

Lovely wedding...dramatic proposal...love-at-first-sight

By Jewel Johnson
Northcoast Times reporter

It was a beautiful Thursday afternoon at SandCastles Resort, when Clover and Barnett Romelle pledged their undying devotion to each other at their wedding ceremony on December 23. Family and friends witnessed the romantic event as both showed obvious signs of love for each other.

Dressed in white and gold African inspired ensembles, the bride and groom looked magnificent, with the bride looking splendid as well. Bridesmaid, Philecia Romelle Campbell, wore a long-sleeved, short-skirted, orange-colored dress and the groomsmen Christopher Campbell, looked handsome in his tuxedo. Flower girl, Olivia Watkins, and ring bearer, Simon Watkins, were cute — Olivia in her fully white dress, while Simon in his white shirt and tie, and his little brother, Simon, in his black three-piece suit.

Rev. N. Carlton Mullings, gave them sound advice on how to make their marriage a success before he married them.

"Life is like a garden of flowers with one special flower called marriage, and that flower has many petals. First there is the petal of kindness... you have to be kind to one another. Then there is the petal of mutual respect, the petal of mutual forgiveness, the petal of true sacrifice and the petal of true friendship," he told them.

Bishop Bradley S.E. Dyer presented and dedicated the rings. The couple happily moved at SandCastles Resort.

How they met

Mrs. Romelle tells of the first time they met.

"I was at a function and I was giving the vote of thanks. He was there and was impressed by my delivery and my good English," she said with an infectious laughter.

Flower girl
Olivia Watkins,
granddaughter
of the bride



Barnett and Clover sign the register assisted by Rev. N. Carlton Mullings

"We were going to have a church function the next day and we were having choir practice. He couldn't take his eyes off me. The practice wasn't going well, we didn't sound too good. Seeing that he was so 'into' the practice, I said to him, 'Sir, can you sing?'"

He said that he would try and started singing with us. He was amazing. He has this wonderful bass. That turned me on," she recalled.

Mr. Romelle says:

"I saw this beautiful lady and I was smitten. It was love at first sight. As you see her, you would fall in love with her," he beamed.

He also spoke of the function where he first saw the love of his life. "I loved the way she sounded. She was so articulate. I was captivated. Then at the practice, I just kept looking at her. But the song wasn't sounding good, and she asked me if I could sing, and I said 'I try.' The rest is history."

The newweds say their relationship was built mainly on friendship and that is what led them to stay together for eight years.

"We were going on and on as friends until we decided to fall in love," Mr. Romelle said.

The proposal

"I was on my way to court like a judge at Petty Sessions Court in St. Catharines and he said that he would take me to court and pick me up. I thought that it was a little strange, because he knows that we usually don't know what time court is usually over, and I don't usually know the amount of cases I have to deal with."

But he told me to call him when I was finished, there was something he had to show me in Kingston. He drove me to Jewellers and showed me the ring. Everything seemed planned. The ring was engraved and everything. He blessed the ring, went down on one knee and proposed to me right there. It was one big excitement in the store."

"We then went to a Chinese restaurant. He swept me off my feet," she smiled. He had proposed to Clover some years ago, but apparently she wasn't ready to make another commitment, having come out of a previous relationship.

But even though they are friends first, to prove that they were worthy of being loved, they both put each other through tests. Barnett would test her faithfulness and she would test him by turning off her phone at inappropriate times, leaving him to

wonder where she was. The

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Mr. Romelle also shares

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take care of me. She made

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Barnett and Clover Romelle

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Northcoast Times photo

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