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Quotes of the week ...

They said what?

The Observer, Sunday May 4 2008

'They don't want you to be a kid. They want you to be a chauffeur and keep out of the way.'

Billy Bragg, sage of most everything, pronounces on what children want from a perfect father.

'I don't want my picture taken with a war criminal.'

Paul Weller explains that he declined a CBE because he didn't want Tony Blair to pose for a photo with him. Did nobody tell the poor boy that it's the Queen who hands out the gongs?

'He hasn't asked me yet. I'm old fashioned: I think they should ask you.'

Zara Phillips may be the most modish of royals, but she wasn't going to be the one to propose. And he - rugby playing boyfriend Mike Tindall - has yet to pop the question.

'We went on a date once for dinner in a New York restaurant and the waitress was from his old school. He told me she never talked to him back in school, but now he was recognised he got all her attention.'

Cher remembers going for dinner with the highly sane Tom Cruise. Perhaps the woman in question was paying him attention because she was being paid to be his waitress?

'I shall never go on another diet. My bosom is a triumph, as my husband will testify.'

Emma Thompson is pleasingly happy with her body - not always the case, we note, among members of her profession.