



## ALICIA SILVERSTONE

### Class-Act Actress

Actress Alicia Silverstone burst onto the scene as an Aerosmith video vixen and as *Clueless*'s fluffy-and-frivolous Cher. But Alicia went from *Clueless* to fearless in one gutsy move: She started the young-female producing trend (later followed by the likes of Drew Barrymore and Sandra Bullock) with her 1997 film *Excess Baggage*. And over the past five years, instead of opting for sure-thing successes on the big screen, she has picked smaller projects she's passionate about, such as *Blast From the Past* and *Love's Labour's Lost*. Now this 25-year-old, who's also an animal-rights activist, is about to make her most fearless leap yet—to Broadway.

#### **How do you feel about your Broadway debut?**

I'm going to be off the film market for a long time while doing *The Graduate* on Broadway this spring. The whole experience will be nine months. I'm moving to New York City—my life is going to change. I have six dogs, and I have a life in Los Angeles. It's really overwhelming. I'm excited and proud of my decision, but I'm also like, *What am I doing?*

#### **Why was *Clueless* your last teen movie?**

Everybody wanted me to do another nice high school movie, but *Clueless* had the most amazing script—why would I do a lesser version? I figured the best thing would be to depart and do something completely weird and bizarre instead, like *Excess Baggage*.

#### **You got some public criticism about your weight around the time of *Batman and Robin*. How did you cope with that?**

I actually really miss the days when my face was fuller! I've always thought that women who have good hearts and make ethical choices and stand by them are the most beautiful people, regardless of their outward appearance.

#### **You look amazing now. What's the reason?**

I've been a vegan for over three years. When you're a vegan, you start to eat things you never would have thought of eating before. I now eat with so much more variety. And you have more energy. My skin improved, my hair grew stronger, and my nails got way better.

—JILLIAN MACKENZIE





**JILL HENNESSY**  
TV *Titan*

Actress Jill Hennessy revels in doing the unexpected. The Canadian-born 32-year-old jumped ship from megasuccessful *Law and Order* to pursue big-screen dreams with roles in movies like *Autumn in New York* and *Exit Wounds*. And she recently made her boldest move to date—going back to her TV roots to play the part of medical examiner Jordan Cavanaugh on the television series *Crossing Jordan*. (Her truly fearless role research? Observing real-life autopsies.) Married a little over a year ago to actor Paolo Mastropietro, this beauty who specializes in playing supersmart chicks is clearly on a roll.

**Are you more like emotional Jordan Cavanaugh or *Law and Order*'s buttoned-up Claire Kinkaid?**

I'm like Claire in that I'm diplomatic, but my vocabulary and how I dress are more like Jordan. On the whole, I'm more like Jordan—my demeanor, my clothes...I'm a laid-back, guitar-playing chick!

**What grabbed you about the character of Jordan?**

The fact that she's so imperfect. She's incredibly expressive, but she's not preachy—she has the sincerity

of a child who's trying to do the right thing. Emotionally, she's at the level of a 10-year-old girl, which can be a very interesting role to play.

**Unlike on the ensemble show *Law and Order*, you're definitely the star of *Crossing Jordan*. Are you feeling the pressure?**

P-p-pressure? What are you talking about? Excuse me, I need to go pop a pill right now. Seriously, it is terrifying and it is intense. But a part of me really loves it. I'm honored and flattered at being given the chance.

**What was one experience you've had that made you want to quit the business?**

When I was about 19 or 20, I worked incredibly hard with an acting coach for a part that I wanted very badly. I went in for the audition, and I felt really good about how I did. But as soon as I finished, [the casting director] took one look at me and said, "I know a girl like you thinks she can get by on her looks. But it's going to take a hell of a lot more than that to be a good actor, and God knows you need a lot of training!"

—J.M.