

<u>Liz Smith</u>



New York Post, Friday, January 10, 2003

Living and learning

BEOPLE WHO say they have no regrets, I don't believe have actually lived," says Billy Joel to Joan Jedell in her Manhattan edition of

The Hampton Sheet.

Billy should be riding high these days. His musical with Twyla Tharp "Movin' Out" is a Broadway smash hit and the people who love it really love it, calling it a classic.

But the music man is still trying to get over 9/11 ("It was an attack on all humanity, all mankind. It was an expression of such sheer, awesome hatred that it's still depressing me.") And what's more Billy is still trying to get over an interview he gave recently. Of this encounter, Billy says:

"I've learned that the more questions you've answered, the more tabloid stories tend to come out. I made the mistake once of revealing a little about my personal life and it turned into a tabloid story. It was horrible. That's the last time

I'll ever do that. They turned it into a one-note samba and I was horrified. It was The New York Times Magazine. I assumed they had some journalistic integrity, but I read this story and it could have been in the Star. It was shocking and I said, 'That's it. I don't trust anyone anymore.' "

Hmmm, he must trust Joan Jedell just a little bit. He's on her cover.