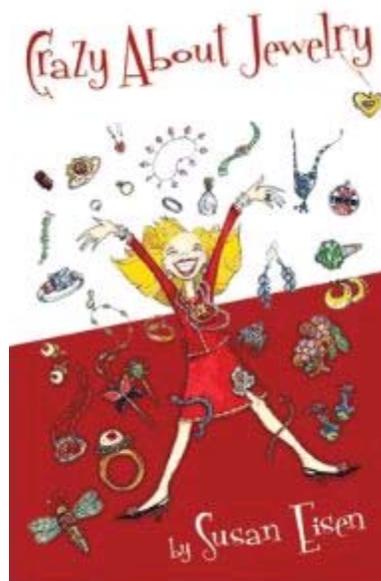# BRIDAL GUIDE

Bridal Buzz

I've been married twice!—to the same groom. (We had a small City Hall wedding then later renewed our vows and celebrated with all our family and friends.) Plus, I'm the senior associate editor at *Bridal Guide*, so I eat (love those cake samples), breathe and write weddings. I'm here to give you the best bridal stuff we couldn't fit into the magazine.

August 12, 2008

Yep, Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend

I went to The Diamond Information Center's *The Art of Diamonds* show with Elena, and while I was there, I was lucky enough to try on some of the jewelry (insert squeal of delight here). Of course, the second I touched a piece—every piece—I fell in love. There was only one small problem: falling in love with diamond jewelry is expensive. So I was pretty excited when I got to interview jewelry expert Susan Eisen, author of *Crazy About Jewelry*, about how to save money on wedding jewelry—there's no saying I can't use some of these tips myself, even though I'm not a bride!

Here are some of the great tips she shared:

Consider an heirloom. Check and see if your mom or grandmother (or even *his* mom!) has jewelry she wants to keep in the family—you might end up with a beautiful ring that saves you dough *and* has sentimental value. Or maybe there's a hand-me-down stone you can have paired with a setting you choose.

Browse estate jewelry. You might stumble across a unique find—with a little history—for a much lower price. All it may need is little polishing and maybe some small repairs (such as retipping prongs or resizing) to make it ready for you to wear.

Read More >>

Posted by Isabel at 11:12 a.m. | Comments (0)

August 7, 2008

Schmoozin' with Susan:

Helping Hand

As *Bridal Guide*'s Executive Editor, I'm usually busy helping Editor in Chief Diane Forden get the magazine out on time (and looking bridal-perfect, of course). But so much fascinating stuff crosses my desk that I really must share the bounty with you. For example, I'd love to help all
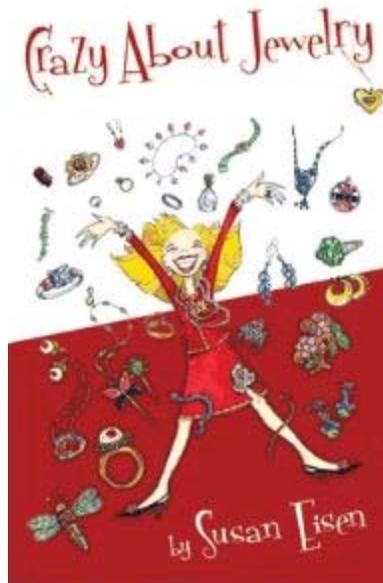
BRIDAL GUIDE

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Try a palladium ring. Palladium, a white metal, is less expensive than gold, and it's rising in popularity with wedding jewelry designers!

Make room to grow. Can't afford your ideal diamond size? Ask for a setting that can easily hold a bigger rock and plan to add on at a future milestone anniversary.

And of course, be sure to ask about sales and financing options when you are looking at rings. Often, you can get a plan that lets you pay off your ring over a period of time with no interest. (Just be sure to read the fine print!)

Hmmm…with tips like these, maybe we can all have our diamonds!

Posted by Isabel at 11:12 a.m.

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To make something bold: