

## Ziggy

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that everywhere I go, especially in poor countries and poor neighborhoods. Even in speaking to actual freedom fighters from South Africa to Ethiopia, they always told me how influential the music was in their struggles.

**KW:** Attorney Bernadette Beekman asks: What is the most significant life lesson you learned from your father?

**ZM:** Everything I've taken away from my father has been significant. So, I can't say that any one lesson is the most significant. By being around him, I learned that there is a purpose in life, and that if we are inspired to help people, we should do it. And that there is a spiritual side to life as well as to music, and that we are here for a bigger purpose than just ourselves. Those are some very significant ideas of my father's that I have carried with me all my life and still cherish to this day.

**KW:** Harriet Pakula Teweles asks: What was it like growing up as the son of such a famous icon?

**ZM:** I'd divide it into two periods. Bob wasn't as big an icon as he later became after he died. When he was alive, he just acted like what he was, a musician that people loved. He never behaved in any superficial or iconic way. He was just being himself. There wasn't anything special or different about our lives. In Jamaica, everybody's the same. The second period began after he passed away, when his iconic stature grew and everywhere we went people would show us a lot of love as Bob Marley's kids. That was very positive for us.

**KW:** Marcia Evans asks: How long did you live in Trenchtown?

**ZM:** I was born in Trenchtown and spent my early years there as a toddler. When my dad made more money, we moved out of the ghetto to a better neighborhood with better schools. Eventually, he purchased the home on Hope Road from [Island Records pro-

ducer] Chris Blackwell, which also became his headquarters.

**KW:** Film student Jamaal Green says: First and foremost, I would like to say love and respect to you and your family for providing the world with generations of great music and good vibes. With the debut of the

### Bob wasn't as big an icon in life as he later became after he died

documentary Marley, is there a possibility of someday making a dramatic film about the life of the "Honor Rebel" Bob Marley? If so I would love to apply for the job.

**ZM:** [LOL] Jamaal, you just might be able to direct it. It's going to take a few years to get there, so you might be perfect, if you're available at that time. But it's not something that we're focusing on right now. When we are ready, it will have to be a magnificent piece of work.

**KW:** Editor/legist Patricia Turnier asks: Who would you like to portray your father, if you make a movie about him?

**ZM:** That's an issue. We don't know.

**KW:** How about you?

**ZM:** I wouldn't play him, but we haven't looked that deeply into it yet.

**KW:** Patricia, who is Haitian-Canadian, was also wondering whether the movie Marley will be available subtitled in French, her native language.

**ZM:** I hope that the distributors will make the movie available in whatever subtitles are needed in different areas.

**KW:** Patricia's has a couple more questions: Do you enjoy listening to your own CDs?

**ZM:** Umm... not really.

**KW:** And, what message do you think people will take away from?

**ZM:** I don't think there's a specific message. I want people to feel an emotional connection to Bob, a human connection as a friend, as family.

**KW:** Is there any question no one ever asks you, that you wish someone would?

**ZM:** I can't think of one off the top of my head right now.

**KW:** Your dad gave you the nickname, Ziggy, meaning marijuana. And you are an advocate for the legalization of pot. Why is that, because you consider it a sacred herb or a recreational drug?

**ZM:** My interest in it is actually a much wider spectrum than merely smoking marijuana. It's all about the use of hemp for clothing, for building materials, and as a bio fuel, as an environmental alternative in the industrial sense. Plus, the seeds have nutritional value. That's what I'm interested in bringing to light, because everybody just talks about the smoking, the smoking, the smoking. I'm trying to get across to people that if we in this world are serious about the Green Revolution and saving the planet, then this plant has to be a part of the discussion, because it is the most suitable natural resource with thousands of beneficial uses.

**KW:** What is your favorite dish to cook?

**ZM:** Right now, just oatmeal.

**KW:** When you look in the mirror, what do you see?

**ZM:** I don't know what I see... [Pauses to reflect] I see a body. I see a body.



Ziggy Marley

**KW:** If you could have one wish instantly granted, what would that be for?

**ZM:** Peace in the world.

**KW:** The Ling-Ju Yen question: What is your earliest childhood memory?

**ZM:** Playing on the streets of Trenchtown.

**KW:** The Kerry Washington question: If you were an animal, what animal would you be?

**ZM:** A snake.

**KW:** Bernadette also asks: What is your favorite charity?

**ZM:** I'm into anything that really helps children.

**KW:** The Judyth Piazza question: What key quality do you believe all successful people share?

**ZM:** Successful people... [Ponders the question] That's kind of a trick question, because it depends on how one defines suc-

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