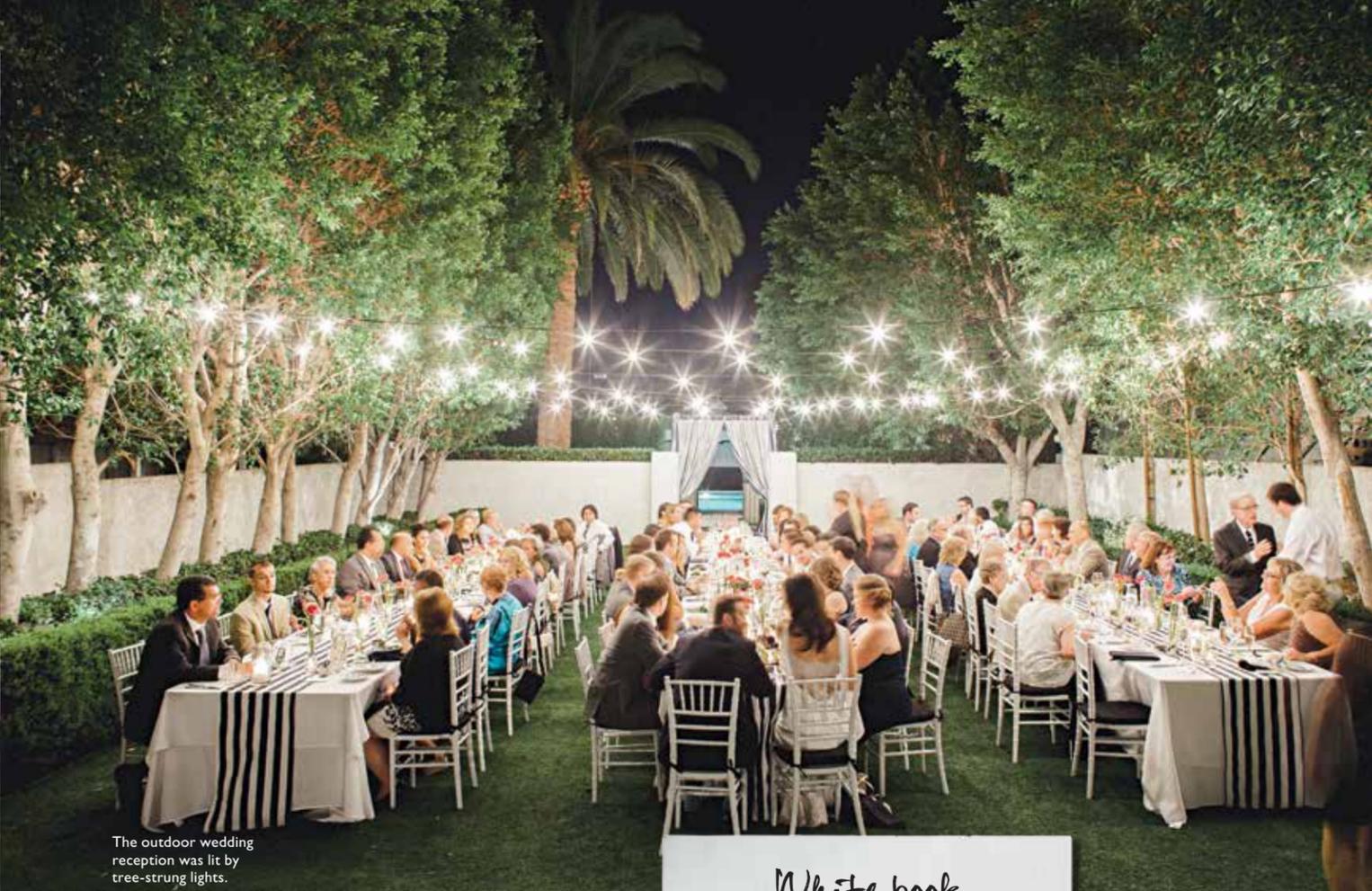
It sounds like the plot of the latest Hollywood romantic comedy: "Kevin and I were introduced by my sorority sister and his former college baseball team-mate who had begun dating. We met at Sushisamba in New York," Cornejo says. For Sydney-based Americans Jillian Cornejo and Kevin Dinkel, a New York proposal came next. "Kevin confessed that he secretly drove three hours each way to ask for my father's permission a week earlier," reveals Cornejo. Then followed September nuptials in Palm Springs, California, an obvious choice for the couple. "We wanted the wedding weekend to feel like a holiday for our friends, and Palm Springs was a perfect weekend destination where many of our east coast family and friends hadn't spent time before. More than 300 days of sunshine a year is also a plus when planning an outdoor wedding," enthuses Cornejo.

As bookings director of *Vogue* Australia, it's safe to say the ever-organised Cornejo left no stone unturned for the three-day affair. "I was decisive early on in the process about the feeling of the ▶

WORDS: REMY RIPPON
PHOTOGRAPHS: COOPER CARRAS



Rose petals showered the newlyweds.



The outdoor wedding reception was lit by tree-strung lights.



Navy blue and white added a fresh touch to the table.

weekend. I was very focused on cohesiveness in every aspect of the event, from the invitations to the after-party. This was the first time many of our family members and friends were meeting each other, so we structured a three-day weekend," she says. Each guest received tote bags on arrival complete with Californian wine, snacks, sunglasses, sunscreen and Tim Tams (an acknowledgement of their new home) as well as the weekend's schedule.

The bride's own style was also well considered, with nothing left to chance. "I started a mood board early on and edited and added things frequently," Cornejo says. "We tried out a few different ideas at my hair and make-up trial. In the end, I went with a pretty clean and natural look for the ceremony. For the reception I chose a dark lip paired with defined brows and pinned-back hair, a nod to the old Hollywood roots of Palm Springs."

Cornejo wore a classic, bias-cut David Fielden gown, which she found in New York, and Tabitha Simmons heels. "I was inspired by classic brides like Carolyn Bessette-Kennedy, and although I was very open to different styles beyond my go-to silhouettes, my dress ultimately stayed true to that early inspiration," she says.

Navy and white pavilions, yellow deck chairs and manicured gardens brought the couple's vision to life for the ceremony, where they recited their own vows. But as for the most special moment? "Walking back down the aisle together while our guests cheered and threw rose petals was unforgettable," reminisces Cornejo. The outdoor reception continued the "little bit Gatsby" theme, according to Cornejo, with navy-and-white-striped table runners and twinkling lights strung from tree to tree in keeping with the laid-back Californian atmosphere.

For their honeymoon the newlyweds reached a happy medium – perhaps the backbone of all marriages. "We created the perfect compromise," she says. "We started in Munich for Oktoberfest and then travelled to Positano and Capri on the Amalfi coast." ■

COOPER CARRAS



California citrus made playful place tags.



A setting-appropriate succulent sat atop the coconut wedding cake.

White book

DRESS: David Fielden

SHOES: Tabitha Simmons

HAIR: Jose Neira

MAKE-UP: Keturah Chisholm

FRAGRANCE: Ralph Lauren Romance

BRIDESMAIDS' DRESSES: Lela Rose

GROOM'S SUIT: Pierre Balmain

PHOTOGRAPHER: Cooper Carras

VENUE: The Viceroy, Palm Springs

FLORIST: Artisan Events Floral Decor

INVITATIONS: Designed by the

bride with Smitten on Paper

MUSIC: DJ Chris Paul

FIRST DANCE: *You Are the Best Thing*

by Ray Lamontagne

TOP TIP: "There were so many little last-minute things that needed to be done in the days leading up to the wedding. Creating a master list and timeline for when these things needed to be done kept me on track ... and saved my sanity!"



Guests gathered poolside on the balmy Californian night.



The bride wore a David Fielden gown.