

Q & A with E! News Host Terrence Jenkins

Jenkins speaks on career, family and his favorite book, *The Alchemist*

By Helen Silvis
Of *The Skanner News*

After more than six years as host of BET's popular music video show *106 & Park* Terrence Jenkins has joined Giuliana Rancic as the co-anchor of E! News. Jenkins will fill the role Ryan Seacrest abandoned when he went to the *Today* show as special correspondent. Seacrest will continue as managing editor of E! News. As well as reporting breaking entertainment stories, Jenkins will work on celebrity profiles. Jenkins spoke to *The Skanner News* as part of a telephone round table interview.



Terrence Jenkins

The Skanner News: Why did you decide to move to a more mainstream network?

Terrence Jenkins: You know seven is a year of completion and I believe that after a certain amount of time if you stay in any particular position you become stagnant. I wanted a new challenge and this is an amazing opportunity. I've



Terrence Jenkins with Giuls

always been a fan of Giuliana, and I'm really excited about what lies ahead. I'm really excited.

TSN: How was it moving from New York to Los Angeles?

TJ: It's been really amazing. I'm really ready for this transition and it's been amazing. The staff and the team at E! have welcomed me with open arms. They made the announcement on the same day they announced as Michael Strahan started with Kelly (Live! With Kelly and Michael) and when Steve Harvey launched his new show. So just being part of this energy of new faces coming to television is just really a blessing. And as far as L.A., you know I love L.A. The weather is beautiful. There's a lot of great things going on and I'm just happy to be here. Growing as an announcer and growing as a personality is something I look forward to.

TSN: Who is your go-to person?

TJ: My mom. She's been at the forefront of my life for quite some time. She's a big influence on me. So my mom, and my stepdad as well. And I have a great team. I have a great management team of the same people I've been with for years. My brother Fred is just really involved in my career. And then Celia helps me a lot as well. So I have great people in my life and I think it is really instrumental for your career success to have great people who encourage you and support you in your journey.

It's really important to have positive in your ear. If you surround yourself with people who try to take you down, then you will never be able to maximize your full potential.

TSN: What will you miss about "106 & Park"?

TJ: I'm very appreciative of my time at BET and I had some very good experiences. But at this point I'm all about looking forward. I'm more focused on the memories that I'm going to have, and the opportunities that I have right now. I think that everything in life happens for a reason and you have to use that as building blocks for your future and your fulfillment of God's path. So I'm just looking forward to the amazing times I know I am going to have at E! News. I'm just really excited about this job.

TSN: You have just finished a couple of movies?

TJ: Yes I have just been working on a movie, "Baggage Claim," with Paula Patton. It's a romantic comedy, and it was so much fun. We just shot that with an amazing director - his name is David E Talbert. So it was great working with them.

And I have a movie coming out - I want to say January or February—they don't have a release date yet. It's called "Battle of the Year", and that movie stars Chris Brown and Laz Alonso and Josh Holloway and Josh Peck. It's a really smart dance movie that we shot in France. So that's coming at the top of the year.

doing, being myself, and bringing my energy to it. I think Ryan and I are alike in certain ways, but we are very different in other ways. So I'm just going to be myself.

I am very passionate, and I have a very strong work ethic. I'm a fun guy so when it's a fun story, then I'm going to

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bring that to it. And when it's hard-hitting then I will put on my hard hat and bring that as well.

Obviously Ryan is a \$100 million dollar man and I have a long way to go to catch up. I'll let you know in 10 years, how I did.

TSN: How did you prepare for your new role at E!?

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