

Todd Talbot

He is one half of the very successful hosting duo on *Love It or List It Vancouver*. While the show keeps Todd very busy, he still finds ample time to spend with his 'soon-to-be' five-year old son, and six-year old daughter, plus devote a night every month to go on a date night with his wife, Rebecca. *Urbanbaby & Toddler Magazine* had the chance to interview Todd, after a busy day of shooting.

UBT: How do you balance the show commitments; daily activities; family and your own "downtime"?

TT: I even struggle with the concept of balance. I am not totally sure what that means and I think part of the challenge for me, is figuring out how to weigh things. I think the challenges parents have are universal. People don't get free passes on certain elements of it. For example, taking your kids to the bathroom in the middle of the night is just part of the process. It doesn't matter if you're on TV or not. That's just the reality of being a parent.



I am fascinated with Fatherhood; parenting; making it all work and dealing with the pressures that come along with it. I think there is a very different perspective between males and females. I was keen to have this conversation, because I think not enough males share their experience. Men tend to go through the process a little more privately.

UBT: When you are out and about with your family, I am sure people must recognize you. How do you handle that?

TT: Yeah, they do. It happens quite frequently. I think people are generally really respectful, especially when I am with my kids. I guess you don't have that anonymity to be a little messy in life, especially when your kids are having a meltdown. It's one thing to have a meltdown in public, where no one knows you, and it's another thing to have a meltdown in public where people are watching you. The moment that was most poignant for me was when we went to Disneyland for the first time in November.

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We were at the airport flying back to Vancouver, so everyone is tired. We had eaten crappy food, and everyone was done, including Rebecca and I. So, we're waiting for the plane, and I can see people recognizing us with everyone [entire family] having a little bit of a meltdown. I just wish we could have a little room that we could go into, so it wasn't as embarrassing. That's just a human element of it all.

UBT: What's next for you? Anything on your career bucket list that you hope to accomplish?

TT: Well, I'm a pretty diversified guy, which is great. We'll be filming *Love It or List It Vancouver* for the foreseeable future. I think being an actor is a huge part of my life — especially in live theatre. I would love to find some kind of balance to be able to do a show in Vancouver or New York. I would also love to do a show on *Fatherhood*. I'm itching to build another house. I love it. It's kind of my Zen place to be building a home.

UBT: What is the biggest joy of being a parent?

TT: I think it's a clichéd answer to say it really is the most important thing in life. But it is for me. There is an element in the bond between parent and child that is just a "super-sacred" thing. There is something about our kids coming into our room in the morning wanting to climb in the middle of us. That to me is one of the biggest joys. There is a connection there that resonates on a level that you can't even articulate. That is what is so *special* about it. •

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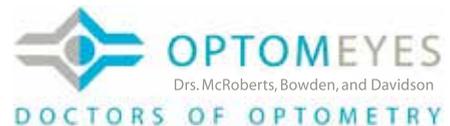
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