

MARTHA STEWART

weddings

pretty pink bouquets

whimsical woodland cakes

dresses fit for a lady

playful stripes and dots



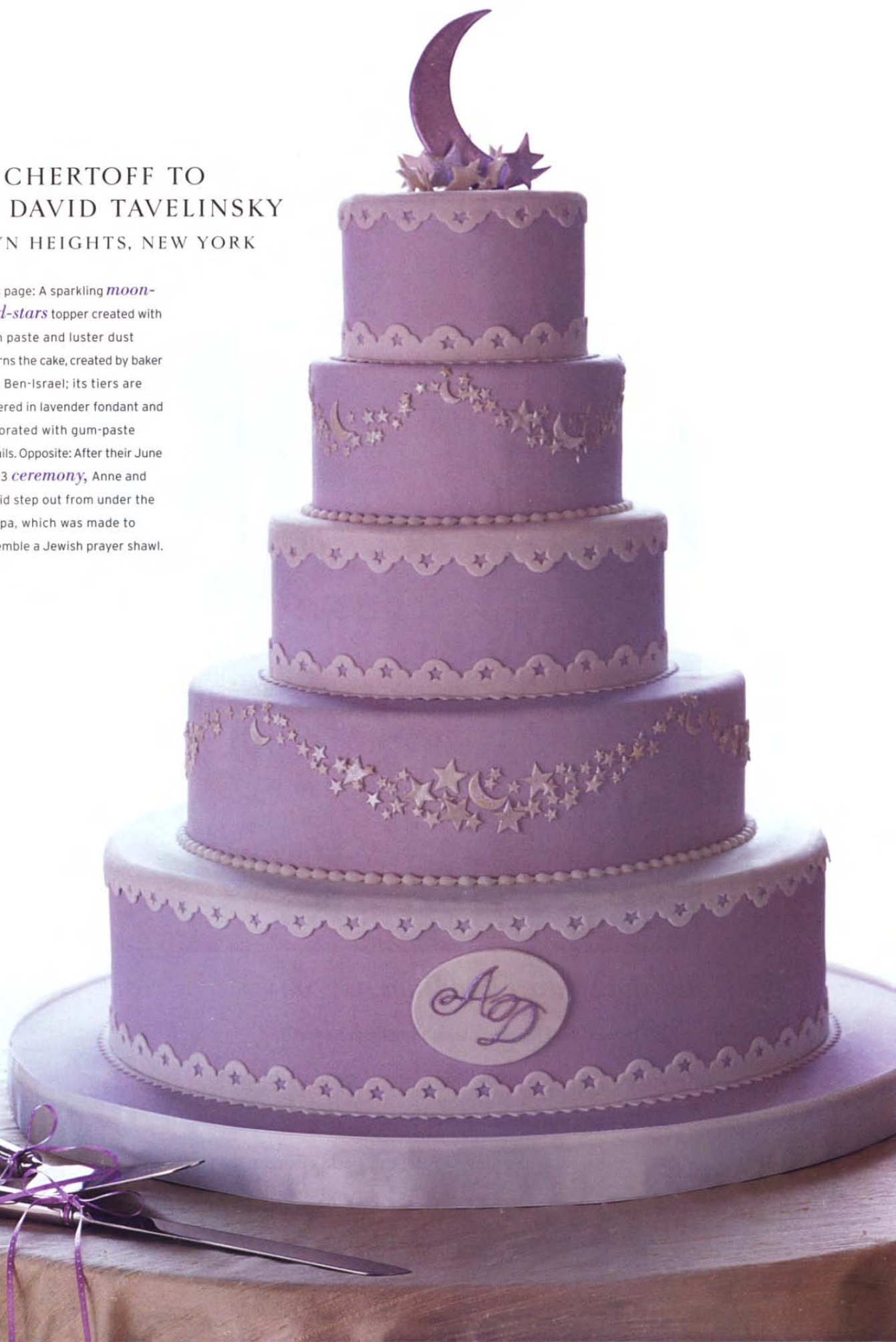
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ANNE CHERTOFF TO
DAVID TAVELINSKY
ROSLYN HEIGHTS, NEW YORK

This page: A sparkling *moon-and-stars* topper created with gum paste and luster dust adorns the cake, created by baker Ron Ben-Israel; its tiers are covered in lavender fondant and decorated with gum-paste details. Opposite: After their June 2003 *ceremony*, Anne and David step out from under the huppa, which was made to resemble a Jewish prayer shawl.



over the MOON



IN THE MOVIES, high-school crushes bloom into love, and starlit dates unfold against a backdrop of New York City skyscrapers. Once in a blue moon, real life imitates art. In February 1995, Anne Chertoff arrived for her first day of film class at Midwood High School in Brooklyn. As she sat down, she spotted David Tavelinsky, a cute guy with a great smile. But, she learned, he had a girlfriend. "Still somehow, I knew that one day we would date," says Anne, a former assistant editor at *Martha Stewart Weddings*.

That summer Anne and David (now single) ran into each other at a party and ended up talking for hours. They began dating, spending the next few months seeing plays and picnicking in the park. "It was the best summer of my life," says David, a dental student at Columbia University.

Five years later, in October 2001, David took Anne to the Plaza Hotel in Manhattan for dessert. As they explored the hotel, David pretended to find a key in front of a room (which he had secretly booked) and suggested they try to open the door. Once inside, he proposed with a poem.

The wedding was held at a synagogue in Roslyn Heights, New York, on June 22, 2003. Anne chose details in lavender, her favorite color, and drew ideas from vintage movie posters, which she and David collect. The crescent moon on a poster for *It Happened One Night* inspired the wedding's moon-and-stars motif, a perfect theme for a love story that Anne had long ago predicted. "I don't necessarily believe in fate," says David. "But I do know that when I'm with Anne, everything seems just right."

PHOTOGRAPHS BY *Matthew Septimus* TEXT BY *Bunny Wong*

"I wanted a retro reception, in the style of my grandparents' weddings in the 1940s and 1950s, with vintage-looking lamps and dance cards," says Anne.



This page, clockwise from top left: Letterpress moons and stars adorn the wedding stationery; Audrey Hepburn stamps add *Hollywood* charm to the envelopes. The couple take shelter under a lavender *umbrella*; Anne's organza gown by Vera Wang is trimmed in lavender satin; her veil is by Tia Mazza. David and his groomsmen wear stroller suits by A.T. Harris; the ring bearer, 5-year-old Jonathan Eisenberg, is David's nephew. Opposite,

clockwise from top left: White and pink hydrangeas are placed among rows of seating cards displayed on glass *etched with stars*; underneath is lavender felt. The groom stands with his father, Elli Tavelinsky. Guests can drop wishes for the couple into an etched jar. Bridesmaids in Vera Wang and a flower girl in a Zoë dress hold *sweet peas*; peonies and sweet peas form the bride's bouquet. Anne's family takes a picture with the couple.



Clockwise from top left: After months of *fox-trot* lessons, Anne and David show off their moves on the dance floor to "It Had to Be You." The couple personalized a *mirror* near the bar with custom-made removable transfers for a temporary decoration; the words are from a song in the film *It's a Wonderful Life*—and a fitting summation

of the evening. Wedding guests swirl around the newlyweds during the hora. Each tier of the cake has four *layers of chocolate*: two infused with mocha, one with Grand Marnier, and one with a blackberry-cream filling; David teases Anne as he waits for his taste of wedding cake. SEE THE GUIDE FOR SHOPPING INFORMATION

