

LIFE: ARTICLE

INTERVIEW WITH KRISTEN BELL

# A Conversation with Kristen Bell

In Judd Apatow's latest rom-com, the Veronica Mars and Gossip Girl star finally plays someone her own age

Watching Bell walk into a laid-back café near her house in the Hollywood Hills is like watching Norm stroll into Cheers. She greets the hostess by name, makes a beeline for her favorite seat, and orders the K. Bell special: fried egg whites on rye with lettuce, tomato, avocado, a slice of cheese, and a whisper of mayo, "It's healthy." says Bell, who sports skinny pants, a plum blouse, and suede boots. "But the mayo gives it that diner feel." (Something tells us she doesn't do gravy fries.)

Ever since the star of the CW's cult hit Veronica Mars moved on to juicier roles--as a femme fatale in NBC's Heroes, the mischievous narrator of the CW's Gossip Girl. and the lead in Forgetting Sarah Marshall, the new flick from Judd Apatow (The 40-Year-Old Virgin, Knocked Up)--she's found it tougher to go unnoticed. Becoming a fixture at a neighborhood brunch spot is just one way she's clinging to normal. Another tactic: staying in. Though she loves the occasional night out with her new guy. comedian Dax Shepard, she can usually be found playing Mario Kart with her four roommates. For this homebody, that's life in the fast lane.

Your character on Veronica Mars was the "queen of geek chic." Are you? I'm a geek who loves fashion. There's been a reinvention of the word geek. It means [being passionate about] anything that's under the radar or sort of frowned upon, like Comic-Con

# Comic-Con?

It's a giant comic book convention, and I've gone for the past four years to represent the shows I've been on. I have friends who wear Star Wars costumes and act like the characters all day. I may not be that deep into it, but there's something great about loving what you love and not caring if it's unpopular.

That's so un-Gossip Girl. What's it like being cattiness incarnate? I channel that voice everybody's had in her head since grade school. It's the critical voice that pops up when you see somebody who's wearing mom jeans, you know what I mean? It's a defense mechanism--that's what cattiness and gossip are. You're worried that someone is thinking something bad about you, so you think it about them

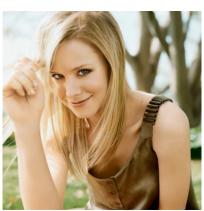
# Do you know who Gossip Girl is?

She isn't a physical being. Gossip Girl is a slambook, she's the Internet, she's where secret thoughts are written.

### Bill Hader, Paul Rudd, Jonah Hill, Kristin Wiig--they've all worked with Apatow before. Was it a hard clique to break into?

They're a very welcoming and warm group, but definitely intimidating because they do a lot of improv. I had to be ready for anyone to throw any-thing at me.

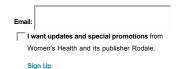
Your character is a heartless actress. Yet somehow she's still likable. Sarah was written in a beautiful way: She's not just the antagonist or the victim. Typically in romantic comedies, one person is demonized and the other isn't. But this is like Knocked Up; all the lines are blurred. Nobody's really at fault, and that's how reality is. Sarah is probably 25 percent bitch, 25 percent airhead, and 50 percent real.



Jim Wright

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BY SEASAMENESS ON JUN 5 2008 - 5:44PM

Love her! More interviews like this please!!



BY JNEBERT ON MAY 5 2008 - 6:57AM

I love K.Bell so I was really excited to see her in my WH as well as on the cover of my Cosmo... I wasn't so excited to see that the first paragraph of both articles was identical. Someone wasn't doing their job.



BY CEWHITE102001 ON APR 30 2008 - 8:54AM

Kristen Bell is a great person. She is still trying to stay true to herself while becoming successfull in Hollywood. Something I think is hard to do. She is also a fellow Michigander. Great people and things can come from the Midwest!!!!!

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