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## Falling in love sends jazz singer straight to the kitchen

Dec. 14, 2006. 01:00 AM

In keeping with the theme of Dione Taylor's new album, *I Love Being Here With You*, we asked the singer-songwriter a few questions about the all-important, sometimes consuming, topic of love.

Here's what she had to say:

QHow do you write a good love song?

AIt's really hard to describe love. You have to have visual images that tie in lyrically.

You have talk about what you do for love and how it makes you feel.

Stevie Wonder has written so many amazing love songs, like "I Just Called to Say I Love You" —*No New Year's Day to celebrate/No chocolate-covered candy hearts to*

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*give away* — talk about a visual!

QWhich albums do you put in heavy rotation when you fall in love?

AStevie Wonder's *Songs in the Key of Life*. And definitely *Sarah Vaughan With Clifford Brown*. I almost wanted to have a boyfriend named Jim (because of their version of that standard).

QWhat is your favourite song with love in the title?

AMarvin Gaye and Tammi Terrell's "Your Precious Love." That's a great one for when you're just cozy on the couch with someone special.

QWho was your first love?

AWell, when I was 8, I had a crush on my gym teacher. He was really cute and really nice. That was the only other class I looked forward to besides music class.

QWho was the love that now seems foolish?

ADenzel Washington. He was so cute and I thought, 'Maybe one day ...' I kept a scrapbook with articles about him. His hottest role was in *Mo' Better Blues* ... He made trumpet-playing look sexy even though he wasn't a musician. I also had a big crush on George Michael. Wow, he hid (being gay) really well. He's still really hot. With age he gets better looking.

QWhat's the craziest thing you ever did for love?

AMoved to Toronto. I was contemplating coming to school here, but when my then boyfriend got accepted to the University of Toronto, I said 'I gotta go!' Being a pastor's daughter it was pretty bold — going all or nothing for love. We broke up eights months later. But it was the best decision I made. If I hadn't moved here I probably would not have met the man I'm with now. It's all about timing and I got here just in time.

QWhat's the state of your current love?

AFor the first time, this feels like a different type of love. It feels more grown up, complete. It's not as giddy as the love I've had before, but it's solid. We've been together four years. Yes, he's a musician. No, I'm not going to say what instrument, because you'll figure out who.

QHow can your friends tell when you're in love?

AThey say I cook more.

My man loves food, he's a food connoisseur, so I've learned to work around the kitchen more.

My family is from Jamaica and I've introduced him to that stuff. Jerk chicken with rice and peas is his favourite dish. I make it once a week.

QTell us about your most enduring love.

AThat's God and my family. Amazing. Supportive. Great. — **Ashante Infantry**

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