

Get up close and personal with Salem's newest DiMera

*{mosimage}But is he really a DiMera? Read on to see if Scott gives away anything crucial about EJ.*

James Scott (EJ Wells) of Days of our Lives knew at a young age that acting was for him, and seeing where his career goes has been an interesting ride.

"I don't know how to explain this! It's like you know you have the potential, and yet you're doing something else with your life, but it's always in the back to become an actor," Scott said. "What's funny is that I really didn't pursue acting. I've done other jobs in my life, but it's like that little voice in my head kept getting louder. It was like a calling."

Scott was born into a small non-show-business family in Newcastle Upon Tyne, in the northeast of England. Having attended a boarding school for boys in Lancaster, Lancashire, one day he decided to explore his dream.

Having left home at the age of 16, he moved to Edinburgh and began to become involved in the arts. He began his career working in the music industry promoting clubs and DJ-ing in different parts of England. He also had small roles on TV shows in England.

Scott became involved in community theatre and decided to move to London, where he studied at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts.

He also embarked on modeling, bringing him to the United States. He enrolled in an acting class taught by Ivana Chubbuck at her studio in Hollywood, where she was not only his teacher, but became his mentor.

"It was Ivana's help as a teacher," he said. "She went with me way beyond the call of duty. She had confidence in me. When there was no work in Hollywood, she'd have me wash her car in return for free lessons."

Gaining confidence in himself, he went to New York, where he landed his first US television job in the role of Ethan Canbias on All My Children in August 2004, but it abruptly came to an end.

"I enjoyed that role. But then (the character got) into a rut. It was very frustrating," Scott admitted. "I felt they (the powers that be) could of done more with Ethan. I left with a mutual agreement with ABC. In fact, I talked to a writer today -- who will go nameless -- from AMC, and he also agreed they were frustrated. Personally I didn't agree with AMC's decision (to kill off the character), but all in all, things worked out great."

After leaving Pine Valley, Scott met with his agents who asked him 'What do you want to do?'

He replied, "TV, movies, whatever is out there".

"I did! (laughing) I just want to work," Scott said. "For me to be a working actor is really all I want to do. I just want to work."

Scott returned to Los Angeles while still under contract to ABC, when Days of our Lives tabbed him for the role of EJ. Admitting that everything went so fast, he was shocked at how the process went.

"We approached ABC and asked to be released from the contract. They were cordial and did, and here I am," Scott said. "I did a network test and another screen test, and that was it. I was on the set within 48 hours."

Scott recalls the adrenalin rush of having to go back to New York, pack and be on the west coast, but attributes Days of our Lives with being very supportive in giving him a week off for packing and the cross country journey.

Scott is happy with the way things worked out and couldn't be more please to be working on "the greatest show."

"I really am. Days is just wonderful," Scott said. "The people are very supportive, and fun."

Scott added that being thrown into a major storyline and working with the show's vets like Alison Sweeney (Sami), Austin Peck (Austin), and Bryan Datillo (Lucas), well let's just say, he "wouldn't have it any other way."

He added that the character of EJ is not only a bit mysterious, but a lot of fun to play.

"EJ is very enjoyable to portray. He's layered. He's interesting," Scott said. "What you see, and what he doesn't want you to see....well let's just say that you have to look behind his eyes."

Scott admitted that being tall (he's 6'4) can be a draw back to his career -- adding that his height can work against him.

"Being this tall, it's hard to direct scenes. Do you think Tom Cruise would love to be in a scene with me?" Scott chuckles. "Or take Susan Lucci (Erika of AMC)? (At about 5'3" in 4" spiked heels) she's such a dominating character, but I feel like I diminish her power."

Soapdom wants to know, where do you want EJ to go, and anything you want your fans to know about you?

"As for EJ? He has potential. I'd like to see him given freedom to go with a girl. I'd like to see him backed in the corner and see how he'd react. Maybe become involved with Stephanie (Shayna Rose), and explore the world of NASCAR." As for what I want the fans to know? You know that's a great question," Scott said then paused to gather his thoughts. "Well...if the fans don't know it by now, I want them not to know," he jokes.

## DOOL's James Scott

Written by Mark E. Wilows

Tuesday, 28 November 2006 11:20

---

Scott said that living in America has been great, and he wants to thank America for being kind to him and giving him the opportunity that it has provided. He added that England will always be home, saying, "No matter where you roam, there is no place like home. I miss Europe. You always go back to your roots. I think everyone does."

Days of our Lives is several years behind in England, but Scott said that his family and friends keep up the current shows via a great Web Site that was created (see below), and they all get to tune in, and know everything about him.

Asked if he ever would consider doing an English soap? Scott said that it would be fun and interesting.

"Here in America the soaps are all about sex, money, greed, power, and looks. It's about escapism from every day life. Back home they are blue collar shows like working in a market, and people getting by. You know...I'd be very happy to do a role like that. I can shed those suits."

Away from the set, that's exactly what Scott does. At home he says, he's the average guy. He loves his shorts and muddy sneakers. He is an avid runner, and loves to run at 5:30 in the morning with his dog, Eva.

Not to disappoint the ladies, but Scott is not currently looking, and is very content with his life. He pointed that his main focus is his job, and in reality, he is a real home body.

"Living in Hollywood, most would assume different, but I really enjoy being at my home in the hills just enjoying the piece and quiet," Scott said. "I stay away from the scene. I'm like between a 9 year-old boy and a 70 year-old man. My agents have to take me kicking to attend a premiere. The celebrity side to this job is very unappealing."

Scott's future includes making the most out of EJ, and he said that someday he'd love to make a historical film -- a period piece.

WEB SITE:

[www.james-scott.net](http://www.james-scott.net)