

jc scott & lies secrets

Who are you, anyway?

I am a Canadian designer who has lived and worked in a loft in Fan Tan Alley for the past millennium. Designing for me has included jewellery, murals, nightclubs, resorts, golf clubhouses, ships and homes. My best-known project in B.C. is The Teahouse in Stanley Park; in Victoria, it's probably The Marina Restaurant. My future plans focus on spas, wellness centres, environmental design and radical homes, but I never know who's going to call next, which is the best part of my career.

What quality do you value most in your friends?

Giving witty dialogue while cooking gourmet food.

What is your most cherished possession?

My dreamscape.

What do you consider the most overrated virtue?

Real virtue cannot be overrated, particularly in politicians.

What talent or attribute would you most like to have?

Wit, wealth, health, beauty, language skills, endurance, irresistibility . . . pity I have to choose only one.

If you were to die and could come back as any person or thing, who/what would you choose?

Jonathan Livingston Seagull with good aim.

What is your least favourite chore around the house?

What are chores?

If you could have a conversation with anyone, living or dead, who would it be?

Oscar Wilde or Salvador Dali or Gertrude Stein or Bertie Russell or Voltaire or Tom Stoppard or . . . you?

What do you like most about living in Victoria?

Bicycling throooooough cherry blossoms.

What do you like least about living in Victoria?

Being splashed by a car on a cold, rainy winter day, when I'm locked out of my place and my girlfriend's mad at me and I don't have my wallet and my dog just died and . . . actually, I love it here every day.

What is your greatest extravagance?

Art. I can't stop collecting it. Please send

professional help and medications.

If you were to be likened to a musical genre/song, what would it be?

"The Cat Came Back."

If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?

I wouldn't chew my tongue when I concentrate.

What is your greatest fear?

That heaven and hell actually are real places.

What is the most outlandish food you've ever eaten?

I once baked a chocolate cake over a campfire on a canoe trip, and we ate it. Ruined the pot, though.

What inspires you?

Sheer brilliance, like the architecture of Santiago Calatrava, and comets — good comets, not those overhyped and underperforming comets.

What or whom do you most dislike?

CBC Radio repeat broadcasts, like Stuart McLean telling the same story twice a day, three times a week.

What is the greatest accomplishment of your life?

Being loved.

For what in your life do you feel most grateful?

Being loved.

What is your most compulsive habit?

Chewing my tongue when I concentrate.

In what period of your life did you experience the most personal growth and change, and why?

When I lost my fear of both the dark and of swimming by jumping off the two-storey boathouse roof in pitch darkness while in a mind-altered state. I turned into a fish and haven't stopped swimming since. Getting divorced is also a growth experience.

If you could change one historical event, what would it be?

Evolution.

I would eliminate the Neanderthal phase and spend public money on art galleries and public spas instead of arenas for displays of public violence.

What is your philosophy of life?

Live well, be artful, drink French champagne, follow the golden rule, phone your mother and thank her for everything. ▼

