



Erin Brockovich-Ellis

This year's Rocky is a woman in stilettos! Who can forget Julia Roberts's Oscar-winning performance as the flamboyant and headstrong legal assistant in the movie *Erin Brockovich*? Erin's investigation into the PG&E toxic waste sites brought justice and financial reward to the residents of several California communities whose water supply was polluted. Here, she pulls away from her mound-high paper-filled desk and tells *A&U* that she is a shopaholic, hates her freckles, and likes to cuss up a storm!

What city did you travel to on your last trip?

Chicago.

If you won a million dollars, how would you spend it?

Don't ask me! Go ask the IRS because they took half of my million.

Having been a part of this era of AIDS, how has it impacted you?

It scares me, though I'm glad society can be open and we can talk about it.

Which living person do you most admire?

My father.

Do you think there should be condom distribution in the high schools?

Yes, with education.

If you could change one historical event, what would it be?

I don't want to change history. It happened for a reason and it teaches us.

What do you like least about your appearance?

My freckles.

How has the AIDS epidemic changed the way you think about life and death?

It makes me think how precious life is and that we all should be more tolerant of one another because life is too short.

What historic era or event would you like to visit?

At the time of Christ.

Name one of your guilty pleasures.

Shopping. It's bad. I'm a clotheshorse.

Name one of your bad habits.

Cussing!

If you wrote a book today about your life, what would the title be?

My book will be released soon—*Take It from Me: Life's a Struggle but You Can Win!*

What can we do to help during this ongoing HIV/AIDS crisis?

Educate. Educate. Educate.

When you get into bed at night, do you wear pajamas, nightshirt, undies, or nothing at all?

All of the above.