



**Elijah Wood**  
avoids the  
flash. Esther  
Haynes loves his brain.  
Photos by Jeff Minton

You'd never guess that Elijah Wood has boatloads of money from all those *Lord of the Rings* movies. He pulls up to this interview in an old Mini Cooper that belongs to his mother. He's wearing jeans and a Gogol Bordello T-shirt—because he's friends with the band's lead singer, Eugene Hutz, who's starring with him in the upcoming movie *Everything Is Illuminated*. And even though 24-year-old Elijah just bought a house and adjacent guest house in Venice, Calif., each one is a tiny 900 square feet because, he says, "There's something disciplinary about it." Apparently Hollywood hasn't quite corrupted *everyone*. If you ask me, Elijah's a real keeper.

AIX Armani  
Exchange  
jacket; his  
own shirt

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