AISLE style

Confused by all the Pinterest prettiness? Simply choose one statement bridal accessory to work your look around.

The floral wreath

A fairy-tale setting calls for a romantic touch. Choose blooms that work with your complexion. A good rule of thumb? Soft colours for pale skins, bold ones for darker skins. Keep your make-up simple. Long-wearing foundation is a must, and sheer colour on the eyes will give a hint of shimmer. Apply eyeliner and two coats of water-proof mascara for definition. A pretty pink lipstick and a slick of gloss complete the look.

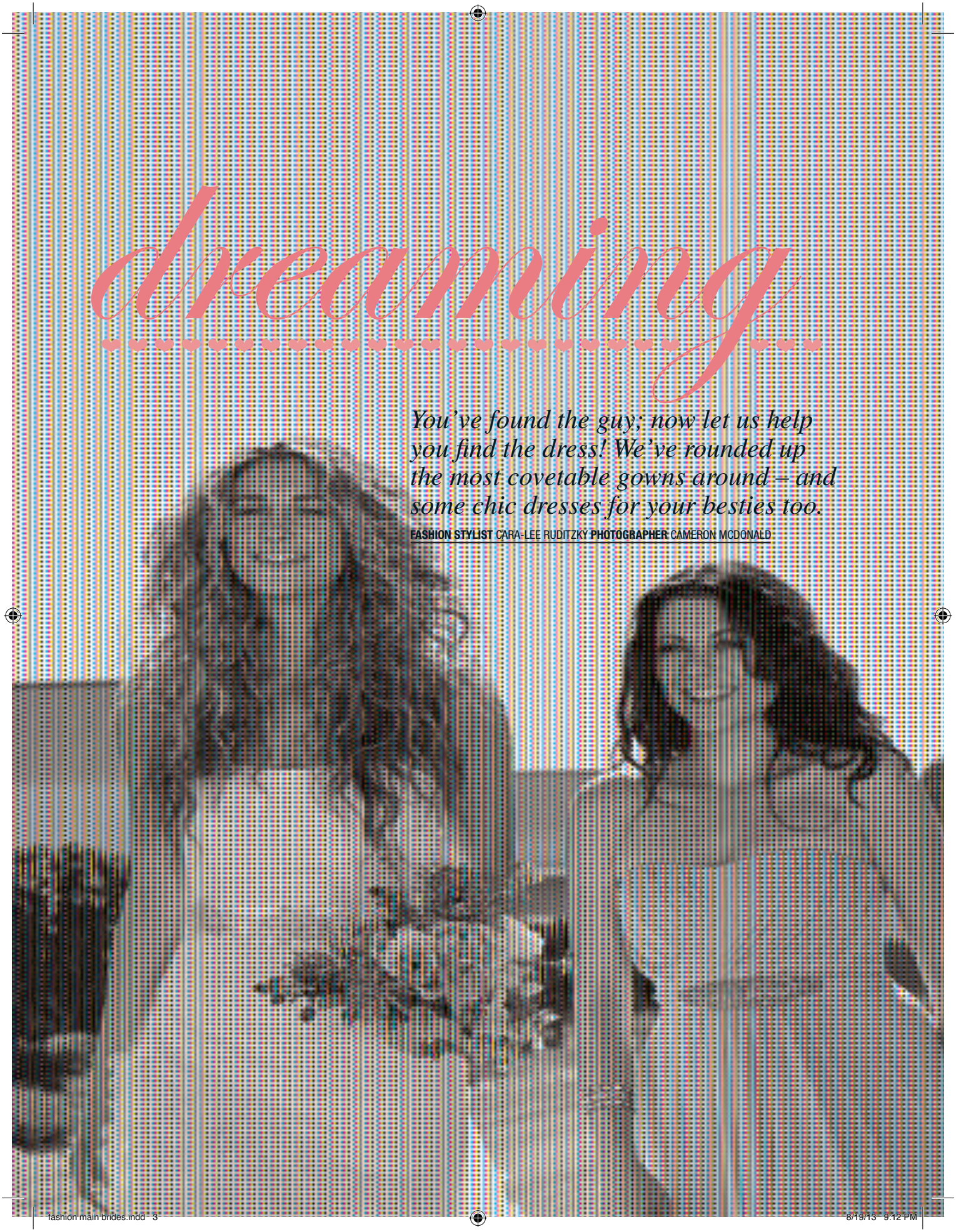
Dress: Stefanie Morland
Wreath: Fleur in Couture
Earrings: Lulu Bobs

STYLISTS LINDIWE LEE KHUMEYE & CATHERINE ZADWERGH
PHOTOGRAPHER JOHN WILLIS

dreaming...

You've found the guy; now let us help you find the dress! We've rounded up the most covetable gowns around – and some chic dresses for your besties too.

FASHION STYLIST CARA-LEE RUDITZKY **PHOTOGRAPHER** CAMERON MCDONALD



fashion main brides.indd 3 8/19/13 9:12 PM

A touch of sparkle

A corseted boob-tube dress with a nipped-in waist is still the most flattering shape for most body types. This blush dress has a layer of sequins underneath the lace that catches the light as you move – so beautiful!

Beaded and appliquéd lace corset gown (R13750) Kobus Dippenaar, earrings (R150) Lovisa

fashion main brides.indd 4 3/19/13 3:12 PM

Oh so boho

Getting married barefoot in the garden? A whimsical gown would be perfect – finish it off with this year's must-have accessory: a floral wreath. Choose soft, floaty bridesmaids' dresses (tulle or light mesh work well) in muted neutrals to tie it all together.

(From left) Tarryn: layered mesh gown with beading (R6999) Gavin Rajah, ring (R622) Lulu Belle
Jessica: appliquéd satin and tulle gown (R36000) Kobus Dippenaar, ring (R625) Kay's Antiques
Samantha: appliquéd high-low dress (R1800) Bride & Co, heels (R599) Steve Madden at Edgars
Alex: sheer mesh dress (R8000) Klûk/CGDT, corset slip (R379,95) Playtex at Edgars, ring (R622) Lulu Belle

Wow factor

A black-tie wedding sets the scene for no-holds-barred glamour. Live out your Disney fantasy in a classic ball gown, statement heels and lots of bling. (Afraid of seeming too 'done up'? Keep your hair tousled and wild.) For the girls, think floor-length frocks in rich jewel tones.

(From left) Jessica: 'Isabella' ball gown in dupion silk, tulle and Chantilly lace with diamanté detail (R14 000) Elbeth Gillis, earrings (R500) Lulu Belle
Alex: chiffon and satin gown with cap sleeves (R2 200) Bride & Co, earrings (R500) Lulu Belle

fashion main brides.indd 8 8/19/13 3:11 PM

Garden glam

We love the quirky bow-tie detail on this glitzy dress, pick up on some of that sparkle with embellished detail or glittery accessories for the bridal party. If you want to be daring, add a burst of colour – a bold dress for the maid of honour or some bright bouquets – to make your pictures pop.

(From left) Jessica: embellished gown with bow detail (R9 999) Gavin Rajah, ring (R625) Kay's Antiques
Tarryn: beaded empire dress (R1 895) A-List
Samantha: chiffon boob-tube dress (R670) Afraid of Mice, embellished headband Bella Anella
Alex: [illegible] chiffon boob-tube [illegible] (R2 200) Bridesmaid

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Amazing lace
Lace gets a sexy makeover in this dramatic gown. A curve-hugging silhouette and unusual finishes like an inside-out corset with exposed seams make the traditional fabric look fresh again. It's a wedding staple for a reason!

'Nikita' corseted vintage lace dress with beaded waist detail and train (R19800) Casey Jeanne Couture, earrings (R169) Accessorize, ring (R625) Kay's Antiques

[opposite]
Short story
Not into voluminous layers of tulle, long cathedral veils and sweeping trains? Turn tradition on its head with an unconventional LWD – all you need to add is a pair of killer heels, a quirky headpiece or a cropped '60s-style blusher veil – and some fun, frothy dresses for your entourage.

Tarryn: ruffled dress (R4617) Enzoani Africa, heels (R999) Aldo
Jessica: short embellished satin and lace dress (R12799,86) Eve's Bridalwear, headband (R160) Lovisa, earrings (R850) and ring (R625) both Kay's Antiques, heels (R699) Luella
Alex: tulle dress (R950) Second Time Around, heels (R1493,40) Enzoani Africa
Samantha: appliquéd silk dress (R5540,40) Enzoani Africa, heels (R1299) Steve Madden at Edgars