

WALTER SCOTT'S

Personality

PARADE



Emmy Rossum

Q: Which does Emmy Rossum prefer: singing or acting? —Kelly B., Atlanta

A: "Music is closest to my heart," says Rossum, 26, who began her theatrical career at age 7 with the Metropolitan Opera's Children's Chorus. "But I hope I never have to choose between them." Rossum starred in the film of *The Phantom of the Opera* in 2004 and is on the Showtime series *Shameless*; she also has a movie, *Beautiful Creatures*, due next month. Her album of standards, *Sentimental Journey*, is out Jan. 29; hear a song at Parade.com/rossum.



Anthony Bourdain

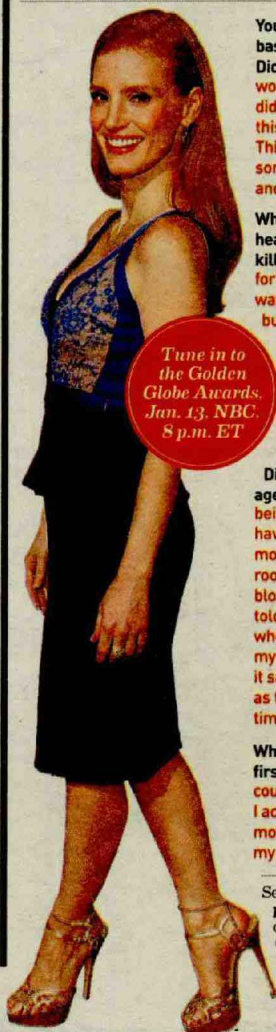
Q: Are there any foods Anthony Bourdain absolutely hates? —Michael Woodard, Norton, Ohio

A: "I find ketchup on a hot dog to be a sin against everything I believe in," says the celebrity chef, 56. "I love hot dogs, I like ketchup, but together they're a problem!" Bourdain's famous taste buds will be put to work as a judge and mentor on the new ABC cooking competition show *The Taste* (Jan. 22).

WALTER SCOTT ASKS...

JESSICA CHASTAIN

The actress on her Golden Globe-nominated role as a CIA agent tracking Osama bin Laden in *Zero Dark Thirty* (in theaters).



Tune in to the Golden Globe Awards. Jan. 13, NBC. 8 p.m. ET

Your character, Maya, is based on a real CIA operative. Did you meet her? She's still working undercover, so no, I didn't. She gave everything to this mission. I find it so noble. This movie gives credit to someone who can't come out and say, "This is what I did."

Where were you when you heard bin Laden had been killed? I was in New York City for 9/11 and when bin Laden was killed. It was emotional, but it didn't feel like a happy ending. There was a sense of peace, but it was just the end of one chapter and the start of another.

You didn't find success in Hollywood right away. Did you ever feel discouraged? There were years of being discouraged. I didn't have any luck when I first moved to L.A. I was in casting rooms with beautiful, tall, tan, blond women; I kept being told I didn't look modern. But when I read the description for my character in *Tree of Life*, it said, "A woman who looks as though she's from another time." I thought, "Here we go!"

What did you buy with your first big paycheck? A custom couch for my apartment in L.A. I actually don't spend a lot of money on things. I still drive my 2006 Prius!

Send questions to personality@parade.com or P.O. Box 5001, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10163-5001.

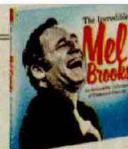
Q: How did Matt Damon's experience writing with John Krasinski compare to working with Ben Affleck? —Mindi Kimmel, Goreville, Ill.

A: "It was a lot like writing with Ben, actually," says Damon, 42, who won a screenplay Oscar in 1998 for *Good Will Hunting*.



Damon and Affleck in 1998

cowritten with Affleck. More recently, he and Krasinski, 33, teamed up to write and star in the fracking drama *Promised Land*, in theaters now. "It was just as much fun and just as productive. The only difference was Ben and I didn't have any kids interrupting us!" laughs the father of four.



SUNDAY FREEBIE

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Q: Will the kid contestants on *The Biggest Loser* be treated differently than the adults? —Louis Ramos, Galveston, Tex.

A: In an effort to take the focus away from numbers on a scale, the three kids (ages 13 to 16) joining the 15 adult contestants this season will not be weighed on camera or be eligible for elimination. "It's about making fitness and health fun and building self-esteem," says trainer Jillian Michaels, 38, who returns to the weight-loss show (NBC, Mondays) after a two-season hiatus. "I was surprised by how courageous the kids were," she adds. "I hope it's a wake-up call to parents that they need to lead by example, and I hope other children are motivated and inspired."



The Biggest Loser contestants and their trainers

