

POP QUIZ

with Katie Couric 

Just for fun (and, of course, ratings) Today's Katie Couric and The Tonight Show's Jay Leno will swap jobs May 12. Scoop asked Couric, 46, about the host-to-host, coast-to-coast switch.

Are you funny?

Once in a while I'm a little funny. I can't come up with jokes. I repeat jokes, but I never make them up.

The hardest part of Leno's job is probably the monologue. How are you going to handle that?

I'm counting on Jay's writers. I'm hoping that they're going to be really funny. Of course I do ask all my friends if they've heard any jokes lately, and that's a little pathetic. I've asked my daughters as well, so I'm pretty much survey-



"I'm just counting on the guests being funny, or else I'm in deep doo-doo," says Couric of her *Tonight Show* gig.

ing everyone I know.

Any second thoughts?

I asked a friend, "Do you think this is a career ender?" The idea sounded so good, but the reality of it is starting to sink in. I'm starting to feel

nauseous every time I think about it.

So you're nervous?

If I were auditioning for the job, I would be nervous, but since it's a one-night stand, I'm trying to just have a

good time. Interviewing presidents, doing live coverage of world-altering breaking news events—those things make me nervous.

What does your cohost Matt Lauer think of all this?

He always has an air of detached bemusement when it comes to me and my little weird things. I think he thinks it's fun. Obviously, he doesn't want me to fall on my face because he doesn't want it to affect him. He's rooting for me.

Are you preparing in any special way?

No, no, no. I have not been studying 20 years of *Tonight* shows, and I haven't gone to a class in the art of joke-telling.

All in all, you sound relatively confident.

I'm stacking the audience with all my friends and family, by the way.