

By Russell Patrick Latham

Everywhere you look these days, you see people sporting baseball caps to mask real-life bad hair days. But you never see soap characters donning hats or scarves to cover lackluster locks. Do soap characters have bad hair days? And if so, does a bad hair day (or a good hair day) really matter on soaps, anyway?

Let's ask Jess Walton (Jill, *YOUNG AND RESTLESS*), who has suffered her share of crazy coifs. "Jill's worst hair day was when I had the fight with Jeanne Cooper [Katherine] and she kept pulling my wig off," Walton recalls with a laugh. "I was wearing this hair piece at the back of my head — like a fall — and I kept telling her *not* to pull on my hair. I couldn't get a good grip on her neck, which was what Jill wanted to do."

Does Jill ever have a good hair day? "Jill has *elaborate* hair days," cracks Walton. "My best hair day — the one that made me laugh the most — was when Jill had a date with John Abbott. It was a very big bouffant 'do and I had a headband in it. It was when those fabric-covered wire headbands were in style, and you wrapped it around and it left these little things hanging. And they were bobbing up and down. Jerry [Douglas, who plays John] was so mad at me!

He said, 'My character would never be interested in a woman who wears antennae on her head!' So all during the scene when I would move, they would bob around and infuriate Jerry," she laughs. "He'd say, 'Take that off!'"

Walton adds that for a soap character, a good day and a good hair day usually go hand-in-hand. "One of my favorite days was when Jill asked John for the divorce. It was my Brigitte Bardot hair, kind of tousled with tendrils hanging down, and it was just beautiful. I remember that scene because it was one of my favorite scenes — so it was my favorite hair. It goes together. When your hair is great and your makeup is great, it adds up to the whole thing being perfect. You have no worries, you look great. As superficial as that sounds, it

takes a load off you and frees you up."

Lisa Peluso (Lila, *ANOTHER WORLD*) agrees. "My worst hair day was the day I got my hair trimmed," she groans. "The person I went to cut it a little cock-eyed. Then I had this scene with Vicky [Jensen Buchanan]. She comes in and confronts me about this letter, and the whole day I could barely remember my lines because all I could think about was, 'I have cockeyed hair. My hair is completely uneven, completely a mess. What do I say?'"

COIF-Y TALK

What A "Good Hair Day" And A "Bad Hair Day" Mean On Daytime