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Once Bitten



THE SECURITY DETAIL ON HOUSTON STREET Thursday evening was enough to suggest a visiting dignitary. Police barricades filtered pedestrian traffic; suited men with earpieces roamed about, and you practically needed a birth certificate to enter the landmark Sunshine Theater.

"This is crazy," said one photographer. "It's like you're going to meet the Pope!"

It was an arguably religious experience for some: The D&G-sponsored Cinema Society screening of "The Twilight Saga: New Moon" was attended by its vigilantly followed team of actors. Though the teenage fans lining the streets outside the theater seemed relatively subdued, inside, the cast confessed to many an odd run-in.

"I just had a man's wife propose to me for him even though they're married," laughed **Ashley Greene**. "And I was like, 'Are you joking?' And she was like, 'No, he really loves you.' And I was like, 'So you don't want him anymore?'"

"The weirdest thing is just when people start crying," said **Kristen Stewart**. "I'm just like, 'No, don't do that. It's all good.'"

"Today, I was with Rob and I pretty much got tackled," said **Kellan Lutz**. "And another fan wanted to lick my face."

Robert Pattinson, the much-longed-for man of the hour was calm, but reticent.

Has dealing with those lovelorn girls gotten any easier? "Not really."

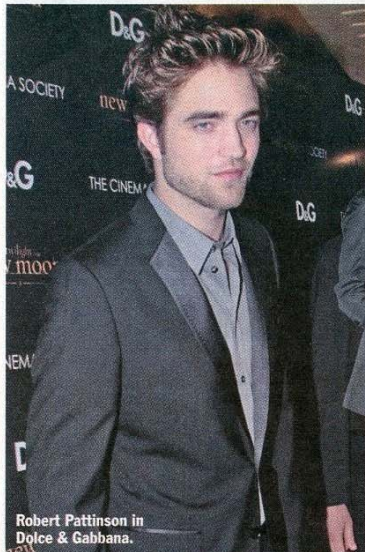
How does he handle being a sex symbol? "I don't know if I am, really."

But perhaps the biggest testament to the Pattinson effect was the sheer number of tiny tweens racing around the theater and, a bit disconcertingly, The Box, site of the after party. As **Joan Jett**, **Ed Westwick**, **Michelle Buswell** and **Elizabeth Reaser** hung out in the second-floor wings, one guest expressed some concern. "There were a couple of girls sitting on the stage where [performers] normally stick things up their fannies," he said. "That's just wrong."

It was a virtual NBC reunion on Thursday night at the American Museum of Natural History's annual Gala, when event chairman **Lorne Michaels** wrangled his coterie of "Saturday Night Live" players — including **Andy Samberg**, **Kristen Wiig** and **Fred Armisen** — and other network stars such as **Alec Baldwin**, **Tom Brokaw** and **Jimmy Fallon** for the fund-raiser. (Non-NBCers such as **Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg**, **Bono**, and **Tom and Kathy Freston** were also in attendance.)

Dave Matthews Band, slated to perform on the weekend's episode of "SNL," served as the evening's musical talent. Naturally, the night was not without a few laughs. Fallon treated the audience to his best Brokaw. "After working at NBC long enough, we all start sounding the same," the TV host said, mimicking the anchor's distinct, low mumble.

"That was a third-rate imitation, Jimmy," Brokaw shot back.



Robert Pattinson in Dolce & Gabbana.



Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg

Ed Westwick in D&G.



▲ Kristen Stewart in a Burberry trench and Valentino dress.

For more, see WWD.com.



Ashley Greene in D&G.



Dave Matthews and Alec Baldwin

SOME PHOTOGRAPHS: MCFARLAND BY FRANK L. RUSSELL; ALL OTHERS: GUY AROCH