

Q&A

Contributed by Brett
Monday, 01 September 1997

"William Answers"
FAQs

and Q&A with William Fichtner

William Fichtner answers questions from fans that have been sent to him via the "Ask William" page.

- Questions are loosely grouped into categories so you can click on a category to jump to that section, or read the page at your leisure.

- If you're looking for questions regarding specific interests, you may want to try the "find" feature on your browser (for instance, using Internet Explorer, choose EDIT, then FIND (on this page), then "enter text of your choice").

REMINDER: While William Fichtner does his best to respond to questions, there is no guarantee and no schedule for these questions and answers to be posted here. Updates are based solely upon Fichtner's availability.

- FAQ: Frequently Asked Questions
- Current Answers (not categorized)
Updated: 11.25.05
- About your career
- About your character(s)
- About your fans
- Acting advice
- Appreciation
- Are you/You look like...
- Do you really answer these?
- Family/Childhood
- Miscellaneous
- Nationality/Heritage
- Places and Encounters
- Sports
- Your favorite/Do you like...?
- What was it like working with...?
- When Filming...
- Where Can I Send...?
- Would you...? FAQ: Frequently Asked Questions

Scroll over the questions to read the answers. (Note: if you have an older browser, you'll have to resort to the text version.)

What is your next movie?

Is William Fichtner married?

How old is he?

When is his birthday?

Where was he born?

How tall is he?

What's his middle name?

How do you pronounce "Fichtner?"

We've noticed you wearing the same ring in multiple movies, so we presume it's yours. What is its significance?

Are you right- or left-handed?

Where can I send fan mail?

Will he see these pages?

What else do you know about him?

Current Answers (uncategorized)posted: 11.25.05 When did you do Sara Evan's "Perfect" video? How did you choose this project?A couple of years ago. My good friend Bobby directed the video, asked if I would do him a favor and be in it. She's great! so, YEA!How did you wind up doing "Invasion"?In a nutshell, wasn't looking for a new T.V. show, but read it and thought the role and project was worthy of a shot.There's a rumor going around that you may be playing a short-lived mutant in "X-Men 3". Anything you can confirm?Never heard that one. News to me.Eugenia Lolo-Queru interviewed you earlier this year for OSNews.com. In that review, she lists you as being in "First Snow." Can you give us any more information?Indie thriller with Guy Pierce. I play his buddy and this was a good one. They hope to get it into

Sundance, fingers crossed. Hello William, I was watching the television program Invasion on ABC and thought I'd drop you a line. ... It was cool to have met you at Gold's Gym in Buffalo, NY. And, I was especially impressed when you asked Demar about my whereabouts when I failed to show for my morning training session, although I made it in at night. Furthermore, also appreciate the fact that you conducted yourself as "one of us" and not like some big Hollywood Stars who don't want anything to do with individuals in other social and economic classes. Thanks! That was very cool of you. ... (Reese) Hey, Reese. How are you? Thanks for the email and as far as being "one of us"... Hey, I'm just a Buffalo guy, you know the deal. All the best, Bill. hey william im libra cheyenne fichtner (13 years old) and my grandfather john clair fichtner said that somehow im related to you i think he said that you are his uncles grandchild or something like that! i dont know! but anyways i would appreciate it if you could reply to this i know your probably busy and stuff but i would love to see if your one of my relatives because unlike most teenagers my age im interested in my family and i would be really interested in it if your like my second cousin i think my mom said! so can you just email me back and maybe sometime it would be cool to meet up with all of OUR family members! (Libra) Well, Libra. I'm not sure, but I hope so, too. Give my best to your family. Bill Have you ever been to Kansas? If you have what do you think about it, and if you haven't, it is a very beautiful place to live and to go sight seeing at. (trust me, I live there, in Abilene Kansas.) (Endia) Yes, I have and indeed, it is a very beautiful place. I noticed that you were born on Mitchell Field Air Force Base in Long Island. Were your parents military? Also, Annie on your FAQ page was right. You are extremely attractive! (Jennifer) Just my father, and thank you for your thoughts. Were you recently in Lincolnshire, Illinois? I thought I saw you at Bin 36. (Barb) Not me, Barb. Hi! First of all I would like to thank you for coming to our motorhome at the races and hanging out with us. By the way I'm Cassie, do you remember me? Hello, Cassie. First of all, meeting your family and everyone else at the motorhome was the best part of my day at the races. Can't wait for the spring! My best to your family. Bill You say that your favorite character to play was Kent Clark in the movie Contact. (Mine too.) What was it about Kent that made him your favorite role? The preparation. Working with Jodie. The story, the opportunity in my life at that time. Is your favorite character to play still Kent Clark, or have you updated? I've updated. Otis, in "The Moguls!" I don't really have a question for you. I'd rather like to tell you that you have an amazing, I mean a really amazing charisma! I saw you in the movie with Adam Sandler. I think in English it's called The Longest Yard? (I'm German) and I was blown away.... So thanks for being an awesome actor. Greetings from Germany. Byebye. Janine (19) Thanks for your thoughts, Janine. You have worked with Jason Isaacs on a number of films now, what do you think of him? Is he as nice as he seems in interviews etc? (Sophie) He is a gentleman and I'm honored to call him a friend. I saw you at the California Speedway over Labor Day. I was so nervous, I forgot your name, but you were kind enough to shake my hand anyway. Out of all your many roles, which one are you closest to? (Polly) Hard to say, many for many different reasons. Was the guy with you Eddie Cibrian, from "Invasion," at the races that day? (If so, he was very nice.) (Polly) No, that was my good friend, Cain DeVore. How difficult is it to act out a love scene with an actress when you are so devoted to your wife? (Joan) A few words would not do justice to the depth of that question. Let me just say I am grateful for all the moments I experience that are inherently sweet. I would like to ask William if he remembers me. I used to work at your chiropractor in Flushing, Queens. My name is Michele and I did therapy on your back. You gave me an autographed picture before you left "to make it". And I am so glad you did. You signed it "those pads are cold." (Michele) Dear Michele, Of course I remember you and how absolutely wonderful to hear from you. Don't know if you're still in touch with Dr. K. (David?) but if you are, please give him my best. God bless you and yours. Bill (& those pads were cold!) My husband and I have purchased the movie "Drowning Mona". We couldn't believe how accurate your "upstate New York" accent was in the film. We were wondering if you were from that general area or if you may have attended college in that part of the world. Thanks so much for taking time to respond to our inquiry. (Ann) Raised in Cheektowaga, N.Y. & extremely proud of it! Thanks for the email, Ann. Hey, I was captain of the gymnastic team (think mutton chop side burns)... (Michael) Great to hear from you, Michael. Lot of fine memories. Hope all is well, Bill. Hi Bill, did you enjoy our 30th high school reunion at Maryvale last summer? The pictures came out great! (Debbie) Hi, Debbie. I am so glad I came home for it. What a great night. You have pictures? I'd love to see them. All the best, Bill. My name is Mallory and I just wanted to say that I am a big fan and think you are nice looking. Have you ever been to Oklahoma? If so, where? Just passing through. Hey Will! Here's Joanne from Holland speaking. I'll do my best to speak good english;-) (though it's a simple question): Why do you always smile with your mouth shut?! Don't! You have an amazing smile which makes me stumble! Yesterday I watched Armageddon on tv and I had to try very hard not to fall in love with your eyes, haha ... I'm much too old to put your picture above my bed! So next time I see a picture from you, I want to see a great big smile on your face, oké? Deal! Deal. Thanks, Joanne William, Bill, whatever you would like to be called; my sister and I had an argument about a music video we were watching the other night and would like it to be clarified. She doesn't believe me when I showed her the Sara Evans "Perfect" video, saying that you were in it. I watched it over and over again to be sure myself, but would like to know the truth. Were you in it or not? (Allyson) Oh yea. well this is a little wierd but i have to say your a super actor. But really i mean this really cant be him it like his little helper right. (I only do the typing, and wouldn't exactly put "little helper" on my resume. -- Brett) so im just a great fan and i have a couple of Qu.s for u or who ever this is. If you got a roll in a big movie and it started filming on june 11th and one of your childs birthdays was that day. what would u do? (Kayle) Make sure to clear the date if at all possible. do your fans mean a little or alot to you? (Kayle) Anyone who appreciates what I do, I appreciate them for noticing. what do u do in your free time? (Kayle) That's a big list. thank u for how ever is going to answer them (Kayle) Thank you, Kayle, Bill I don't have a question, I just wanted to say "Thank You" for so many enjoyable characters and I look forward to many more. (Kerry) Me, too! Thank you, Kerry. I have noticed that the color of your eyes in "Go" was a hazy shade of grey blue, while the were a vivid dark blue in "Armageddon". Do your eyes change color naturally or did you wear contacts? It's got to be the lighting. no questions- just a compliment- in the last month i have watched the movies (go, assault on precinct 13, empire falls, longest yard and crash) i have seen him over the years but never put a name to the face. i hope to see him more because he is so cool. Wasn't in "13" but thanks for

the compliment all the same. In The Longest Yard, you look so much younger than your age. Is that airbrushing or is that your natural (gorgeous) self? (Pamela) You are beyond sweet, Pamela. Dear Mr. Fichtner, My name is Josh R. You may remember my father, Ron, who you went to Brockport University with. I don't really have a question, I just wanted to see if you remember my dad, and also to let you know that we keep track of what movies you're in and tend to see them as well. Hope to get a response, thanks for your time. Please give my best to your dad, Josh, and thanks for the e-mail. Hi Bill, Just wanted to say Hello, Sorry we didn't have enough time to get caught up at the Maryvale class reunion, 1974. It was great to see you again. Rick Great to see you, too, Rick. Thanks for the email. Take care, Bill. I knew Bill "when". Hanging out in Alden N.Y. with family & friends. Does he remember "Shaver"? (Pat) Hello, Pat. How are you? It's been a very long time & it's great to hear from you. Sincerely, Bill. Hi, I just wanted to tell Bill hello... I want to tell him that he looks the same to me as he did in high school. I told his mom that and she said she was going to call him and tell him that. Let him know I always thought he was a loving son and a great brother to his sisters. I really loved that family... thanks (Cyndee) Thank you for your thoughts & Hello to you, Cyndee. Is your grandfather's ring your maternal or paternal grandfather's? (Cathy) Maternal. My name is Irving and I was curious as to whether or not Bill enjoyed his time in Maine last Fall 2003 while filming Empire Falls. Enjoyed it? One of the best times I've ever had. How are you, my friend? All the best to you & your family, Bill. To be a successful actor, do you need to know yourself before you can begin to know the character you play? (Becki) I don't now if that's true, but I think it's more important. How would you describe yourself, in just three words? (Becki) Dad, Son, Human. Hello William, Firstly, may I say that I find your work ingrossing and refreshing. OK, 'fan mode' over... ;o) I have read that one of your favourite films of all time is 'Strictly Ballroom'. Same for me... it's so original. Anyhow, my question is if you have ever tried Ballroom Dancing, and if you have... how nimble-footed are you?! (Olwyn) I have four left feet but sure do love that movie. I was recently visiting Taos and passed you pushing a stroller on a sidewalk near the park -- I've loved your work since "As the World Turns" and "Contact" and wanted to say so but I got the impression you didn't want any fans addressing you right then, so I just smiled. I saw you again in a shopping area and was afraid you thought I was stalking you! My question is, do you remember this? I apologize if you were wishing to not be recognized that day. It did make my trip to see you. (Jennifer) No apology necessary. Next time, say hi. My wife says she saw you in a cameo appearance in Sara Evan's video "Perfect". Is she right and if she is how did that come about? She is & a friend of mine directed it and asked if I'd be a part of it. The pleasure was all mine. Appreciation When I see you on screen, you seem to have so much energy yet you keep it under a calm guise. You have a certain way about you that is very refreshing. I see you in a lead role such as the one in 'Phenomenon'. Your personality and the way it comes across would make you delightful in this type of character role. For what it's worth, I see a hero in you waiting to be born. I appreciate that there is a lot of you in each of your characters, even if you are nothing like the character you portray. Excellent! (Kim) Thank you for your thoughts. Wow, just want to let you know you're my favorite actor. Congratulations on being one of the best in the business. (What do you think of my favorites? Gary Sinise, William H. Macy, Ewan MacGregor, and uh, William Fichtner). Can't wait for the next thing to come out. (Laura) Those first three fellows are as good as it gets. How does it make you feel that so many girls find you so good looking? (Kristen) As long as my wife is one of them, I'm happy. Would you like to ask us, your loyal fans, a question? (Mary) Nothing specific, just 'thanks.' I can't speak English, but cheers from Japan! (Yuka) Cheers back! I just watched Drowning Mona again. And every time I see that scene where you come into the restaurant where Jamie-Lee Curtis is and go straight for the breasts and make that funny face, I laugh so hard that my stomach hurts. My friends as well. Do you realize how funny you are? (Derek) As long as you're gettin' it, I'm doing something right. (closing comment): Kick Ass! You got it! Your skills at acting rank in my personal top A-1 list; Geraldine Paige; Montgomery Cliff; Anthony Hopkins; Meryl Streep and you know, what's his name, the guy married to Elizabeth Taylor years ago, not Robert Ryan or Norman Mailer.... what IS HIS NAME... not Robert Mitchem, but, ewh-ah, oh.... the Night of the Iguana-guy; Equis; Sandpiper.... Marc Antony... I am going to just drop after this is sent.... (Dawne) Richard Burton! Do you know that there are some big fans in Japan? (Tomomi) Thank you. If someone wished to send you a gift, would the BWR address be the best place to send it? (Mary) That's very sweet. I am a biographer, and have written several books on other famous people. After I complete my second book on Shirley Temple/Black, I would love to write yours too! (Suzanne) You honor me with your words. A thoughtful gift was sent to you last June ('02) that was hand delivered to your publicist's office in New York. It was a piece of pottery with many good wishes of your fans inside enclosed with a red t-shirt. We have received no acknowledgement that you got this package and would like to know if it was safely delivered to you. (Alene) My apologies. Yes, I received it and I thank you very, very much. God Bless. From someone that's worked in the business that you portray in Black Hawk Down - good job. You've done one of the best jobs of playing someone in the special forces that I have ever seen. (Erik) Thanks, Erik. Do you think you're an attractive person? Well if you don't, a lot of people think you are. (Annie) Thank you. Recently, I saw a scene in a movie that really moved me, and I found myself inspired by it - inspired to follow that dream. ... so thank you for your skill at your craft and thank you for your (albeit unwitting) influence. (Susan) Thank you for your thoughts. Are you aware that Heat is the greatest American cinematic achievement since The Deer Hunter? (Robert) Great film, no doubt about that. I just have to say that I'm glad you exist and really glad you decided to act as your career. ... Just remember, "You are appreciated, and your fans appreciate your work." (Derek) Thanks so much for your words. I wanted to let you know that your movie Passion of Mind was riveting. I was in tears. It touched me so deeply. I thought the acting was superb. Bravo. (Adi) Thank you. Cathryn says: Just out of high school, I would not miss an episode of The Young & The Restless just to catch your profile. You have never disappointed me with your performances and I believe you stole every scene in The Perfect Storm. (Cathryn) WF: Thank you, Cathryn. P.S. A.T.W.T. (Fichtner was in As the World Turns. -- Brett) Mena, Sandra, Leah, Liz, Bernise, David, Matt, Birdie, Roxi, Brian, Michelle, Russ, Curtis, Prissy, Jacqueline, Daniel, Jim, Neil, Paul, Shawn, Derek, Mya, Barbara, Darcy, Megan, Diane, Monika, Rama, Anita, Jaimee, Kam, Chris, Edwin, Vivian, Heather, Richard, Lou, Matthew, Sean, Roger, Susan, Sylvie, Beth, Maja, Sheena, Rocio,

Amanda, Silvia, Stephanie, Yuko, Blanca, Shelley, Sarah, Kendale, Linda, Kristine, Vaughan, Jaron, Aryanne, Robert, Rivas, Lis, Margie, Kanako, Daniel, Catharine, Bill, Lindsay, Anne, ACS3117, Rhynn, Janie, Leyla, Bebe, Samantha, Julie, Ken, Devin, Stacy. Thank you for your questions and comments. Natalie, Shan, Triron, Elizabeth, JR, Ashley, Kuch, Lisa, Kim, Drake, Lisa, Jeremiah, Elaina, Penny, Michele, Leah, Allison, Janella, Kat, Michael, Milla, Bill, Tammi, Krista, Don, Sharon, Elizabeth, Alene, Alexandra, Pam, Faye, Christina, Jacki, Henriette, Sara, Jess, Deb, Griff, Laura, Peter, M., Tanna, Cassandra, SW, Lisa, Thomas, Morgan, Alexya, Kelly, Karmen, Mika, Susan, Deborah, Ling, Franca, Matthial, Ingrid, Sonia, Barbara, Greg, Yvonne, Anita, Megan, Mary, Debbie, Laraine, Muriel, Angel, Henna, Rain, Elizabeth, Amber, Kevin, Pat, Heather, Ayano, Weedle, Megan, Rusty, Tina, Annette, and Fernanda Thank you for your comments and questions.

Do you answer...It's not really you who is answering the question, is it? (Nancy) Absolutely. A little late I might add. Okay, I hope this is the real William Edward Fichtner answering me, right? (Julie) There may be another, but I am one.

Miscellaneous Knowing that you are a former New Yorker as I am, I am curious as to how you feel about the devastation that befell New York on September 11th. It seems everywhere I look (including Passion of Mind) I see the WTC standing proud and tall. I feel saddened but determined that America and especially New York is still the strongest power there is and the spirit of New York will show the world we will not be overcome but will continue with renewed strength and determination, Your thoughts? (Jaimee) Same as yours, my friend. I wanted to ask if you are happy in your life? (Sonya) Yes, I am, Sonya. In real life, do you harbor a romantic side like you do in the movie? (Jacqueline) I think I do. Are you going to make any guest appearances on any TV shows? (2002) None at the moment. Have you ever ate an Asian-noodle? No. How tall are you? (John) 6' 1/2" I like sharks!! And you? (Elizabeth) Love 'em. I take it you are interested in classic cars. If you're in the market for another I have one you might be interested in. It's a 1973 Cadillac El Dorado, a replica of the 1973 Indy 500 pace car, one of only 360 or so built. (Barbara) Sounds like an excellent car, thanks for thinking of me. What audio books have you narrated? I haven't. Do you think you will ever write a book about your life? (Ann) Do I have a life worth reading about? I thank you for your question. Do you enjoy horseback riding? I need to try again. My wife had the opportunity to sit in first class with you on a flight from New York to Dallas (you were headed to LA) during the filming of Armageddon. ... Anyway, I know that was a long time ago, and I am sure you've taken hundreds of flights since then, but I was just wondering if by some outside chance you remember her? (Brandon) I believe I do. Also was wondering if we sent copies of The Perfect Storm and Armageddon DVD's if you would sign them for us. We would provide return postage envelopes, of course. Absolutely. Bill, we just wanted to know what you thought about the log ride. (Henery and Becky) Loved it. If you could appear in an erotic dream of your choice, what would you wear? (Erik) Nightvision goggles? Do you believe in astrology? (Marysia) Yes. Are you a real Sagittarius? (Marysia) What does that mean? Were you ever married to the girl who played "Meg" on As the World Turns? I heard she was your wife. (Sharon) No. She is not. What do you want to do on your birthday? (Ginny) Spend it with my friends. Where did all that class come from? (Ryan) My mother, where else? When filming... Does the movie, Black Hawk Down, follow the book? I believe it does. How do you feel about your latest work in Black Hawk Down? (Michael) Very proud to have been a part of that film. Did you read the book? Yes. Several times. Do you think the movie will give a positive perspective of the men and women who serve our military? I wouldn't have done it if I didn't. I very much enjoyed your performance in What's the Worst That Could Happen? I noticed from every review I could find that reviews of YOUR performance were highly favorable. Unlike the world's most famous male movie star, you don't seem uneasy with being depicted as an androgynous character. Are you comfortable portraying/being perceived as a feminine personality in a film role? (Mary) It's all about the work. Would you hesitate to portray a very believable gay character? No. Who did you get on with the most out of The Perfect Storm? Honestly, all the guys. Great people, each and every one of them. What did you find the most difficult part in doing in The Perfect Storm? (Natalie) Thank God for Dramamine. How long did it take to film The Perfect Storm? (Brian) 5 months. Aren't those your very own favorite boots that you wore in What's the Worst That Could Happen? (Kenda) My 'slippers' are just too beat up for Tardio. In Blackhawk Down, what did you personally think about the events the movie is trying to recreate? (Jerry) Tragic. Do you think it [BHD] will make an impact and make the people want to dig deeper into what happened, or will it maybe put another Oscar under Ridley's belt? (Jerry) Unbelievably, Ridley doesn't have any Oscars under his belt. Q: How many episodes of Grace Under Fire were you in? Seven episodes the first season. One the second season. Do you have any funny stories regarding acting as Ryan Sparks in Grace Under Fire? I remember after the interview (audition) for 'Grace' in New York, I thought, "No one who has any taste will hire me for this part," and on the way out of the ABC Building, I threw the script in the trash. Do you have any funny stories about acting in Contact and/or Go? I loved playing the part in Contact, not to mention working with Jodi. Go was a wacky experience but definitely a fun one. What a group of talented young actors. How many years were you in As the World Turns? Two years. In Armageddon in the part where Harry (Bruce Willis) choked you, did he really hurt you? (Marnan) Not at all. Do you have any stories about being on the Armageddon set? (Nancy) Being around the guys (and Jessica!) was great. I read on NASA's web site that the crew of the Space Shuttle Columbia met the Armageddon cast and crew and had lunch with them. What was it like to meet them and have that time to spend with them? (Nancy) They are the real deal. It was an honor. Did you go through any astronaut training on the Armageddon set? (Nancy) I spent time at the Niagara Air Reserve Station and at Edwards Air Force Base talking and mostly listening to the pilots. When you were on the set with Armageddon, the part where you were at N.A.S.A., did you get to see the shuttle or was it a model? (Cheryl) The real deal. On the documentary for Armageddon, you stated that it was the most fun you have had on a set except for one other time. What was the other movie and what made it so much fun for you? (Rebecca) The Underneath. We shot in Austin, Texas; one of the rockiest towns in America. In The Perfect Storm's bar scene when everyone was drinking - Do or did the actors really drink alcoholic drinks? (Ginny) No. When filming Contact, did you know all the astrophysics terminology associated with your lines? Were they explained to you? (Joy) Very basically. I really enjoyed your performance in The Perfect Storm. Was filming at sea in Massachusetts and in the water tank in California ever a bad

problem? (Mary) Not really. We had the best stunt coordinator in the business, named Doug Coleman. Did you enjoy making the movie Armageddon? (Nicole) Very much. Was your accent in Albino Alligator particularly hard to grasp? Cause you did a really good job. I appreciate it. You are quite "buff" in The Perfect Storm. Is it just that we haven't had much chance to see this side of you? Or did you do some serious training and pumping of iron to prepare for the movie? Wolfgang requested that I put some muscle on for the role, so I altered my workouts and gained 10-12 extra pounds. I was wondering about the tattoos you have in The Perfect Storm, what is the artwork of? (Rachel) I sat down with our make-up artist, Ken Diaz, and together we went through classic tattoo books looking for whatever we felt was the guy. A lot of the fishermen and body builders around here use steroids.... Please tell me you did not to get buff for The Perfect Storm. (Sheridan) Of course not, no. Do you get to get candy and junk food when you film? (Teresa) If you want! What's your favorite part of filming? (Teresa) Filming. Did you get seasick like Mark Wahlberg in The Perfect Storm? (Nikki) No.

Your favorite...? / Do you like...? I heard that you like sushi. When did you eat it? (Mikkusu) All the time! After being in many excellent movies which would you say you had most fun starring in? (Nikki and Terri) (2002) Go & Drowning Mona. One of your favourite films is an Australian film, Strictly Ballroom. What did you like about it? Everything! What is the first thing you notice of the opposite sex? (Emilia) The eyes. Do you have some favorite books/authors? (Chie) Barbara Kingsolver. What kind of books do you like to read? (Ann) Gripping. I know you like Altoids... have you ever tried the tangerine ones?? (Melissa)Mmm!Do you like rock music? (Steffi)What, are you kidding, rock it!What's the youngest age of a girl you'd even THINK about dating? (Laura)Let's see? How old is my wife?Who would be your perfect girl? (Mariana)My wife.Do you have a favorite country road? (Angela)Head north from Wounded Knee, South Dakota toward the Badlands. Eventually you will find a left-hand turn that will take you to a tiny town named Buffalo Cap, S.D. That road. What an awesome question!(Sept 2000) Which was your favorite location to shoot at? (Nancy) At the Kennedy Space Center. My favorite film with you is The Settlement... and yours?? (Ilona) The Settlement is right up there. What do you think is the ultimate dream car? (Denè & Priscilla) A soup to nuts Chevy Nomad! What's the most exciting thing that's happened to you in your life? (Falisha) My son! My wife! My family! Do you have any real tattoos? (Andrea) No, I do not. Do you surf? (Navah) Not yet. Do you surf? Do you dive? Have you ever seen SHARK WEEK? Do you like to swim? (Ginny) Very much. Do you like the ocean? Yes. Do you have a boat? No. Nicknames: Willy, Billy, Young Will (June 1999) Favorite TV Shows: The Sopranos Pets Names: Nicki (dog), Diesel (cat) (June 1999) Favorite movies: The Graduate, Strictly Ballroom (June 1999)Favorite type of music: Pop, Rock, a little of everything (June 1999) Favorite car/truck you have now: I have a 1970 Road Runner Favorite food: Sushi Favorite ice cream: Black Raspberry Favorite soda: Diet Pepsi Favorite sport to watch: Everything in the world Favorite colors: Blue and peach Where can I send...?Just wanted to know if you would be able to send me a signed pic for my collection if I write to you via snail mail. (Pat) Yes. I run the Swedish site www.filmline.nu - I'm just wondering if I could send William a bunch of questions and then put them on my site as an interview. It would really help a lot and I have been following his career for a long time. (Christopher)Sure.Is there a place where fans can obtain stills? At this time, I have no network in place to obtain stills in a timely manner. Please write to BWR and I will do the best I can to respond. Where would I send a script so you could read it? (Austin) BWR (Address in next box).

SportsIs it true that you are a Closet Die Hard JETS fan? (Richard) Shhhh! The Bills! Which is your favorite baseball team and why? (Ken)Mets, Mets & Mets, plus the Yankees. Why? N.Y.C.Did you used to be a goalie from your hockey team? (Lindsay) Proudly. Family/ChildhoodSo what's the story w/the insane insomniacs & blixy bombers? (Angela) It's Bixly Bombers & some of the greatest memories of my life. Do you think that your sensitivity is connected with your childhood among women? (Nelly) No doubt about it. I wouldn't trade it for the world. I have four brothers (one is a William) and they taught me how to land a good punch and I taught them to dance. What one thing did you learn from your sisters and what did you teach them? (Margaret) I wouldn't be what I am without those girls. We all know that your Birthday is Nov. 27th, I was just curious if you knew at what time you were born. (Jacy) 9:20 P.M. Are you still married??? Happily. Did you go to Maryvale High School in Cheektowaga, New York? If so, what year did you graduate? Class of '74. Were you ever a boy-scout? (Ann) No. I went to Maryvale Highschool (in fact just attended my 25th reunion). Did you go to school there and did you have a sister? If this is the right William Fichtner, and that is your sister...how's she doing? (Joe) All of my sisters are great, thanks for asking. Are you the same Bill Fichtner who graduated from Maryvale High School in 1974? You sure look like it! (William) I sure am. Hey, Bill. How are you? It must be very hard being away from your sons while working on a film. Is this one of the reasons behind your interest in working on a television series? (Mary)Yes, it is hard & I want to take them both with me wherever I go.What were you like as a teenager in high school? Were you a rebel? Popular? A nerd? Or just an average William!? (Stephanie)Rebel, popular, nerd, & average William.My father Joe M[...] has said in the past that he went to high school with you at Maryvale H.S. in Cheektowaga NY. I was just wondering if he actually knew you or he just happened to be there at the same time. [M....]You bet I knew your dad. Please say hello from me.Are you really married? (Daniela) Yes. Does your son look like you? (Annie)He's starting to!Do you have two girls? No. What was it like to grow up the only boy in a female household? (Racheal) I wouldn't have it any other way (if I had a choice)! What kind of stuff were you into during the 70's? (Amy) Led Zeplin & Elton John & Bob Seger & on & on & on. How did you meet your wife, and what was it about her that attracted your attention? Everything under the sun! Did you have a high school sweetheart? I sure did. Her name was Jenny. Since you were born on a military base, are you a military brat? (Teri) No. What breed of dog is Nicki and what breed of cat is Diesel? (Julie) Nicki is a Belgium Sheppard and mix. I knew Bill in high school, he'll know what this means: INSANE INSOMNIACS RULE! (Mark) The Bixly Bombers rule today and 4-ever! Did you ever dream of being an astronaut yourself? (Nancy) Didn't everyone? Would you...?Would you consider playing Buster Keaton? (Theresa) In a New York minute. If you were asked, would you do another space movie? (Katy) Definitely. Places & EncountersI'm from Germany and I would like to know if you ever thought of travelling to Europe

especially to Germany? (Karolin) I shot a film called "Equilibrium" last year (2001) in Berlin. Did you go to SUC Brockport in 1976-77? If so, I think I met you through a friend of mine..her name was Judy.... (Michael) Yes I did, & please say hello to Judy if you still keep in touch. Have you ever been to Kenosha, WI? Haven't had the pleasure. Do you ever miss New York? (Jaimee) When I'm away I do! Will you ever return to the Gloucester area to visit? Sure, I will. Have you ever been to Canada & if so, Saskatchewan? (Karinna) No, but I would love to go! Were you at the Great Escape this past summer? I bumped into you going over the bridge saying hi. Was it you? (My 3 sons don't believe it was you. Please clarify). Thanks, Jen. What a great day that was, huh? You were in Fayetteville, North Carolina. I got an autograph from you on your way out of the Courtyard by Marriot, and as you put it, "Glad to be on your way home". I was wondering what brought you to Fayetteville? (Monica) Training for Black Hawk Down. I also graduated from Maryvale in 1985, I went by the name of Chris ... back then. A friend of mine seems to think you graduated around the same time. Is he right? Off by 11 years. But same home town!! Just wanted to ask you if you knew my dad? His name is Bill G.... (Greg) Hey, Greg. Yea, I know your Dad. Give him my best. Hope all is well with you. Take care, Bill. Will you be in the Austin, Texas area any time soon? (Jeanne) Don't I wish, my favorite town in America! This past summer, my family and I were up near Lake George on vacation. We saw you and your son I believe eating at an Italian restaurant. We then were at Great Escape the next day and saw you on the old wooden roller coaster. My mother eventually asked you for your autograph since we were on the coaster quite a few times. :) I thought it was a pretty cool coincidence that we saw you two days in a row especially being in such a huge town. I was wondering if you remembered that? (Jen) Yes, I do. I just love the Adirondacks. I see you were born in East Meadow and went to school in Farmingdale. Were you raised on Long Island, or did you move away and come back to go to school? (Sherry) Moved to Buffalo and came back. ...I'm from Up state NY, where are you from up there? (Lisa) Thanks for your message. I'm from the Buffalo area. I swear I saw you at a rest area on the New York State Thruway westbound near Syracuse on the 26th of December. I was about to approach you but was afraid I would make a mistake. Could you tell me if this was you??? (Andrew) Home for the holidays. Buffalo, N.Y.! Hi William. Big fan since Albino Alligator. My question is why would you or anyone admit to ever being in Homer, NY? (Robi) Are you kidding me, I love Homer, NY! Truth be told, one of my all-time best friends (many, for that matter) live there. Back in March 2000 you were working on a new movie about wacky upstate NY folks. When did you finish this project? We had met you and your son at upstate NY's Great Escape fun park this past early summer. Quite an impression (especially for my 4 year old son Connor meeting 'Captain Sharpe')! What a kick, it's not everyday you run into a 'movie star'! :) Did you thoroughly enjoy the day with your child in and around those wonderful Adirondack Mountains, or what? (Dawne) Magical! What were your impressions of Nova Scotia? What was your favourite thing? (Denise)Loved the Maritime Museum, but I'd have to say the people.My question is about Austin, TX. I'm delighted that you like our weird little city so much. Do you do the live music scene when you're in town? (Amy)East 6th St.Have you ever been to Jerusalem (Israel)? (Carra)Not yet.When are you coming to Australia? (Angela>Not soon enough!! I was just wondering if you have filmed any movies in Canada? Or planning to in the future? (Stephanie)I shot a film in Halifax, & look forward to the next time I visit the beauty of Canada.Have you ever been to Poland? (Misia)No, but I'd like to.When you were filming The Perfect Storm, did you have a chance to enjoy Gloucester and Rockport? Do you remember any of the restaurants or shops you went into? (Cinzia)I loved both towns, the people, the food, & on & on & on....While in Halifax, NS, do you remember meeting 3 kids and a giant red statue in plastic wrap? And, did you ever find your reading glasses? (Mena)Yes & yes. I miss Halifax.Have you ever been to Hawaii? (Ginny) Not yet. So when are you planning a trip to Hawaii? (Ginny) Right now I wish. Have you ever been to Australia? (Nicole) No. But I will. Have you ever been to Munster, Indiana? If so, when? (Jena) Never, ever, maybe? Do you like Japan? Are you scheduled to come to Japan some time? (Naoko) I've never been, but would love to someday. Alison asks: Have you ever been to England and if so, when are you coming back? (Alison) Just once. Loved it, loved it. Have you ever been to Homer, NY? All the time! Did you ever live in Cheektowaga, New York? (Lindsay) It's my hometown! What was it like working with...?Did you really enjoy working with Liv Tyler, Jessica Steen, Bruce Willis, and Ben Affleck on the set of Armageddon? Loved it. What was it like working with Kevin Spacey on Albino Alligator? (You are both two of my favorite actors). (Paula) Kevin's one of my favorite actors, also. Is there any particular actress you'd like to work with and what about actors? (Lou) Those are two incredibly long lists! I wondered if you met Carl Sagan during your work on Contact? (Ann) No, I never had the pleasure. You & Tom Sizemore have been in 3 films together - are you good friends? (Mary)I don't see Tom often, but it's always a pleasure.What's it like working with Branko Lustig? (Susan)[He's] a gentleman.I love your character of "William Sharp" [Armageddon]. You were great opposite Bruce Willis. Would you work with him again? (Tammy)In a heartbeat.What was it like to work with Marshall, Anthony, and Jessica, as a group and as individuals [Armageddon]? (Nancy) Great, I think the world of every one of them. What was it like working with Bruce Willis [Armageddon]? (Nicole) The best. Out of Bruce Willis, George Clooney, Mark Wahlberg and Danny DeVito, who in your opinion was the most enjoyable to work with... and don't just say all, because everyone knows people have their favorites... I mean.. c'mon!! lol [Armageddon] ALL GREAT NO DOUBT, but Danny, Bruce, George & Mark I'd have to say. What director with whom you've worked would you like to work with again? Wolfgang Peterson. About your character(s)...I just watched Passion of Mind for the second time and enjoyed it even more this time. I know you said that this character was the closest you have played to your own personality, but would your wife agree? (Nancy) No way! Was Phil (Drowning Mona) as fun to play as he looked? (Niko) More! I once attended a seminar on body language and the instructor made a comment that the really good actors were the ones who could change their body language to fit different characters. After watching you in The Perfect Storm and Armageddon in the same weekend I see what she meant. My question is how in the world do you do that? Do you have to think about the posture, gestures, etc. of the character you portray or does it just flow naturally once you get into the scene? (Tammy) I think it's more about getting more into who the 'guy' is. Great question. Can you tell us why your character in Black Hawk Down was changed to a fictitious character - Sanderson? (Monte) Sanderson is a composite character of Delta Operators. You seemed to be

having so much fun in What's the Worst That Could Happen. ...Did you have fun playing that part and what did your wife think of your new look? (Shellie) I had a blast. I wanted to know how on Earth did you think of playing the police officer in What's the Worst That Could Happen (sorry, I forget his name) like that? (Cassandra) Det. Alex Tardio. Great costume design, great hair & little by little you start to move & walk & talk & here he comes. In The Perfect Storm, you were asked put on some muscle. How about now? Did you go back to your usual-weight? Yes. In Contact, you translated from German to English. Do you really speak /understand German? (Chie) No. In Contact when you played the blind Kent, How did you keep yourself looking as though you were really blind and not concentrating on a specific actor/actress or object? (Kelly) Incredible people that helped me train for the film. How did they make it look like you guys were actually in space and standing on the asteroid in Armageddon? The magic of movies! (& great special effects). In Armageddon, did you really know what the controls were in the space shuttle? (Milla) Not a clue, thanks for asking. In an episode of Grace Under Fire Ryan Sparks says, "Grace - you, I love." In Passion of Mind Aaron tells Marty, "You - I love." Is this just a coincidence in the script writing or was this your interpretation? I've never heard feelings of love expressed that way (in person or onscreen) or maybe no one else said it sincerely enough to make me stop and listen. (Diane) That's a Billism. Good ear! In The Perfect Storm, there was a bit of animosity between Sully and Murph. Was this animosity present in real life or was this "dramatic license"? Why did these two hate each other so much? I love John C. Reilly, and I respect him personally and professionally. (Melissa) In the movie, it's strongly suggested that Murphy's ex-wife is the woman Sully is currently seeing. -- Brett What are the methods and extent of research you do before playing a role? (Steve) It's different every time. The more time I have, the better. Do you rely on the feedback of the directors and the screenwriters as your source of what they are looking for in a role? (Steve) Yes & no. The heart of a character will come from me. Do you speak with other actors who have successfully portrayed similar characters?

(Steve) Respectfully, no. Or might there be research of actual military veterans or other professionals, depending on the role? (Steve) Yes, exactly. I rewatched the Tardio [WTWCH] scenes and studied the makeup. Was that mole moved around on purpose? One scene it was to the right of your mouth, the next it was to the left, then it moved up your cheekbone. (Michelle) Good eye! And was the hair [Tardio/WTWCH] a wig? (Michelle) Yeah! Of all the characters that you have played so far, which character would you like to play again in another film so as to be able to continue to explore him? (Kelyn) Kent Clark in Contact. Great question. In Passion of Mind, there's a hat stand of what seem to be different coloured, but same styled and possibly female "bowler-type" hats. ... Is there any reason for this particular style of hat and any significance to their inclusion? (Angela) Very observant, but no. I'm assuming you wore a wig as Alex Tardio [WTWCH], but was that your real hair in Drowning Mona? (Angela) Permed & ready to go! What type of person do you believe would fall in love with the character played by Demi Moore in Passion of Mind? (Lisa) Understanding. In Contact you play a blind man who has none of the stereotyping so often found in such roles, which was a wonderful treat. Kent was an intriguing character. I've read in reviews that you researched for this role. I'm curious how you went about finding a blind services organization to contact, and then, once you contacted them, what do you say? Do you spend your time explaining you're an actor researching a role? Are people inclined to welcome you in? After I found out I got the part in Contact, I went to the Jewish Guild for the Blind on the upper west side of Manhattan. Walked in, was very honest and clear about what I was doing and the help I was looking for. The guild and, in particular, a man named Rich Patak, were more helpful than I could possibly have imagined.

You ask if people are inclined to welcome me in and I really believe it's an individual thing. I know that Rich said to me one day that my commitment was very clear from the beginning and I can't imagine that wouldn't strengthen his desire to help. Was that really you whistling the theme song to The Andy Griffith Show at the end of one of the Grace Under Fire episodes, the one where Sparks and Quentin are fishing? (Kimberley) I wish. Again, on the musical theme, can you really sing, or was that your best effort in Passion of Mind? (Hint: it was a deliberately bad duet with a tape of Julie Andrews, I think). (Kimberley) It was a choice. Did you enjoy the movie Armageddon as Colonel Willie Sharp? And for what reason? (Daniela) I loved playing that part. I enjoyed the locations we went to and the people who trained and helped us most of all. Which character is most like your own personality, and which one has been the most enjoyable? (Kelly) I think Passion of Mind is closest & Go the most enjoyable. You smoke on different sets. Do you smoke only for the movie? Just for the movie and then quit. Do you prefer tough guy roles or those with more of a romantic touch to them? (Melissa) I only work on roles that truly excite me, regardless of their nature. What sort of character do you enjoy playing more, Colonel Sharp or Sully? (Teresa) Both, for very different reasons. How do you go about making such believable alter egos? Is it mostly an intuitive process that you use, something that involves a lot of research and conscious decision making on your part, or a combination of intuitive and intellectual approaches? (Or have I missed the boat altogether and you use an approach that I haven't even thought of?). (Carrie) There are questions I need to answer to help me understand who the guy is, but intuition steers the boat. [In The Perfect Storm] toward the end before the ship went down and they show each cast member..what was going through your mind at the moment in the film, your look was so very intense. (Cindy) A private thought, but thank you for asking. I've met Amway salesmen (I know Confederated Products is a different company!) and you completely nailed the role when you revealed your "ulterior motive". My only guess is that you really sell Amway? (Jackson) Uh... no. Just wondering what you thought about the legal action launched against Warner Bros et al re: The Perfect Storm? I must admit, having read the book then seeing the film the character of David Sullivan you portray isn't exactly 'accurate'. I realise creative license is taken in film-making, but if based on true stories, then real people can end up getting hurt. This suit isn't directed at yourself, I know. ... You have a script to follow, yes, but did you see that your portrayal of the character could upset family the real DS left behind? I know it's a longwinded question, but I believe that it's an important one so often lacking in today's "profit and nothing else" movie industry. (Eileen) I think nothing about [the legal action]. I had the absolute pleasure to meet David Sullivan's mother. She makes a great chicken soup and she made me feel at home. I also had the chance to tell her that my job is to play the part written and that's what I would do. I said what I needed to say to the only person whose opinion

mattered to me. I don't care what anyone else thinks. And "profit and nothing else" is not part of my world. About your CareerHow long did it take you to break into the [acting] business? Since the Jurassic Period. I just want to know if you talked at length to actual DELTA FORCE operators in prep for your role for BHD or did you train under a contracted military advisory group? If you were instructed by the real deal, did you talk to any Somalia vets that may have given you insight into how you would play your character? (Mario) Not only was it my distinct pleasure to train with actual Somalia vets, I am honored to call many my friend. Recently, I rented the movie Malcolm X, In what part of the movie do you appear? I did not appear in that film. I, too, am glad you have chosen acting as your profession; you truly have a gift for it. I hope with all my heart the journey takes you down paths you want to travel. My question: the life of an actor is fraught with rejection, insecurity and unkindness; casting directors tend to go for a certain appearance while ignoring a tremendous talent for a role. How is it you have remained grounded, sensible, and - judging from your eyes and the way you present yourself in interviews - a fundamentally kind, open, and decent man? (Mary) There is not much, as actors, we have control over. But the only thing that's ours and ours alone is how good we can be. Focus on your work and be gentle with your heart. I was just curious, what parts do you prefer to play, the villain or the innocent? And why? (YL) All depends on the script & the director & who else is involved with the film. Has a role changed your way of looking at the world or yourself? Yes. Every time. I recall reading somewhere that "we are 3 people, how others see us, how we see ourselves and who we really are", when you act so many different roles over a long time, is it difficult to be yourself? ...What role upon completion, if any, have you found it difficult to be yourself again? (Debra) I am always myself first & last. Are you interested in doing television work again? Maybe a guest short or something? (Kim) Never say never. I wanted to write just to tell you that I love your acting. In the past week, the weirdest thing happened. I watched Contact, Armageddon, and The Perfect Storm and I kept seeing this awesome actor. You played your parts so perfectly and each motion just seemed to make the character more and more intricate. I am in a drama club and am planning on a drama class next school year but I don't know if it is a path I should pursue. I just wanted to know how you got your start and why? Oh yeah, and if your were given a choice would you have done it all over again? What do you do when the studio isn't calling your name? I mean, in free-time. (Lisa) It is my journey up till this point. After receiving a script, do you usually require a few days to think about whether it would be a film you would like to do OR do you only do movies you have a "gut feeling" about? It's different every time. But always listen to your "gut" and heart. As an actor, what has been the hardest obstacle for you to overcome? Rejection. Was your first acting job in that early Cyndi Lauper music video? (Dawne) No. How does it feel to be you? To know you have reached a certain level in your life where you have completed most of your goals as an actor or as a person. Are you surprised on how far you have come? When you get "there"? Does it complete you? Or do you strive for more? It must be an endless race. (Rebecca)I'll always strive. If not for work, for time with family, or peace in my heart, or to be a more understanding human being...Can you tell us a bit about your character in Julie Walking Home, and what made you choose this role? (Angela)Loved the script, wanted to work with the Director.Do you feel it's important to stay close to your family despite the traveling demands of being an actor and being on distant locations?Being close to my family helps keep me complete.Your unusual talent/ability to significantly alter your appearance for each role ahs provided you with (relative) anonymity, as man movie goers simply don't recognize you from film to film. I'd personally consider this a benefit, but have you often wondered if you'd prefer to continue in this manner, or is there at least a part of you that would like to be an actor who could "carry" a movie? Or would the attendant celebrity be uncomfortable or undesirable to you? (Rain)Bring it on! I'll manage.You have a wonderful voice, have you ever done advertisement,voice-overs or audio book narrations? Here and there. What attracts you to a project? Do you look at a role and see yourself playing the character in your mind's eye? Kind of. I'm very attracted to the words, the story, the part, the director, and the combination of all of them is what makes me want to be a part of something. You have worked in the mediums of film, television and theatre. Based on your experience so far, which medium have you found the most interesting and which the most challenging? Why? I believe to be good on stage requires the most discipline and technique. Now that's not to say working in film is a breeze. It is truly a whole other ballgame and one that I love to work in. Where did you study when you were first starting out? (Jessica) The American Academy of Dramatic Arts. (Oct 2000) Which film did you enjoy making the most? (Kim) Go, The Perfect Storm. How long were you out at Edwards Air Force Base prior to arriving on the set? (Nancy) I was only there for one very memorable day. In one of the articles, you mentioned that after Michael and Jerry chose Will Patton for the part of Chick Chappel, they offered you another part that you didn't want. I was wondering what part it was? (Nancy) The role of Max. How did you end up taking the part of Col. Sharp? (Nancy) WF: Col. Sharp was the part Michael and Jerry offered me. What did you consider to be the turning point in your career? (Allison) I'm still waiting. What is the hardest part about being a celebrity that you never expected? I'm flattered with the word 'celebrity,' but I honestly don't think of myself as one. Who or what inspired you to be an actor when you were growing up? A friend named Mr. Donald Harvey. Who inspired you to start acting? A college counselor named Don Harvey. What director would you most like to work with? (Mary) Oh, so many. How do you get your various accents down so well? (Travis) Homework. Is it just a dialect coach? It helps. Or do you have a natural affinity for accents? I don't think so. Where did you go to acting school to get so good? (Tammi) I studied with the late, great Peter Thompson. What made you choose Go and why that role? (Jackson) Loved the script. Loved the part. What kind of movie and what kind of role haven't you done yet that you would most like to do? (Mike) So many, Mike. So many. Is there any one actor or movie that inspired you as much as your work has inspired me? (Mike) The Graduate. About your FansHi William! I love how you played the role of "Col. Willie Sharp" in Armageddon. My question is how would you describe a perfect fan for you? (Laura) You! The idea of fans idolizing you... does that seem almost surreal or do you try to take it in strides? I try to take everything in strides. Do you answer your fan mail? As best I can. Are you/You look like...Did William play one of the characters in Star Trek II - The Wrath of Khan? There was a character among Khan's group who looks very much like William. No. My guess is you're thinking of Judson Scott. -- Brett Are you any kin to Christopher Walken?

(Cassandra)No.Were you ever in (guest appearance, etc.) a kid's show? Late 80's... with a muppet... I think you were some kind of robot or android. (Katie) I feel like that sometimes, but 'no' to your question. I remember a show in the late 70's/early 80's called The Phoenix and the lead character looks just like you. Are you "The Phoenix?" (L.H.) No, but I've been there. (That'd be Judson Scott who played Bennu. -- Brett) Did you make an appearance in George Romero's remake of Night of the Living Dead? (William) No. Have you ever been a lifeguard? No. Were you on Seinfeld or Night Court? (Gladys) No. Acting advice I want to begin acting, but I don't know where to start. I think my biggest problem is I tense up and can't concentrate. Any suggestions? It would be much appreciated! (Megan) Breathe. So do you know of any acting schools in Florida that do night classes? Or weekend classes? (Lizzie) No, I do not. What tips would you recommend for young people trying to get into the entertainment industry? Work hard on your field of choice. Did your family try to crush your dreams of becoming an actor even though they knew you wanted to be one since you were like 12 and it's about 7 years later and they won't stop? (Elaina) Never give up. I really want to act and I need your help. I don't know how to get started. (Dylan)Take classes. Study.What would you say to kids who want to be actors? What kind of advice would you give them? Work at your craft. What is acting like? (Rob) Do you have a spare month or two?

Nationality/HeritageDo your German roots interest you? (Jules) They do. I wish I knew more. I'm in Albuquerque,NM. What do you know of your family tree? It's getting bigger every day. ...Well, if you do read this message personally, Mr. William Fichtner, just wanted to let you know that there are a few other "Fichtners" out there. And who knows, maybe in some fashion, we are related? (Jeff) There are more of us than we think! Just watched The Perfect Storm again today and it finally has gotten to a point where it is driving me crazy. You have the same last name as mine and I am wondering if it is your real name or not? What is your heritage if it is because there are not very many last names like ours. Let me know is you can and thanks very much. (Dennis) Do you think I could make that up? I'm proud to say it is my name. How does it feel having the name of greatness? (William Fichtner)Not that many of us, my friend.As my maiden name is also Fichtner (and I don't think it is such a common name) I am now wondering if your family originates in German, and if so, do you know any of your ancestor's names? (Claudia) Yes to the Germany [question], & I don't know all that much about the upper branches of the family tree.I was wondering if you have Native American ancestry in your family tree? (Sandra)Not that I know of.Are you from European descent? Your surname sounds German. (Hedvig) Yes, indeed it is. What nationality are you? (Ginny) German. American. Text Version of the FAQs What is his next movie? Currently filming the television series "Invasion" on ABC Is William Fichtner married? Yes, he was married 7/25/98. His wife is Kymberly Kalil Fichtner. How old is he? 49 yrs. When's his birthday? November 27, 1957 Where was he born? On Mitchell Field Air Force Base, East Meadow, Long Island, New York. How tall is he? 6' 1/2" What's his middle name? Edward What else do you know about him? He attended SUNY/Farmingdale on Long Island, transferred to Brockport to finish his degree in criminal justice. After graduation, "I knew that I wasn't going to continue on to be a police officer or anything in the law enforcement area - my heart just wasn't there anymore." He attended the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York. How do you pronounce "Fichtner?" Fic-ner (silent "h" and "t"). We've noticed you wearing the same ring in multiple movies, so we presume it's yours. What is its significance? It was my grandfather Theodore's. Are you right- or left-handed? Right. Where can I send fan mail?