

celebrity q&a

Nicholas Ralph

BY JAY BOBBIN



OF 'ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL ON MASTERPIECE' ON PBS

The "Masterpiece" remake of "All Creatures Great and Small" is your first television credit. As it wraps up its run, with your being its central star, how did you find the experience of filming it?

I came from a theater background where you don't get that stuff (catering and other amenities). Start to finish, this was just incredible, and spending the four months ... we were just going like everyone was on fire, cast and crew. It was an incredible opportunity, and one I am so lucky to have had the opportunity to do.

What sort of research did you do for the project?

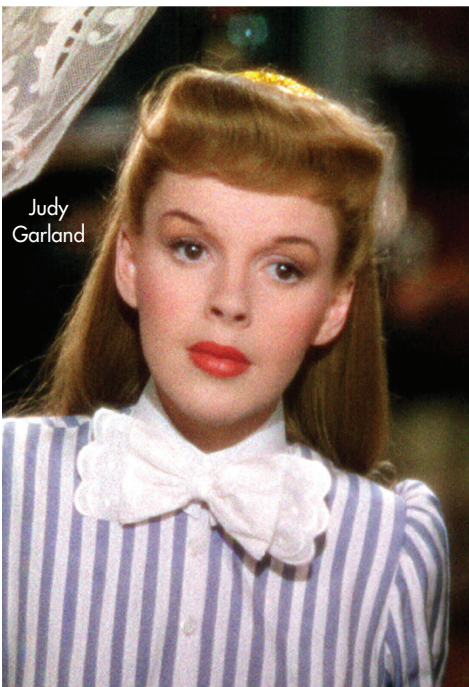
I read all the books, and I even went down to Glasgow at the university archive, and I found James Herriot's - or the man himself, James Alfred Wight's (who used "James Herriot" as his pen name) - his scores and his absences from the days when he was in Glasgow Veterinary College. And something that struck me was that in the biography his son wrote, (it was revealed) he was a little bit ill during that period.

Something you noticed was that of the people that passed, he was one of the highest absentees, but he was

always within the top three (students in) all the classes. It just showed me straight away not only the intelligence of the man, but more the hard work and the passion he had for that to happen. Already, that gives you so much to work with as an actor. And we met his son and daughter, Jim and Rosie. They were really helpful with little anecdotes and stories and things like that.

"All Creatures Great and Small" turned out to be one of the final projects made by the late Dame Diana Rigg. How was it to work with her?

Working with Diana was an absolute pleasure. She had so much vitality, and she was keeping everybody on their toes.



Judy Garland

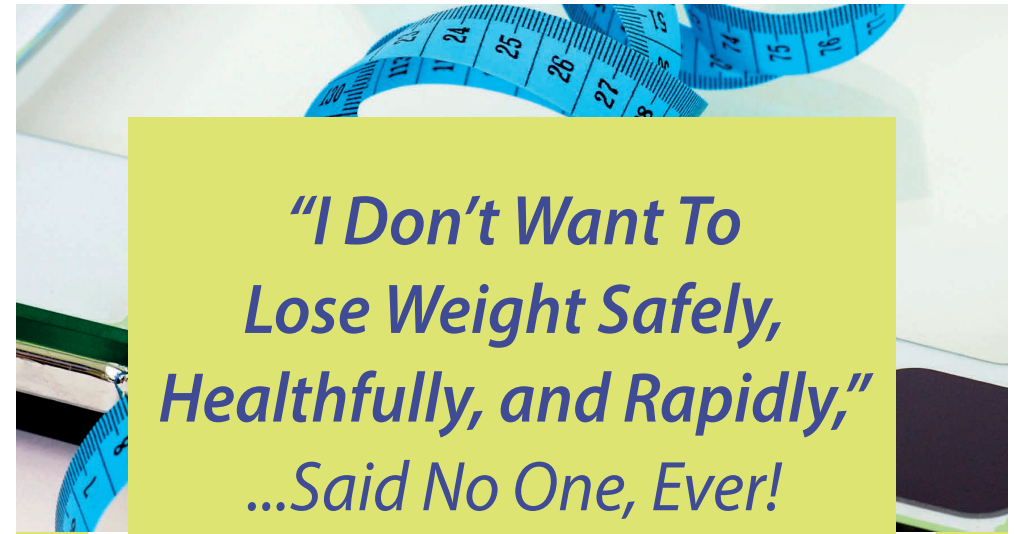
triviaquiz BY JOHN CROOK

Judy! Judy! Judy!

Questions:

- 1) In what movie musical did Judy Garland perform "The Trolley Song"?
- 2) Who wrote "Me and My Shadows," the bestselling memoir on which the 2001 ABC biopic "Life With Judy Garland: Me and My Shadows" was based?
- 3) "The Wizard of Oz" made history as the first movie to be shown on television annually, starting Nov. 3, 1956, on which network?
- 4) Victor Fleming directed the color sequences in "Oz" but had to turn over the black-and-white scenes to King Vidor when he was rushed away to take the reins of what other movie?
- 5) Who played Garland in director Rupert Goold's 2019 biopic "Judy"?

- Answers:**
- 1) "Meet Me in St. Louis"
 - 2) Lorna Luft, Garland's daughter
 - 3) CBS
 - 4) "Gone With the Wind"
 - 5) Renée Zellweger



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