

'I've been stalked five times!'

Lisa Edelstein is Hugh Laurie's love interest in hit US drama, *House*. She tells us why she loves Brits like Cat Deeley and Simon Cowell, but hates the dark side of fame...

What's the best thing about being in *House*?

It's great to be in 'the most-watched show on the planet', but I do get some crazy fan mail from people who think they are in a relationship with me, and I don't respond to that. I'll read fan letters, but I never write back. I've been stalked five times in my life. I appreciate that people enjoy what I'm doing, but I just feel very vulnerable so I'm really protective of my privacy.



Lisa is a fan of Cat's

What was the best thing about pole-dancing for Hugh Laurie in the show?

It was nerve-racking. It's not every day you suddenly have to do a sexy dance in your underwear for a work colleague. I was worried I might offend Hugh's English sensibilities but he was very supportive without seeming pervy. There was no saliva coming out of his mouth!

Who was your best sex scene with – Hugh Laurie, *Frasier's* Kelsey Grammer or *Seinfeld's* Jason Alexander?

In *Seinfeld* I had a sheet up to my shoulders which were bare, but my grandmother was upset because she thought I was naked. In *Frasier*, I was supposed to have had this phenomenal, intense sexual experience so was breathing



Lisa likes Simon's honest advice



What's the best TV show?

I love *So You Think You Can Dance* with Cat Deeley. Cat is great at her job. She's charming and she handles the contestants really well – and she looks gorgeous. I couldn't do her job. Simon Cowell's great on *American Idol*, too. He's extremely bright and I agree with 90 per cent of the things he says. The performers need to be told honestly what they're doing right and wrong. I thought Paula Abdul was too nurturing when she was a judge – she was so nurturing, she didn't really give the contestants any advice.



Hugh and Lisa have on-screen chemistry

What's the best part of playing a doctor?

It means I'm a great patient because I'm well informed. A lot of doctors like the show so they give me interesting information that I retain. I'm not squeamish and I like diagnosing my friends' symptoms. On the minus side, I'll never wear another pencil skirt because I've worn so many as Cuddy. They work for her because her whole life is restrictive. She's a bigger character than her job allows her to be.

heavily and I started to actually hyperventilate – I lost feeling in my hands and feet. That happened once with an ex-boyfriend who I thought must be a great lover, but now I realise he wasn't! When I had my passionate kissing scene with Hugh he behaved as if he was being forced to molest me – he was so polite – but I enjoyed it!

What's the best thing that could happen to your character Dr Cuddy now?

I think she and House have to properly get together. It will never work, but they have to find that out. I think that when people have strong feelings, you can't move on until you surrender to the fact you like this person. You have to live it out.

★ *House* is on Sunday nights on Sky1

FEATURE: PAUL SIMPER. PHOTOS: GETTY; THE HALLMARK CHANNEL

best magazine, ISSN 0954-8955, is published weekly (50 times per year, double issues on the last week of November and third week of December) by The National Magazine Company Ltd, c/o USACAN Media Dist. Srv Corp at 26 Power Dam Way Suite S1-S3, Plattsburgh, NY 12901. All rights reserved. No part of best may be reproduced or used in any form or by any means, either wholly or in part, without the prior written permission of the publisher. Not to be resold, lent, hired out or otherwise disposed of by way of trade at more than the recommended retail price (subject to VAT in Republic of Ireland) or in a mutilated condition. Printed by Prinovis Liverpool Ltd, 4 Dakota Drive, Estuary Commerce Park, Speke, Liverpool. best welcomes letters, which should be sent with a stamped, self-addressed envelope and clearly marked with the name of the department concerned. The publishers, editors and authors accept no responsibility in respect of any products, goods or services that may be advertised or referred to in this issue, or for any errors, omissions, misstatements or mistakes in any such advertisements or references. best is distributed by Conde Nast & National Magazine Distributors Ltd (COMAG), Tavistock Road, West Drayton, Middlesex UB7 7QE (tel: 01895 433600). Managing Director, Mike Mirams. Annual subscription rates (inc postage), UK £50; Europe Airmail £90; rest of world Airmail (except USA and Canada) £110. Telephone: 01858 438838 for further details. Back issues, £1.30 each post paid (UK). Send cheques/PO to: best Subscriptions, Tower House, Sovereign Park, Market Harborough, Leicestershire LE16 9EF. Prices are correct at time of going to press. USA subscription agent USACAN Media Dist. Srv. Corp at 26 Power Dam Way Suite S1-S3, Plattsburgh, NY 12901. Subscription price in US \$138 per annum. Subscription price in Canada \$248 per annum. Periodicals postage paid at Plattsburgh, NY. Postmaster: send address changes to: best, c/o Express Mag, PO Box 2769, Plattsburgh, NY, USA 12901-0239.