



ASK DR. OZZY

Q I'm a dude in my thirties and losing my hair. There must be a solution if you have the cash. But what does it involve? Surgery? And should I go for it or just come to terms with my new look?

—Phil, Texas

A Shave your head and get it over with — and for fuck's sake don't start wearing a beanie or a cowboy hat, 'cause it ain't gonna fool anyone. As for surgery, I don't know much about it, 'cause I've always been blessed up top. Look at it this way: Those of us who got dodgy perms in the Eighties were able to grow them out and move on. Anyone who got a dodgy hair transplant wasn't so lucky.

Q I've been smoking for half my life, and the whole premature-death thing is seeming a lot more real than it did when I was 20. How do I quit for good?

—Geoff, North Carolina

A There was a time when I was so hooked on nicotine, I'd pick up other people's old butts from the floor and light them up. Fucking disgusting, man. I mean, I remember flying to Australia once in club class, in the days when you could puff away on the plane as much as you liked. When I got to Sydney, I was yellower than Bart Simpson's left armpit, and I could hardly fucking breathe. But whatever I tell you, it ain't gonna make the least bit of difference. When you really wanna quit, you'll quit. Seriously. I wish it were easier than that, but it ain't.

Q I was raised an atheist, but I've always felt a spiritual tug. I'm curious about Buddhism, but my mother comes from a Jewish family, and my dad's relatives are all Catholic, so either of those would make more sense. What should I go for?

—Wesley, Oregon

A A "spiritual tug"? You make it sound like a fucking hand job, not a religious calling. But, y'know, this ain't about what makes sense to other people, it's about what's in your heart, man. Personally speaking, my mum was Catholic, my wife's Jewish, and I'm the Prince of fucking Darkness. How much sense does that make? None. But it works for me.

Q I play bass in a pretty popular band, and I'm worried that the temptations of the road — which I haven't exactly resisted — are going to leave me warped and unable to do stuff later in life like be happy in a "normal" relationship with one girl. Advice?

—Anonymous

A Are you *seriously* writing to Dr. Ozzy to complain about this? At my age, I count every game of hide-the-sausage as a gift from above. And you're coming to me, expecting sympathy 'cause of all the groupies you've been boning? If you want my advice — stop fucking whining, man. Enjoy the spoils of war while your dick still answers to the call of the wild.

If you want Dr. Ozzy's advice about health, sex and family matters, go to rollingstone.com/drozy.



The Doctor Is In

Finally, a self-help book that pulls no punches. For the follow-up to his bestselling memoir, *I Am Ozzy*, the original Dr. Oz (sorry, Oprah!) collects the best bits of wisdom from these columns — along with untold stories of decadence, depravity and diaper-changing. Rock!

CHECKING IN

Flea

On his new dad-punk doc, cult movies and his buddy Thom Yorke

Red Hot Chili Peppers bassist Flea wasn't sure he wanted to be interviewed for the new documentary *The Other F Word* (screening in limited runs across the country all fall), which features punk dads from Devo's Mark Mothersbaugh to Blink-182's Mark Hoppus reflecting on rock and fatherhood. But when Flea's daughter, Clara, 23, agreed to be in the film, the



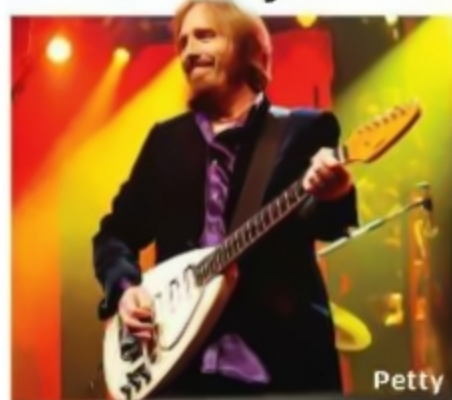
bassist found himself weeping as he opened up about how being a dad (he also has a five-year-old, Sunny) changed his life. "When it comes to kids, I'll cry at the drop of a hat," says Flea, who is currently rocking arenas on RHCP's world tour. "People know me as this animal in the Chili Peppers — this is a side of me that they don't know."

HOLLYWOOD SHUFFLE The documentary is nowhere near Flea's first time on the big screen: He's had hilarious small parts in a string of cult classics, including *The Big Lebowski*, *My Own Private Idaho*, *Less Than Zero* and *Back to the Future Part II*. "I always thought I was a terrible actor," he says. "I just lucked into this weird little obscure cameo-esque film career."

ATOMIC POWER Last year, Thom Yorke recruited Flea to play bass on the tour for his side project Atoms for Peace, and they eventually hit the studio to record an album that Yorke is currently finishing. "We went into the studio for three days," Flea says. "We just jammed, totally improvising. Thom and [his producer] Nigel Godrich have taken that stuff and done shit with it. I haven't heard it yet, but I have a warm place in my heart and my mind and my balls for the whole fucking concept."

ANDY GREENE

Tom Petty Revs the Heartbreakers Back Up



"I took some time off this year, and I enjoyed it for the most part," says Tom Petty, "but I kind of need something to do." So the rocker is revving back up this fall, starting on October 29th with an intimate 500-capacity Heartbreakers gig at the California State University, Northridge, to benefit L.A. public radio station KCSN. Then, on November 25th, the band will take part in Record Store Day's Black Friday event with a vinyl-only live LP recorded mostly on last year's *Mojo* tour. Petty and the band are also hard at work on the next Heartbreakers record, which they're planning as a 12-song set, much of it cut live in the studio. "It's a bit early to explain, but there's a blues base to a lot of it," Petty says. "But there's a few things. It's not all one thing. We're real happy with what we got so far."

PATRICK DOYLE