The prized possession you value above all others... My iPhone 3. I'm not sentimental about possessions but my phone has all my numbers. I would lose my meaning on Earth if it disappeared...
The unqualified regret you wish you could amend... Not having boyfriends earlier in life. I didn't have my first serious relationship until I was 27. I wish I'd been a raver and had lots of flings. The way you would spend your fantasy 24 hours, with no travel restrictions... I'd have a totally self-indulgent, all-pampering spa day with some girl-friends. I'd begin in the Maldives, then go to Bali, where I'd have ten people massaging me. I guess I should spend time with my husband [TV producer Ed Bye] and our kids [Max, 23, Madeleine, 21, and Marina 18]. I'd meet them in Hawaii for some surfing then I'd go to the Schloss Elmau hotel in the German Alps which has four spas.
The temptation you wish you could resist... Binge spending. Generally I'm careful but then I'll buy something insanely expensive like a pair of leopard print Prada trainers for £500.
The book that holds an everlasting resonance... The Bell Jar by Sylvia Plath. The main character, Esther Greenwood, is a freak who doesn't fit in. I read it when I was 16 and completely identified with her. Plath was a rebel who went nuts and killed herself. Her story couldn't be more romantic. The priority activity if you were the figure from history for whom you'd like to start writing comedy. I wouldn't be able to move away when they start yabbtering on about their baby.
The film you can watch time and time again... A Clockwork Orange. I saw it 17 times and fell in love with Malcolm McDowell, even though he beat up old people to Beethoven. You can see why I had trouble with men.
The person who has influenced you most is Richard Bean. We were at the Royal Shakespeare Company when I was 23. He was my mentor and told me to start writing comedy. I wouldn't have a job if it weren't for Alan.
The figure from history for whom you'd most like to buy a pile and a pint... Cleopatra, the most powerful woman ever. I'd like to know the truth behind the legend... and how she did her make-up.

PS...
Scarlett Johansson’s a no-nonsense zoo keeper in We Bought A Zoo – in cinemas now. The Susan Boyle musical, I Dreamed A Dream, opens on Friday at Newcastle’s Theatre Royal.
And Paul Weller’s new album, Sonik Kicks, is out Monday.