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Elegant - Organic - Delicious

Avant Guard in 2000

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Michael can't say when he started to be more environmentally conscious. One incident, however, made a big impression on him. It was on the watch of Governor Wilson that the California Department of Pesticide Regulation issued new rules on methyl bromide, a strong pesticide found to cause skin cancer. The regulations did not adequately restrict methyl bromide use near schools, did not give neighbors enough warning about impending fumigation, nor provide protection from long-term exposure to farm workers. After Michael read about this, one thing led to another. He became a regular customer of the neighborhood health food stores and began reading product descriptions before buying groceries.



When time came for Michael and his fiancée, Ann, to plan their wedding, they wanted to demonstrate that even in celebrating an elegant wedding they did not have to give up principles related to protecting the environment.

At the same time Michael wanted to show his guests that food prepared with organic ingredients actually tastes so much better. In 2000, green or sustainable weddings were not yet in fashion, but with the help of the event coordinator, **Tosca of Tosca's Productions**, Michael and Ann found other vendors who were willing to help achieve their goal.

They picked the elegant Kohl Mansion for their celebration. It was large enough for the 170 guests and offered additional space for the magician and the face-painting fun that were planned as entertainment for the kids.



