

“I Can’t
Believe
How.

Amazing
My Life Is!”

She’s famously battled with her weight, a drug addiction and a cheating (former) fiancé, but Kelly Osbourne has come out the other side looking and feeling hotter than ever. With a burgeoning Hollywood career and a return to music on the horizon – not to mention a new man – she’s got a lot to celebrate. She tells Cosmopolitan Middle East why no one is more surprised than she is





Three years have passed since Kelly Osbourne dropped an astonishing three stone, transforming herself from chubby Hollywood heiress to fashion darling overnight, but the *Fashion Police* star still can't quite believe she's cover girl material. When the 27-year-old arrives for her *Cosmopolitan Middle East* cover shoot at LA's Redbury Hotel, she's bubbling with girly exuberance, as she surveys the selection of figure-hugging dresses we've picked out for her to model. "I'm my own biggest critic. I'll never be able to look at [a magazine cover] and be like, 'Oh my gosh, I look amazing,' but it is still very exciting at the same time," she says.

Settling into hair and make-up, she's a whirlwind of giddy energy, admitting that even after a decade in the spotlight, she can't get used to being fussed over by a team of stylists. "I don't like people being in my face, like, close to my face. Because I've got really bad ADHD, I have to be doing something with my hands, on my laptop or reading something or doing something because otherwise I can't sit still and I drive everyone crazy," she explains. True to form, she grabs her laptop and jumps on Twitter to say how psyched she is to be appearing on the cover of *Cosmo Middle East's* first anniversary issue. All the while, she barely stops talking. And it appears no topic is off limits as she chats easily with *Cosmo's* fashion team about everything from Angelina Jolie and *that* leg at the Oscars to her brother Jack's impending fatherhood. She's refreshingly open and full of that down-to-earth, no-BS attitude that makes her so darn lovable.

Weeks later, when we phone Kelly to do the follow-up interview, we tell her how amazing her photos look and – after her hairstylist dished that he's bombarded with calls from women dying to know how to copy Kel's signature metal-look locks – we ask how it feels to be a style icon. "It's weird," she says. "It's an honour, but at the same time, it still trips me out and I don't think I'll ever get used to it. It's really cool. I come up with this stuff and then I have to talk everyone into letting me do it! They are like, 'No, you are not doing that, you are staying blonde...' But people have grown to like this hair. So it does make me happy."

And for someone who has worked her butt off to look the way she does (we're talking regular gym visits and a strict once-a-week-only junk food policy), she's realistic about the limitations of beauty. For her, losing weight was not a shortcut to happiness – it took equal amounts of hard work on the inside, including two stints in rehab, and a lot of counselling. "If I just suddenly lost the weight, I think it would be different. But because it happened at the same time as me making mistakes, learning from them, becoming an adult... it's just become one thing," she says. Adding, "I can't say, 'Oh my life is so much better, and I can wear whatever clothes I want to, and people think I'm hot now...' No, it's not like that at all. It's just one part of the journey of my life and it's taught me a lot."

Still, to rock a bandage dress like Kelly does must be a sure-fire body confidence-boost? "I don't think any woman is body confident," she counters. "It's something I've realised really recently from hanging out with supermodels; I'm talking about *supermodels*. They are not even confident with their body, and they are supposed to have the best bodies in the world. I don't think as women, we are ever satisfied."

When she doesn't elaborate on exactly which supermodels she's been hanging out with (and we are dying to know) we decide not to probe. Though she's as chatty and straight-talking as the Kelly we met at the shoot, we get the vibe that, today, she's not in the mood for over-sharing – a suspicion confirmed when we bring up the subject of her boyfriend of eight months, New York-based photographer Anton Lombardi. "That is a part of my life that I will no longer discuss publicly," she says frankly. Not that we can really blame her. The last time she went public with a romance, she was engaged to her ex, model Luke Worrall, who reportedly cheated on her, so you can't knock a girl for being guarded. "When you are a big-mouthed women, like I am, who has got a lot of opinions, I don't want to emasculate anybody," she explains. "I don't want somebody to suddenly lose who they are because they are my boyfriend. So it's something that I just keep very quiet, and it's no one else's business."

Reluctant Beauty

Tough Talking

She's polite, but firm, and if she doesn't want to discuss it, we're certainly not going to push this notoriously feisty chick – having watched her on *Fashion Police*, we know she doesn't pull any punches (in a recent episode, she dubbed Christina Aguilera a "fat b*****"). "I only criticise people if they have done something to me. [Otherwise] I only criticise their clothes," she insists. And her style critiques are usually taken in the good humour in which they are intended – most of the time, anyway. "All the A-listers, they love it," she says. "It's the people who like, I →

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The Cosmo Quiz

Full name:
Kelly Lee Osbourne

Nickname:
Totsy

The thing I love most in the whole world is:
my family

I feel my best when:
I'm happy

The one thing you don't know about me is:
I'm double jointed

Life's too short not to:
Live it!

The three people I would love to have a dinner party with are:
RuPaul, Divine, Mark Ryden

The biggest misconception of fame is:
That it will solve all your problems

The hardest lesson I ever had to learn was:
To shut up

When I have a day off, you'll find me:
In bed

don't even know their full names that go absolutely f***ing insane!" She adds, "It always just makes you laugh. Saying you don't like the colour of someone's dress is not that big of a deal. It's always weird how sensitive people are!"

And if anyone knows about the need for a thick skin in this business, it's Kelly. Having endured endless speculation over her struggles with addiction, and her weight, she's learned to toughen up, and not to take everything written about her to heart. "It's like it never f***ing ends!" she says. "It's always some kind of story. I've got to the point now where I don't even bother responding because they are so fictitious and so stupid." She cites a recent story suggesting she may be off the rails again, after she was pictured holding a champagne flute. "That was my brother's baby shower," she laughs. "Those were the glasses everyone had. Because it was really fancy, they had these antique flute glasses, you couldn't get a drink in any other cup."

But she can understand why she's an easy target for the tabloids. "Hollywood is constantly looking for the next f***-up because it's a big story... it would be a great story: to watch the rise and fall of Kelly Osbourne again." She adds, "Now that there is no significant 'bad girl' out there because Lindsay Lohan's probation is done, they are really looking for the next bad girl. It's something that I find

sickening about this industry. People can't be happy for other people when they are doing well." And career-wise, boy, is Kelly

doing well. Not only is she starring in an upcoming movie, *So Undercover*, but there's also buzz that she's set to make a return to music. "I definitely do want to do more music, but it's in the very infant stages right now, I can't even say that I have written a full song," she says, refusing to elaborate. She's also keeping schtum on the details of her movie debut, other than to tell us it's co-starring her good friend Miley Cryus. Suffice to say, we'll be seeing a lot more of Miss Osbourne in 2012: "There's lots of fun, exciting things that are coming up this year," she teases.

So don't bother looking to Kelly to fill Hollywood's current 'bad girl' vacancy. "I understand that I have a lot of responsibility," she says. "A lot of young girls look up to me. And if I f*** up and do something, I don't want people to think it's okay for them to go and do it too," she says. "I take that responsibility head on because I couldn't live with myself if one of my actions led to someone else getting hurt."

Mature, level-headed and, dare we say it, sensible, Kelly is a different person from the bratty teen who stomped on to our screens ten years ago in reality show *The Osbournes*, but then, she notes, she's a different person than she was even a few years ago. "When I think back to my life three years ago to now, it's like night and day." And she's even surprised herself along the way. "I can't believe how hard it was and how amazing my life is now." ■

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