



most people do in their teens and early 20s. My whole life I've been overly responsible. So I was fantastically indulgent for a good nine months. I knew it would be a temporary thing, and it was fun. There was a sexiness to my curvier self that I loved.

Why did you want to find a new eating plan?

Longevity. I realized I want to live till I'm 120. There's a lifestyle that I am now happily creating that can, as best as is possible, prevent most forms of cancer and other diseases.

How did you come to choose

Dr. Joel Fuhrman's program?

I went to my favorite bookstore, Banyen Books and Sound, in Vancouver. I saw this book, Eat to Live, and I thought, that's exactly what I want to do. I wasn't interested in some fad diet that was unsustainable, like "lose 10 pounds in two weeks." I don't believe in diets; I think they're short-term and a bit of an emotional roller-coaster. So I opened it and flipped through and thought the weight loss is incidental. The primary focus is disease prevention.

How hard is it to eat this way? It was very difficult for the first couple of weeks. I told my tour manager that he needed to pad the walls of the back of my bus [laughs] because it's like any other addiction. Your body gets so used to eating processed foods that it has withdrawal symptoms. If you can push through the first couple of weeks, your taste buds change.

You've said you suffered from anorexia and bulimia in the past. Were you concerned you could get caught up in this pattern again?

Yeah. Whenever there's a weight loss happening, it definitely conjures up some memories for me — the old eating disorder mind stream. But I'm older, and I have no intention of starving myself. It wasn't really a weight-loss journey that I was embarking upon. I had to keep that as my mantra. My motivation was to stay high-nutrient, period. I have a lot of empathy for young women today, and it seems to me the pressure is even higher to be even

O LIVE TILL I'M 120!

thinner. Now beauty is defined by how far your bones are protruding.

What is your workout routine?

When I'm out on tour, my shows are so physical that that really takes care of it. When I'm not on tour, I do between a half hour to an hour of light weights, running, biking, swimming, probably five times a week. I also love to kickbox and dance.

What does your boyfriend (attorney Tom Ballanco) think of your weight loss?

He just cares about my well-being. He thought I was sexy at whatever weight that I've been. I've never felt loved in that way before.

Will your next big project be to plan a wedding?

I could see in the not too distant future being married with children, absolutely, but I'm in no crazy rush. I wildly respect him. How he views the world, the lens through which he looks at life is very similar to mine. To have that in common makes me sleep well at night.

Interview by Carole Glines Styled by Brenna Egan