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Last year, Sonia told me that she wanted to surprise our family with a spring party in return for all the pleasure she enjoys each day, since she felt that I made everyday a celebration. I was pleased and so allowed her to create our annual event. Sonia began planning her decorations by first reflecting on what we already had in our box of spring decorations.◆

Next she made out a list of items she needed to purchase, noting store locations. She saw smaller hurricanes in the Crate and Barrel catalog, decorative colored eggs in Pottery Barn's catalog, and Easter post cards in Victoria Trading Company's catalog and so noted these on her list. She also jotted down reminders to have the boys collect green moss from the country, fill clay pots with potting soil, and plant wheat grass. (Sonia wanted to make certain that you knew that she wrote these details in There's No Place Like Home Planner under the Family Spring Celebrations section. She's cute!)

 

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Sonia began the decorating by having Jedidiah string grapevines above our dining room table. Once secured with fishing line, she pushed spring floral picks amongst the vines, suspending two hand blown birdhouses on each end.

  

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Sonia filled the little hurricanes with moss and topped them with decorative birds' eggs. She even filled our little jam compotes with eggs. These were placed on both ends of the table.

 

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Several weeks before the party, Sonia started wheat grass in clay pots. Some of these she placed on our silver server, which she surrounded with more decorative eggs.

 

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Sonia filled a crystal bowl with pink and cream colored grass. She then topped the grass with these adorable large eggs. I had purchased these some time ago-one for each of the children.



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Next to the large crystal bowl, Sonia placed a crystal vase filled with a lovely silk spring bouquet she had given me on Mother's Day.



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Sonia borrowed eggcups from the Belley family, filled these with decorative eggs, and positioned one at each of our places at the table.

 

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When the children were younger, I would give them a cute bunny each year at our spring celebration. As the boys got older, it was harder and harder to find boy bunnies, so I usually ended up purchasing something else for them, but continued to add to Sonia's collection. Sonia selected one bunny from each of the children to use at their places at the table, putting one of hers at my place, as well.



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Sonia decorated our side table by draping a discarded set of sheer curtains over twinkle lights. She then clipped spring post cards onto the fabric.





src="images/stories/blog/spring party 4484.jpg" /></p> <p> </p> <p> </p> <p> ♦</p> <p> Below the fabric, she placed pots of wheat grass. In one of these, Sonia positioned a card.</p> <p> </p> <p> ♦</p> <p> Next to the pots, she arranged eggs in a hurricane, placed these in a grass filled silver bowl, and surrounded them with more eggs and more adorable postcards.</p> <p> </p> <p> </p> <p> </p> <p> </p> <p> ♦</p> <p> Sonia would not let me see the table until it was completed. She wanted to surprise me as I used to surprise the children when they were younger. Leading me to the table with eyes closed brought back delightful memories, but I think Sonia had the most fun surprising me this time. When I was told to open my eyes, I feasted upon this lovely setting!</p> <p> </p> <p> ♦</p> <p> The plates were beautifully appointed with cream of pea soup topped with chive stems and flowers, roasted rosemary chicken, potato wedges, and roasted cauliflower.</p> <p> </p> <p> </p> <p> ♦</p> <p> For dessert, Sonia garnished her iced cupcakes with Johnny Jump Ups from our garden.</p> <p> </p> <p> ♦</p> <p> Usually we keep party decorations up for a while after the celebration, so that we have more time to enjoy them.</p> <p> </p> <p> ♦</p> <p> </p> <p> </p> <p> </p> <p> </p> <p> </p> <p> ♦</p> <p> ♦</p> <p> </p> <p> </p> <p> </p> <p> </p> <p> </p>