



INTERVIEWS WITH DEAD CELEBRITIES

KURT COBAIN

World-renowned medium Victoria Bullis summons the grunge god's spirit to find out how he rocks the afterlife.

STUFF: How are you doing, Kurt?

VICTORIA: Kurt is OK. He says he has resolved his issues, but he's a tortured soul from many centuries ago. I'm seeing a lifetime in Europe around the 16th century where he herded a bunch of people into the dungeon underneath a castle and let them all suffocate. Ever since then, he's never had a life where he wasn't feeling tortured and depressed.

All the tributes and pilgrimages of your fans must make you feel good.

They do. He says, "If I had eyes I would be teary-eyed right now. I feel very vulnerable, and it's making me sad." Souls can be sad too. If he'd known that there was that much love for him, he could have let himself be loved out of his depression.

Would you be making music if you were still alive?

Yes, and he would have evolved—musically—a lot. He would have actually gone on to something more classical.

Classical?

In fact, he will definitely be a concert pianist in his next lifetime. He plans to be back in about 15 years, and he'll be a child prodigy. In this next life, he won't be allowed to get depressed—he'll have a lot of people around him at an early age, and he'll lose himself, so to speak, in his music.

Are you a fan of the Foo Fighters, Kurt?

Yes, yes. And apparently he's been guiding them, too. He's helped Dave Grohl, who also gets depressed.

How do you feel about your diaries being published?

He did not like it, mostly because he didn't want his daughter to see. He has a lot of guilt about her. She was a relative of one of the people who were suffocated in the castle. Kurt tells me they were going to have another child—a little boy.

What would you have named him?

I got the name Thomas in there somewhere. And if they called him Tom, it would have been spelled T-H-O-M.

Kurt, do you watch over Courtney?

He's helped her a lot, yeah. I don't think she'd be here if he hadn't helped her as much as he has. He thinks that she is going to make it through, somehow.

Who do you hang out with up there?

Otis Redding. I guess there must be, which I have not seen before, a way of improving musical skills on the other side. It's almost as if they've had a little recording session. And let's see, who else? One of the apostles.

What do you think about your style legacy, the grunge look?

He's laughing. He loves being part of any kind of revolution where people are trying to make a statement. He had a life in the early 1900s in which he was a woman who loved wearing shorter skirts. He was one of the first people to wear above-the-ankle skirts.

You did wear dresses on stage a lot.

I didn't know that. He probably, eventually could've been bi, but he said that's a moot point. He's got a very good sense of humor.

Are you a fan of your fellow Seattle native Starbucks?

He says, "If I had been here now, I would have been making money and would have had financial advisers. I probably would have had some stock in one of those kinds of places. I probably would have been a partner."

Finally, did you really kill yourself?

Well, answering this could be dangerous for me. Let me see what is OK to say. Kurt would appreciate that people understand: "It was not my intention to take my own life." Direct quote.

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Smells like
Kurt's spirit.

PHOTOGRAPHY: (BULLIS) DWAYNE AULTERY; HAIR AND MAKEUP: YUJI @ THE REX AGENCY