

Get To Know...

# CIARA

How she kept her head up during tough times and came out on top

**Twist:** So how did you get your start in music?

**Ciara:** I started out in a group called *Hearsay*. We got a deal with a major recording label and spent thousands of dollars on the project—then we all started having differences. It didn't work out.

**Twist:** Were you bummed?

**Ciara:** No, I knew it was for a reason. It made me realize that going solo is the best thing for me.

**Twist:** You moved around a lot growing up—was it hard?

**Ciara:** It was really hard leaving because I had friendships with people, and I wasn't really sure if I was ever going to see them again. At the same time, it set me up for what I'm doing now. I'm able to adapt.

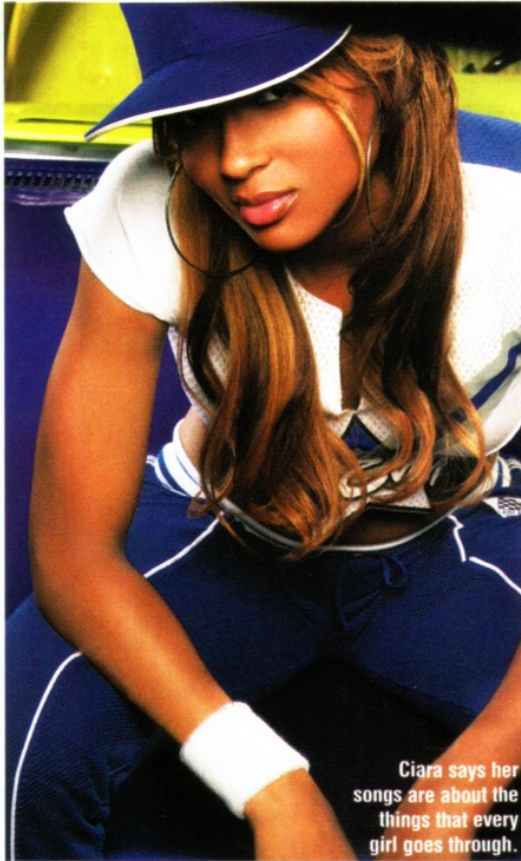
**Twist:** What would you tell someone who's going through the same thing now?

**Ciara:** Gotta hang in there. Take advantage of all the opportunities that come your way. You can learn so many things, you can meet so many different people.

**Twist:** So where did you get the inspiration for "Goodies"?

**Ciara:** I wanted to do a record that would represent female empowerment. A guy pulls up at a club in a Benz or a Bentley and thinks the girls are gonna flock to him. I'm like, "Hey, it's not that easy." I'm not that kind of girl. You gotta respect me.

**Twist:** How was it working with Petey Pablo and Lil' Jon?



Ciara says her songs are about the things that every girl goes through.

**Ciara:** It was really cool. It made me feel good—Lil' Jon's a super-producer and he's worked with so many artists. And then Petey Pablo, he's just real silly.

**Twist:** It seems like "Goodies" is everywhere. Did you expect that?

**Ciara:** You know what? Truthfully, I believed in the record when I heard it, and I also believed in myself. I always tell people that the first step of my goal is accomplished. It's like the beginning of my dream is coming true.

**Twist:** Do you feel pressure now that you're in the spotlight?

**Ciara:** Nobody can say that word to me before my show. It's so funny. I'm like, "Don't say the nervous word, don't say pressure, don't say scared." I'm just trying to go with the flow, you know?

## CIARA'S 5 MUST-HAVES

- 1 cell phone
- 2 money
- 3 Tupac's *All Eyez On Me*
- 4 shoes
- 5 curling iron

