

GIVEN YOUR BACKGROUND, WHEN YOU SAW *BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN*, WHEN YOU WERE SITTING IN THE THEATRE WATCHING THE MOVIE, WHAT WAS THAT LIKE FOR YOU?

What was in my head was it's about time. I'd never seen anything like it. This was so dead on. It got criticized. But it is absolutely real. It's just a small moment with two guys.

WAS IT EMOTIONAL TO WATCH?

Yes. I watched it with my *friend* of 19 years — I had to make him go — it was really interesting. There were so many moments in it that have happened in my life. It was beautifully done.

I CRIED.

Me too... I didn't want to say that.

HAVE YOU EVER SAT BY A CAMPFIRE, SIP-PING A CUP OF COFFEE, EATING BEANS, LOOKING UP AT THE STARS, YOUR HORSE TIED UP IN THE BACKGROUND?

Yes, but it wasn't coffee. As I recall it was Jack Daniels.

SO THAT ISN'T JUST THE MOVIES?

When I was a kid I begged every year to go on the cattle drive. When I was 7 or 8 I got to go. That's exactly what it is. We had a fire and we sat around and we ate beans. It was my first experience. You sleep under the stars and you look up. The horse is standing three to six feet from you and you get up before the sunlight and you start over again. It's great.

IF YOU WEREN'T DOING THIS WHAT WOULD YOU BE DOING? WHAT WOULD YOU IMAGINE YOUR LIFE TO BE WITHOUT HORSES?

I really don't think there is life without horses. I really can't imagine.

WHAT DO YOU WANT ON YOUR TOMBSTONE?

Oh I don't want a tombstone. I don't want all of that stuff. When I lose someone I love it's hard of course. But you have to get through it. But the best part is that it brings up all of these memories.

I'd hope that I was able to make a difference somehow. I'm not original... I've tried really hard to do the best I can do. I think most of us do. I don't want to be buried. I don't want anyone whining over me... And leave some great memories for people. I hope.

SAID LIKE A TRUE COWBOY. §

