

Hollywood Exclusive: Ask Stacy

by Marilyn Beck & Stacy Jenel Smi

DEAR STACY: Brie Larson, who plays Kate on "United States of Tara," is beautiful and talented. Please give some information about her. Where have I seen her before? â€” Ben S., Hawthorne, Calif.

DEAR BEN: The Sacramento-born 19-year-old actress and pop singer decided at age 7 that she would be a performer and started landing assignments by her early teens. After her family relocated to Los Angeles, she broke into TV doing sketches on "The Tonight Show" with Jay Leno. In 2001, she played one of Bob Saget's daughters on the short-lived WB show "Raising Dad." She is remembered as the mean and popular girl, Liz, in 2004's "Sleepover" feature, and played a small role in Jennifer Garner's "13 Going on 30." On the music side, Larson has had a couple of singles and an album released ("She Said," "Life After You" and "Finally Out of P.E.," respectively) and toured with Jesse McCartney.

DEAR STACY: I would like to know more about the brothers Gregory and Douglas Smith. Difference in ages? Other brothers and sisters? Marital status? â€” Kimberly S., Brooklyn, N.Y.

DEAR KIMBERLY: "Big Love" actor Douglas is 23, two years younger than Gregory, who rose to fame on "Everwood." The Smiths hail from Toronto, and they have a younger sister, Samantha, and brother, Andrew. Their mother is a teacher, who is American, and their father is a film producer, born in the U.K. Neither Gregory nor Douglas is married, though Douglas has a girlfriend, actress Ashton Luceford. She sings with the band Alaskan Summer as well as with Douglas's band, His Orchestra.

DEAR STACY: Please give an update on Brent Spiner. He was so good as Data on "Star Trek: The Next Generation," and I haven't seen him since "Threshold" went off the air. â€” Joely C., Emerson, N.J.

DEAR JOELY: Right now, if all has gone according to plan, Spiner is busy acting on stage in Los Angeles â€” playing Miguel Cervantes and Don Quixote in the Feb. 14-March 1 run of "Man of La Mancha" at UCLA's Freud Playhouse, part of Jason Alexander's Reprise Theatre Company season. He did a couple of feature roles after the short-lived "Threshold" series in '06 â€” "Material Girls" with Hilary and Haylie Duff, and last year's comedy "Superhero Movie." He also appeared on TNT's "Leverage," in an episode directed by his old "ST:TNG" cast mate, Jonathan Frakes.

DEAR STACY: What, if any, is the relation between Robert Gossett on "The Closer" and Louis Gossett Jr.? I believe there is a resemblance. â€” O.M., Youngstown, Ohio

DEAR O.M.: They're cousins.

DEAR STACY: "Mad Men" is an amazing show. When is it going to return? Soon, I hope. â€” Lucas F., Flushing, N.Y.

DEAR LUCAS: The Emmy-winning AMC series is expected to have its third season premiere this summer. After a drawn-out contract negotiation, Matthew Weiner, the show's creator, signed for two more seasons of the drama about 1960s ad men last month.

DEAR STACY: There was a song, sung by a young woman on the World Music Awards program on TV a few weeks ago. It ended with the words, "I'm absolutely, positively certain that I don't love you anymore." I really loved that song and would appreciate your help to find out what it is. â€” Brenda T., Bronx, N.Y.

DEAR BRENDA: Those lyrics belong to the Anastasia song "Absolutely Positively," from the album "Heavy Rotation."

DEAR STACY: I am trying to recall a series on about 10 or 12 years ago that was a Western about a bounty hunter, but involved a lot of supernatural/science fiction elements, and it was funny. Looking for the name of the star as well, and whether it can be found on DVD? â€” J.P., Chattanooga, Tenn.

DEAR J.P.: I believe you're thinking of the 1993-94 Bruce Campbell starrer, "The Adventures of Brisco County Jr." Its one season was released on DVD in 2006.

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