



Romancing
Ms Stone

15 MINUTES WITH...

EMMA STONE

THE HUSKY-VOICED ACTRESS TALKS JUICING, YOGA AND DAMSELS IN DISTRESS

BY TARA ALI

There are lots of questions you wish you could ask Emma Stone. Does she think Jonah Hill's character would have *really* ended up with her character in *Superbad*? When you see your boyfriend in the Spider-Man costume, is it secretly sexy? (Stone is in a relationship with actor Andrew Garfield who stars as the Marvel superhero.) Is Ryan Gosling Photoshopped? Given the diverse career she's had up to now, all by the age of 25, Stone's the kind of woman you wish you had a whole night to interview, at a bar, drinking beers and playing pool. But, as press opps go, we have limited time. *WH* shot the breeze over the phone via New York with the effervescent star of *Crazy, Stupid Love*, *The Help* and the upcoming *Amazing Spider-Man 2*.

You play Spider-Man's girlfriend Gwen Stacy in the upcoming movie. What's it like to play a damsel in distress?

"Gwen is the ultimate damsel in distress in a lot of ways, but what I really like about her is that her father raised her as an incredibly strong girl, especially for how young she is. She likes to help as much as possible and she puts herself in the face of danger much more than I think Peter Parker would want her to. So if she's a damsel in distress, it's kind of by her own choice, she seeks out danger. That's part of what's interesting about her."

Did you feel a sense of responsibility to be true to her comic book portrayal?

"For the first movie I was nervous about which elements of Gwen's personality were going to play out. There are a few different versions of Gwen in a couple of different comics. What we

latched on to was telling her story, keeping that as true to the comics as we could. But in the comics she moves to England and has Norman Osborn's twins – that's not going to happen. But we were able to add different little hits of moxie to her character, so that was good."

You've done voiceovers in *The Croods*, crime drama in *Gangster Squad* and lots of comedy. Any acting genres you'd still like to tick off?

"Oh, lots. I mean I don't really pick movies based on genre. There's lots of stories I'd like to tell and characters I'd like to play. I'd like to do a lot more to scare myself in the future. I'd really like to do theatre again. New, different and challenging, that's what I'm in the market for right now!"

Which other actresses do you look up to?

"Diane Keaton has always been my hero because of her glorious uniqueness. But I really admire a lot of women – people who are able to completely transform are just absolutely fascinating to me. I love Cate Blanchett and Jacki Weaver. Meryl Streep is probably the greatest who's ever lived, right?"

Have you ever had any of your heroes mentor you?

"I worked with Julianne Moore [in *Crazy, Stupid Love*] a couple of years ago and I grilled her for life advice! She kept saying, 'You don't want to hear anything from me, and I'm not going to be any good at advice' [laughs] but she is just such an incredible, beautiful, intelligent, solid woman and I talked to her

"I just had my third day in a row of pancakes for breakfast. I should probably have a green juice as an insurance check..."

about the way she lives her life, she's incredibly stable. A very good role model."

So let's talk health. Tell us about some crazy health fads over in LA at the moment.

"I've heard about a lot of people doing hot yoga, which sounds like a nightmare to me! I mean, I like yoga, but anything where you choose to be hot sounds like hell on Earth. But people really love it."

What kind of yoga do you like?

"I like a few different kinds and I also like the meditative aspect of it. Vinyasa is nice and Kundalini is really interesting and hilarious – that's the one where you do breath of fire and you feel like you're going to pass out, then you feel like you've been reborn or something [laughs]. It's really intense and kind of incredible. I don't have a steady health or exercise regimen, which is not great because I'm winded after I climb a flight of stairs, so I've realised it's important to take care of your health. You must know this, right?! It's important, in terms of longevity and being a human being."

Have you gotten into the green juice craze?

"Haha, nope. I just had my third day in a row of pancakes for breakfast. I probably should have a green juice as an insurance check, but no. Is it good? I have had one before, it feels like you're drinking a lot of health very quickly."

It depends. If you add lemon juice to the greens it can taste pretty good. But otherwise... it's like cold liquid vegetables.

"Mmm. That sounds so great, I'm going to order one right now. [Shouts] Get me a green juice, now!"



GARFIELD ON STONE: A LOVE STORY

1/ "She came in [to screen test] and it was like diving into white-water rapids and having no desire to hang on to the side."

2/ "We got on really well, in between [takes]. She keeps you on your toes and that wakes you up."

3/ "Throughout shooting, it was wild and exciting. I couldn't help but try to keep pace with her... and not let her get away." Nyaaaw.

How do you keep your brain sharp when you're doing long hours on set and back-to-back interviews?

"Good question! That is something that I've been actively focusing on lately because it is a hard thing to do, to keep your brain switched on and focused. I really like meditation and also journaling. That helps me get back to my brain. But on long days it's hard, and I can rely on caffeine more than I should."

Are you quite disciplined in keeping that stuff up?

"No. That's the whole problem. The benefits of those kinds of things really are cumulative, and I find if I can keep myself on a schedule then I get the rewards. I try... but then the day happens and I let it slide. But that's why I'm trying to focus back on doing it. I just have to remember!" *wh*

The *Amazing Spider-Man 2: Rise of Electro* is in cinemas on April 17.