The DEFINITE ARTICLE

We ask a celebrity a set of devilishly probing questions – and only accept THE definitive answer. This week: TV and radio presenter Annette Rice

The prized possession you value above all others... The diaries I wrote daily from age eight to 16. They instantly take me back to my life in the 60s and 70s.
The biggest regret you wish you could amend... ‘I’ve always been the breadwinner in my relationships so I’d like to try being a kept woman for a while.
The book that holds an everlasting resonance... I was inspired by the What Katy Did books by Susan Coolidge. I loved Katy’s dysfunctional family.
The priority activity if you were the Invisible Woman for a day... I would swim naked in the sea, and do normal things and enjoy not being recognised. It would be liberating because I’ve been in the public eye since I was 20.
The pet hate that makes your hackles rise... Lights being left on, whether at home or by shops and businesses. I am very ‘eco’ and all waste distresses me.
The unlikely interest that engages your curiosity... ‘I would love to do some art and sculpture work experience with Michelangelo and help him pick out his stone from a marble quarry in Carrara, Tuscany, then watch him transform it into a sculpture.
The event that altered the course of your life and character... Getting the chance to read the news for a TV station in Hong Kong when I was 19. I was working behind the scenes when the newsreader called in sick and I said I’d do it. I was terrified, but it changed the course of my career.
The film you can watch time and time again... I’ve never really enjoyed films, for a bizarre reason – as a girl I felt uneasy in the cinema.
The person who has influenced you most... My mother. She was clever and independent, but women of her era were up against a glass ceiling, which made her so unhappy. Her frustration drove me to make something of my life. She died two years ago.
The temptation you wish you could resist... Cake. Especially Victoria sponge with jam and cream.
The piece of wisdom you would pass on to a child... ‘You’re unique. Never try to be somebody else.

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‘I had laser surgery on my eyes last year and it’s actually made my sight worse. The world’s a blur now’

PS...
Robert Downey Jr and Scarlett Johanson team up in Captain America: Civil War – in cinemas Friday. Brian Eno’s new album The Ship is out on the same day, and after a two-year tour Hamlet returns to Shakespeare’s Globe this evening

NEXT WEEK

- The Hairy Bikers dish up their new 30-minute low-calorie recipes
- Adrian Lester takes us behind the scenes on his tense thriller Undercover
- PLUS Britain’s most detailed TV listings