



WHAT'S WRONG WITH RENÉE ZELLWEGER NOW?

Doubt you missed this, but last week Renée Zellweger was photographed at the 2014 ELLE Women In Hollywood Awards, and she was looking, well, a bit less like herself. Of course, the media went into a near frenzy over it, many outlets shaming her for undergoing a practically unrecognizable transformation, claiming she'd do well in a witness protection program. She, of course, aptly defended herself by telling the press:

"My friends say that I look peaceful. I am healthy. For a long time I wasn't doing such a good job with that. I took on a schedule that is not realistically sustainable and didn't allow for taking care of myself. Rather than stopping to recalibrate, I kept running until I was depleted and made bad choices about how to conceal the exhaustion. I was aware of the chaos and finally chose different things."

Okay, so we all know that the way Renée Zellweger now looks isn't due merely to healthful aging. She obviously had some *work* done and isn't fooling anyone. But the truth is, she shouldn't have to try to fool us with such a defense in the first place. Sure, she looks altered from her younger self, but don't we all? The irony here is that twenty years ago, the media would often make fun of her signature look—hooded, squinty eyes. Now that she's in her 40s, when *everyone's* perky eyes start to falter, it appears that she's done something to open them up, making her look vibrant and gorgeous, but, yes, remarkably different. And now the celebrity buzz reporters still can't leave her alone. It shouldn't be this kind of lose lose situation. Why should she be shamed for making the effort to look and feel good?

We asked the expert opinion of Charlotte's Book Premier Provider, [Dr. Paul Jarrod Frank](#) on the subject. He is a renowned Cosmetic Dermatologist and founder of [5th Avenue Dermatology Surgery and Laser Center](#). This is what he had to say:

"Renée has been out of the spotlight for a while. She is now 45 years old and people are taking notice and want to comment obsessively. People are comparing her to pictures from 1998. If you compare photos of anyone from 17 years ago, chances are they won't look this good—faces change with age! Yes, Renée has had a little work done, but nothing tremendous. If you didn't grow up watching her, you would think she was an age-appropriate, great looking woman. Many people in their 40's get heavy eyelids. For Renée, she has removed the excess skin from her upper eyelids (which were always heavy for her) and has had some [Botox](#), which has changed the look of her eye shape and flattened her brows some. It's important to note that brows fall naturally after over 20 years old. The rest of her face has merely thinned out as most women's faces do just with time, especially ones who stay slim and fit. Renée looks great and most importantly age appropriate. There is no major transformation surgically, but, yes, she has maintained herself and changes with time as we all do."

We couldn't agree more and feel Renée deserves our respect, not only for being a talented thespian, but for putting the haters in their place by saying, "People don't know me [as] healthy for a while. Perhaps I look different. Who doesn't as they get older?! Ha. But I am different. I'm happy."

What is better than being happy? Perhaps we all need to just back off and let her be just that.