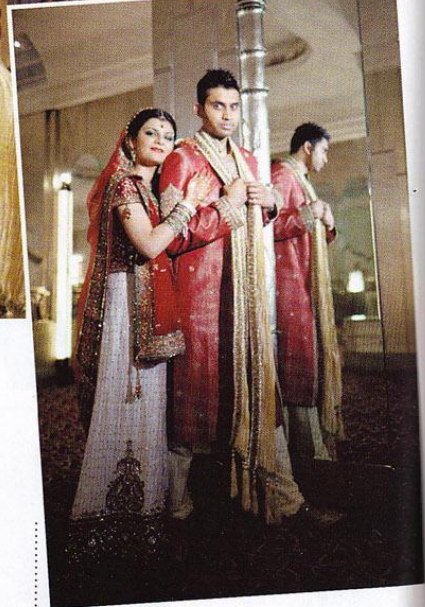




COUPLE: Sonesh and Reena Patel
DATE OF MARRIAGE: 19th September
VENUE: Sheraton Park Lane Hotel, London



Stars in **THEIR EYES**

Reena and Sonesh combined traditional elements with modern chic for a memorable day

The First Meeting

Reena says: "We first crossed eyes at Brunel University in 2001 where we instantly became friends. Since then Sonesh couldn't keep his eyes off me (Reena's version). Since then Reena couldn't keep her eyes off me (Sonesh's version)."

Theme and Reception

Both wedding and reception were held at the Sheraton Park Lane Hotel. Reena explains: "We had Rajubhai Pandya as our priest who was amazing and explained every ritual. We wanted all the guests to sit and watch the ceremony instead of the usual hustle and bustle and background noise - he managed all 500 guests and everyone was silent! Shiv Gopal enhanced the ceremony with traditional background music and Gujarati wedding songs which really set the perfect atmosphere."

Their reception was Hollywood inspired so they had a really lavish setup - the entire hall was coloured in purple and the tables were named after famous couples. They opted for a wishing tree instead of the traditional guest book, and made glitter leaves for the guests to write their messages on which they hung on the tree.

For their first dance, Reena and Sonesh surprised their guests by performing a choreographed first dance. They started off with the typical Agar Tum Mil Jao from Zeher and then broke out into all kinds of crazy lifts and twists ending with Chris Brown's Forever. The twinkle dance floor came on, which really added to the whole effect, and they even managed to pull off the dirty dancing lift as their finale. **Reena says:** "It was really nerve racking and my outfit weighed about a tonne but we did it perfectly on the night."

