

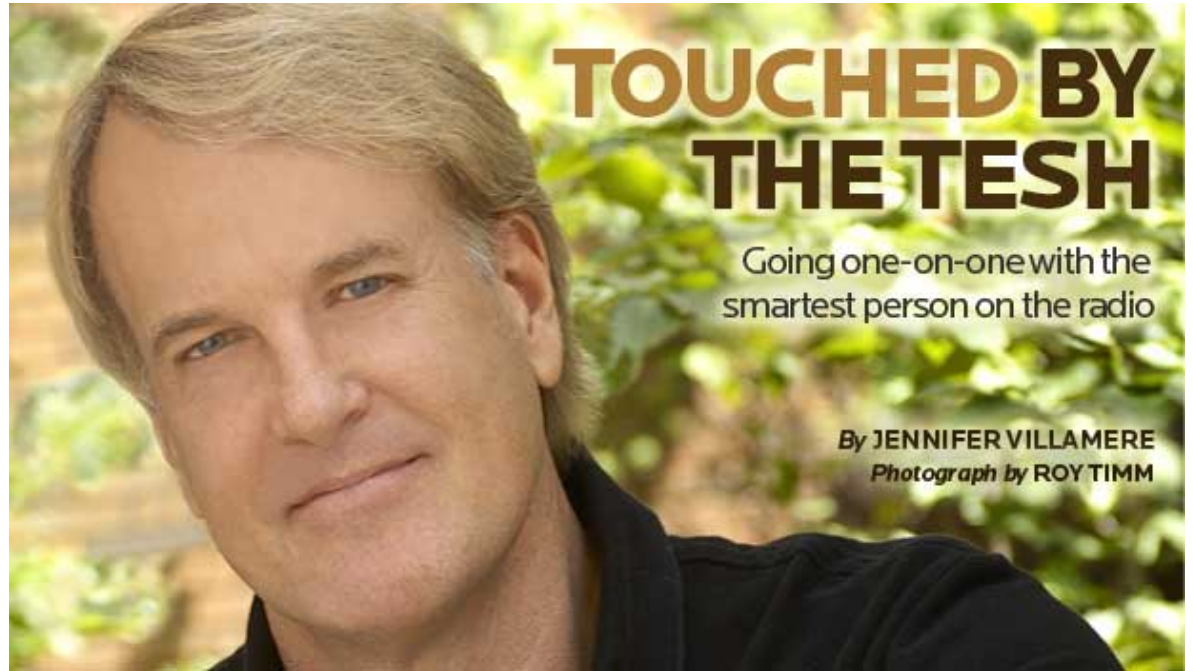
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Touched by the Tesh: Going one-on-one with the smartest person on the radio



You're driving home after your regular mid-week errands at the Meadowlands. You power down the iPod and scan through the radio stations until you land on that familiar, deep baritone voice. It's the Tesh. Ah, bliss – you're alone in the car and there's no one around to poke fun at you for enjoying the excessive gentility of *The John Tesh Radio Show*.

Almost eight million people across Canada and the States tune in to John Tesh's syndicated show each week to hear him warmly impart "intelligence for your life" — tips on how to earn your boss's trust, fight jet lag, get out of debt, prevent allergy attacks, keep your pet slim and freeze wedding cake the *right way*. He's like Oprah, but without the edge.

When Tesh visited Hamilton recently on a mini-tour that also included stops in Toronto and London, we saw a man who is, although tall and angular with broad shoulders and a square jaw, hardly the "blond Frankenstein" he's described as by his polemic opposite, radio shock jock Howard Stern. Tesh was relaxed, friendly and articulate in an interview before his Hamilton Place performance. He touched on topics ranging from his successful music career, his decade as co-host of *Entertainment Tonight* and the overwhelming popularity of his radio show.

Chatting with the airwaves' affable golden boy was like catching up with a favourite relative. Until he threw out this nugget: "What is the deepest desire of your heart?" he enquired, ever the asky journalist and never far from his faith. "What is it that makes you come fully alive?" Drinking Mocha Frappacinos came to mind, but this didn't seem like the kind of answer he was looking for. So I just giggled nervously until he continued on . . .

"What we'll try to do tonight is to encourage people to live a passionate life and to ask themselves that question. Between this day and the next day, you'll give your life to something. The decision on what that is will end up shaping everything that you do," he explained. "The deepest desire of my heart is to use my voice to encourage people to find their calling. And that's what we do on the

radio show every single day.”

Holy. And I thought it was just about becoming the smartest person in the room.

Find your calling. Tune into The John Tesh Radio Show, weeknights from 7pm to midnight and weekend mornings from 9am to noon on K-Lite FM.

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