

## Actor Lee Mead: My greatest weakness is women

WEST End star and TV actor Lee, 34, has a four-year-old daughter with his ex-wife Denise van Outen and lives in Southend-on-Sea, Essex.

By KIRSTEN JONES  
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**Not a lot of people know this but I'm very good at...** running. I did the Royal Parks half marathon and I'm working towards my first marathon. I've got the running bug now.

**My best friend is...** a guy I've known for almost 20 years called Ross. He's my daughter's godfather.

**My nickname is...** My brother calls me Mullet. When we were kids, I had long hair that was extra long at the back. It was a Pat Sharp 80s thing.

**The bravest thing I've ever done is...** enter the Any Dream Will Do competition to play Joseph. It was very daunting. I was so exposed to millions of people, singing on TV and being judged.

**My favourite TV show is...** The Undateables – it's so sweet. There's a big rugby guy with Tourette's syndrome. He's such a nice bloke but so insecure. It's funny, but it's really endearing.

**I don't have any regrets. I think everything happens for a reason**  
Lee Mead



The best day of my life was Betsy being born. I don't think anything could top that



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'Most of my closest friends are women and I'm a bit of a romantic. Women can make you do anything!'

**My perfect evening is...** It might sound quite boring but I'm so busy that I enjoy watching a nice film with a bottle of red wine. I've just bought a new place in Southend-on-Sea and it looks across the sea. I'm really happy there – I can see pure ocean.

**I'd like to say sorry to...** Life takes over for all of us, so I'd like to say sorry to anyone I've lost contact with. It's impossible for us all to always stay in touch. I saw my friend Cara for the first time in 15 years the other day. It was lovely to catch up with her.

**My first kiss was...** amazing. I was in year seven and she was in year 11. She insisted that I didn't tell anybody. Her name was Louise and she looked about seven foot tall to me. She took me into the park by the bushes and snogged my face off.

**My biggest regret is...** I'm like my dad. I'm a very positive person with a glass half full. I've had a few hard moments in my life, but I don't have any regrets. I think everything happens for a reason.

**The one thing I'd change about myself is...** Through nerves, I can get the giggles in quite inappropriate situations. It makes everything much worse.

**The best thing my parents taught me was...** to always be kind and work hard. If I want something, I've got to work for it.

**The last time I cried was...** last night with my daughter. We were watching the new Cinderella film, directed by Kenneth Branagh. It's so moving during the first scene when her mum passes away and tells her to have courage.

**The first single I ever bought was...** I'd Lie For You (And That's The Truth) by Meat Loaf. It's very dramatic and I love the orchestration.

**It's not good for my image but I like...** There's a scene in a panto I was in where I was dressed in a red unitard with a cape and a frying pan tied to my hips. I had to wear that in front of 2,500 people. Luckily, I rarely get embarrassed.

**My greatest weakness is...** women. I love them so much. Most of my closest friends are women and I'm a bit of a romantic. Women can make you do anything!

**If I could pass any law I would...** I've been a huge Chelsea fan since I was nine, so it'd be to have a free box at any Chelsea game in the world for life.

**I drive...** I haven't owned a car for two or three years but I hope to buy a Mercedes soon.

**The shop I can't walk past is...** any really good coffee shops with pastries in the window. I'm a sucker for cakes. I could sit there all day with a book and eat all the food.

**The most expensive things I've ever splashed out on is...** Other than my flat, I'd say my Gucci tux. It was £2,500. It's my special suit. I wear it for special events.

**My perfect Sunday is...** with my daughter, going to feed the ducks and having a roast dinner with friends and family.

**My favourite place in Britain is...** anywhere by the sea. I love the north-Cornish coast and the Highlands of Scotland.

**My last holiday was to...** Ibiza. I went with my friend Amanda Henderson from Casualty. She's like a sister to me. We went for a long weekend and danced all night, every night, and slept on the beach. It's a stunning island.

**I'm currently reading...** The Martian by Andy Weir. The film recently came out but I want to read the book first.

**The best day of my life was...** Betsy being born. I don't think anything could top that.

**If I had half an hour left on Earth...** I'd spend it with Betsy.

**Lee's album *Some Enchanted Evening* is available to buy and download from Friday. For his UK tour dates, visit [leemead.co.uk](http://leemead.co.uk).**



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