



# BOMBSHELL EVA LA RUE

By Giovanni Elmore

Photography by Russell Baer

I created this profile to examine the experience of beautiful women as it relates to their careers in entertainment and to give these beautiful, curvaceous women a platform to tell it like they see it. So, “Bombshell” as we define it here, is embodied by sexy sophistication with a compelling story that empowers women.

They say that beauty is in eye of the beholder...I still don't know what that means, nor do I understand why there is such a stigma surrounding female sex appeal in the entertainment world. From the thousands of blonde jokes to the endless bimbo roles for our curvaceous favorites, it baffles me why a pretty face and a rockin' body mean that a woman isn't smart or talented enough to play a real character. So let's spray tan the glass ceiling we all know exists for these lovelies with this feature and call it my effort to move the line and chip away at this classification. Well, that's the story that I am sticking too.

You think there would be hundreds of B-list Bombshell publicists pushing their talent to grab this chance to set the story straight (no offense with the B-list comment, but the handful of A-list Bombshells wouldn't do a little profile like this unless *Vanity Fair* was calling). It also takes a good publicist (Anthony Turk) to find gems like these and guide their talent. Enter Eva La Rue, single mother, actress, activist and as you see, a Bombshell. Eva was all that I could have hoped for and more when launching this feature. You see, Eva not only embodies our definition of Bombshell, but she also exemplifies one of the themes of our magazine...reinvention.

After eight years of the hardcore soap schedule where she portrayed Dr. Maria Santos on the ABC daytime drama *All My Children*, Eva had to get on with her career and decided to jump off of the cliff and go back to Cali (where she is originally from) and back into the game of looking for the next “season” of her journey. She loved daytime TV and the life it provided her, but the grueling schedule of averaging fifty pages of dialog a day was putting a damper on her dreams of getting a role on a top five, nighttime TV show or maybe even a film. So she took a leap of faith and back she went to what she refers to as a “crap shoot” pilot season. She speaks of this time in an actor's career as a painful roller coaster, saying, “It's tough. All the auditions and the call backs and then nothing happens. You land a pilot and then it tanks, or never airs.” But that didn't stop her from being cast on *CSI: MIAMI* in 2005 in the role of Natalia Boa Vista, a Lab Specialist with a knack for grant writing. *TV Guide* says, “Natalia Boa Vista may be the sexiest federal grant writer television has ever had.”

Eva's biggest accomplishment and the most important character in the play that is her life is her daughter, Kaya. With her daughter, she says “I try and lead by example. If you're not doing it, how can you ask your kids to?” She has begun to show Kaya the way by exposing her child to her chosen Bahá'í Faith, serving dinners at shelters and always teaching her to never look down on anyone. Her daughter has some big shoes to fill, because Eva's Philanthropy and consciousness go much further than that. This spring, La Rue will travel to Africa to host a feature film documentary, *Uganda: Peril to Pearl*. The purpose of the film is to reinstate previously pledged money from various countries to the people of Uganda which is being held up because of misallocation of funds by the government of Uganda. The documentary hopes to implement a transparent accounting system for all parties to participate. She will interview President Museveni, Prime Minister Blair, Kofi Annan, Presidents Carter and Clinton and a host of other dignitaries. She sees this as a prayer answered, but is overwhelmed by the opportunity and everything else on her plate. Eva has been studying up on politics and the socioeconomics of the region so that she can hold her own with the dignitaries.

This is where Eva gives me insight into the life of what appeared to be a super woman that was explosive. “I can't do it all,” says the two-time Daytime Emmy nominated actress. “I am going crazy, and some days I just want to go sit in a corner and cry.” She goes on to say that she thinks it's important to support other women by sharing the truth about being a single mother with a career and not posing as Ms. Incredible. She wants to let other women know it's OK to need help. It's OK to say ‘I can't do it alone.’ It doesn't mean you are not strong or together. It's just the truth, and it will set you free from the burden of trying to be this super human person. What a pleasure to interview such a beautiful woman; beautiful in every sense of the word.