

Cocoa colored gems...continued from page 25

boots in deep brown. Missoni mixed it up with an oversized, abstract floral print in black, white and shades of brown.

In jewelry, the selection of chocolate-colored stones is vast, and gemstone experts point out a number of choices.

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Interview with Cameron Diaz for "In Her Shoes"

What was it about "In Her Shoes" that made you want to be involved?

The script told a story about relationships, and we don't get to see that in too many films today. I thought it was a wonderful journey to watch the characters come together.

What kind of person is your character, Maggie?

The more I got to know Maggie, the more of a child she became to me. At first, I thought she was tough and outgoing, but after a while I realized Maggie was emotionally very lonely, as well as selfish and self-centered. To make her way through life, she only can use her sexuality, looks and charisma. Eventually, she realized that these things are running dry, and that she must adopt a different way of living by relating to the people who love her.

In real life, you have a sister to whom you're very close. When you read the script, was it interesting to you because it dealt with a sibling relationship, capturing its ups and downs?

It's really interesting with siblings. You take care of one another, emotionally and physically. But in our film, Rose no longer wants to take care of Maggie, so it's not a healthy relationship, at least at the beginning. Rose stops helping because Maggie never gives back to Rose, even though Rose gives everything of herself to Maggie. So, their relationship is nothing like my relationship with my sister.

It seems like Maggie is a dream role because she undergoes major changes. Is that what you want in a role, to have that range to play?

An actor always wants to play a role that has an arc. You want to see a character go from point A to point B,

and have them change in some way. With "In Her Shoes," we get to experience Maggie's and Rose's journeys, and watch them become different people.

"In Her Shoes" has a lot of humor in it, too.

It's a film about life, and life is full of humor. When Maggie travels to a retirement community in Florida to meet the grandmother she never knew, Maggie becomes a real fish out of water. And it's funny to watch her adapt and become comfortable with these senior citizens.

What was it like working with Shirley MacLaine?

When Shirley joined the cast, it was such a huge boost to all of us—cast and crew. She's a legend! One day, I asked her how many films she's appeared in. And, she's like, "Oh, I don't know...sixty?" She's just amazing. She's very interesting, incredibly smart, and wise.

Are you a "Rose" or a "Maggie"?

I don't know. I'm probably a little of both—but I won't tell you which parts!

Explain the significance of the title, "In Her Shoes."

The title has several meanings. People sometimes want to know what it's like to walk in someone else's shoes—to temporarily experience someone else's life. And Maggie and Rose are no different. Maggie sees Rose as having it so easy: a great apartment, nice car, great job—all of which are unattainable for Maggie. And Rose looks at Maggie and sees someone with great beauty, who gets all the boys, knows how to dress, and has a carefree life. So they look at each other and wonder what it would be like to be in the other's shoes. (From: 20th Century Fox)

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In A Crisis, Let's Not Forget Our Pets... They Wouldn't Forget Us

By Paul Turner

I was very dismayed at the recent events that unfolded during the evacuation of New Orleans and other areas affected by Hurricane Katrina. While the shock of the hurricane damage and destruction has abated somewhat, the effect it left on me is as strong today as it was when I first witnessed the devastation. Most importantly, the seemingly senseless disregard for the safety and protection of the animals left behind to fend for themselves is equal to that of the U.S. Government's disregard for the people in the same situation.



The scene that did it for me was of a man who was rescued from a rooftop surrounded by polluted floodwaters. The man was rescued after two days of sitting with a dog—I'm not sure if it was his dog or not, and climbing into a boat, leaving the dog on a ten by ten roof with nothing. Am I the only one disturbed by this? How can we, as human beings, turn our backs on the creatures that we domesticate and make dependent on us for survival?

To me (and I think Barnaby feels the same way), this is unconscionable.

Leave your animals behind, the same way you leave your house, your possessions, furniture, books, televisions and other inanimate objects behind? Those possessions can be replaced. Did we forget somewhere that these are living, breathing creatures? Many of whom do nothing but demonstrate unconditional love, devotion

and kindness, help guard our homes, provide comfort to our children and enrich our family life. Cast them aside like spare parts? Shame on the government and FEMA for not having a provision to rescue animals, either with their owners or not. For me, it is a question easily answered. I would not, and never will, leave my animals behind. Would you? If yes, why do you have a pet?

Many people would say it's not an easy question. You can't put a dog's life ahead of a humans. I would argue that point. We rescued murderers, child molesters, rapists and others who don't deserve to be. Thank God for the people and organizations who (when allowed) stepped in and mounted a full rescue effort for the animals. The following organizations deserve your donations, prayers and thank you's:

Humane Society of the United States, Maddie's Fund, United Animal Nations-E.A.R.S. (Emergency Animal Rescue Service), American Humane Alliance, ASPCA, Best Friends Animal Society, L.S.U. School of Veterinary Medicine, IFAW, Code 3 Associates and Alley Cat Allies and Noah's Wish.

The above organizations went above and beyond the call of duty. They truly are animal lovers and gave generously of their time and money. God Bless the poor animals.

[Editor's note: I, too, felt terrible about the animals left behind, torn away from their owners and worse, left to die with no clean water or food. Unfortunately, the hurricane brought out many "soulless people." Paul is correct in asking where were the rescue efforts for the animals? I was told that when one of our big hurricanes hit here in South Florida, a fancy hotel allowed guests and non-guests to bring their pets and they all honkered down in the lobby...with no problems.]

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