

INTERVIEW:

A Model MIND

FORMER MODEL-TURNED BUSINESSWOMAN, CAPRICE BOURRET CHATS TO JLife ABOUT DISCOVERING HER JEWISH ROOTS AND ACHIEVING HER GOALS.

“I consider myself 100% Jewish.”

Caprice Bourret was one of the most recognizable faces of the 1990s, regularly appearing in magazines and newspapers as a lingerie model. In 2000, she signed a license deal with Debenhams for Caprice Lingerie; in the last decade she has launched her own lingerie brand, By Caprice, and associated product lines. By Caprice now has an annual turnover of millions of pounds. Here, she reveals all about her connection to the Jewish faith.

How are you linked to the Jewish faith?

I'm Jewish on my mother's side. My father is Catholic.

Did you have a Jewish upbringing or did you choose to follow Judaism?

No, I wasn't brought up in a religious household. When I was a teenager I researched my family tree and became very interested in my Jewish roots and became shomrei shabbos for a few years. Now I consider myself 100% Jewish.

You're a busy businesswoman. Do you make time to observe the Sabbath, holy days and festivals?

I guess I do observe the holy days to some extent. I do fast over the high holy days, such as during Yom Kippur. I fasted for 28 hours

this year and I was so hungry! Right now, I am single and I'm building a business empire so I have to be honest, I'm not as observant as I should be. However, I think when I have a family the holidays and the Sabbath will become increasingly important.

What is a typical Chanukah for you and what will you be up to during the festival this year?

This is another naughty answer and I only have one word... PRESENTS!

Does your faith influence the person you are?

Absolutely it does. My mother is very typically Jewish in that she has strong family values - which I've inherited - and she just wants me to settle down with a nice man and have a family. It's helped develop my morals and the way I think, both in my business and personal relationships. I'm very proud to be Jewish; I wouldn't want it any other way.