



The funniest guy you don't know

Carole Radziwill cozies up next to Jason Segel, star of TV's *How I Met Your Mother* and the hilarious movie *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*, to talk fondue, relationships and his private parts. (Not kidding.)

CAROLE RADZIWILL: I thought it would be fun to have fondue. It's fattening—are you on a diet?

JASON SEGEL: I'm trying to stay away from the fondue.

CR: You're in great shape. And I apologize if I seem nervous—it's just that I've never done a Lunch Date after seeing my date's penis.

JS: [Laughs.] Oh.

CR: I loved your movie. That was the funniest naked scene I've ever seen. Everyone was laughing.

JS: Was there a gasp? Usually there's a gasp.

CR: Yes. Was that all you, or did you wear a prosthetic?

JS: That's an amazing compliment. Thank you. [Laughs.] But no, that's the real deal.

CR: I'm not sure how to explain it, but your girlfriend comes over to break up with you. And you play the scene as though you're wearing clothes.

JS: I had a naked breakup once. That's [where the idea came from]. A woman I was dating was away. When she came back, she called from the airport and said, "Can I come over?" I thought it would be cute to be naked when she arrived. She walked in and said, "We need to talk." Halfway through, I realize I'm naked. All I can say is picking out an outfit for the second half of a breakup is the hardest outfit you'll pick out in your life. I decided on a blue button-up shirt and khakis.

CR: [Laughs.] So how many times have you had your heart broken?

JS: Well, I'm not lucky in love at the moment. I'm dating, but nobody seriously. I had a breakup [three weeks ago]. We were together a few months—three months is my dividing line between just dating and a real girlfriend. And that's when I usually end it.

CR: How did you end it?

JS: It was a slow drifting apart. The slow distancing is usually the first sign.

CR: How long do you wait after a first date to call?

JS: I have no rules. I'm never going to be someone other than myself.

CR: What is the sweetest thing you've ever done?

JS: I was dating a woman last year. She went home for Christmas and had a terrible time. When she came back after New Year's, I cooked a full Christmas dinner and had presents waiting.

CR: You cook?

JS: I love to cook.

CR: So you're funny, handsome and you cook?

JS: When you put it that way, I should date myself. Which I do. [Laughs.]

CR: What's the most embarrassing thing you've done to get a girl back?

JS: One morning after a breakup, I drove to my girlfriend's house with flowers and proceeded to sing "Ain't Too Proud to Beg" from beginning to end. I didn't even sing it; I spoke-sang it! She just looked at me with pity.

CR: There was an episode of your show [*How I Met Your Mother*] in which a girl breaks up with you, and you act totally pathetic also. Do you get a lot of material from your own life?

JS: Yes, to some extent I do.

CR: Is there anything else you want to confess about your movie?

JS: Well, this is my first interview, so...

CR: Wait, I'm your first?

JS: Well, I've had other ones that were more professional....

CR: [Laughs.] They didn't talk about your penis?

JS: No, this was the first time. It was nice meeting you....

CR: Are we breaking up now?

JS: Yes. The phone calls will start slowing down.... ©

Carole Radziwill is the author of *What Remains*, now available in paperback.

LUNCH DATA

WHERE: The Standard Hotel, West Hollywood

WHAT THEY ATE: BLT on white bread (Jason); fondue appetizer, spaghetti and meatballs (Carole)