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CHATTING UP SAMANTHA HARRIS

As a red-carpet fixture and hands-on mother of two, Samantha Harris has perfected the juggling act. But considering her unusual upbringing, the former *Dancing With the Stars* host's knack for the performer's lifestyle just comes naturally:

Is it true that you grew up at a renaissance fair?

Yes, and it was the most magical childhood I could have hoped for. Where most kids are creating an imaginary world to play in, I literally had joustors on horseback, wenches, and princesses running around.

Did that fairy-tale-like environment lead you to Hollywood?

Growing up in that fantastical realm was hands down the thing that got me on the path to entertainment. It put me at ease in front of crowds.

Have you ever had a difficult time interviewing a celebrity?

There was a very big A-list couple costarring in a film, but we weren't allowed to talk to them about each other—not even their performances! [They just] sat in a slump with scowls on their faces the whole time.

For more about Samantha Harris' colorful life on and off the carpet, head over to ELLE.com.

NECESSARY EXTRAS

The best Fashion Week surprises take place not on the runway but backstage. Whether your favorite scoops are casting coups (remember when shots surfaced of Gisele at Alexander Wang?) or the newest makeup trend (we're still

swooning over Pat McGrath's glittering lids at Dior last season), ELLE.com is your destination for unrivaled access to all the glossy behind-the-scenes details—plus interviews with top models and the beauty pros who glam them up.

TALKING HEARTS

Escape the candy-and-roses rut this Valentine's Day by sending your guy over to ELLE.com, where we've uncovered chic February 14 finds guaranteed to ignite a spark.



TRUE ROMANCE

When it comes to modern love, conventional wisdom need not apply. Enter author and columnist Catherine Townsend, whose approach to dating avoids touchy-feely rhetoric in favor of tangible results. Whether it's Andrew and Emma's courtship or Joshua and Diane's commitment you seek, head to ELLE.com for fuss-free tips on how to get your ideal relationship.

