

**Michael mi disse: "Sii i miei occhi e mostrami tutto ciò che non posso vedere"**

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**"Ci sono persone che traggono un sacco di gioia quando ricevono doni e ci sono persone che amano donare agli altri. Io voglio essere del secondo tipo"**



**mi disse qualcosa che  
non dimenticherò mai: "John, sii i miei occhi e mostrami tutto ciò che non posso  
vedere".**

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### NOW IT CAN BE TOLD: THE JACKSON-BABY-PHOTO STORY

John Isaac isn't sure how many husbands Liz Taylor has had, or whether he'd even recognize

Kathie Lee Gifford. A 25-year veteran of the United Nations photography staff, Isaac usually



covers topics that aren't found on the front page of the *National Enquirer*. The fact that he got the tabloid photo scoop of the year—the multimillion-dollar shots of Michael Jackson and his newborn son—does not, he insists, mean that he's a paparazzo at heart.

Here's better proof: He still hasn't been paid for the pictures.

Isaac met Jackson in 1996, when the Gloved One asked him to autograph a UNICEF poster he'd shot. The two became friends, but Isaac was surprised nonetheless when Jackson asked him to be the official photographer for his baby's birth. "Michael knew that every magazine and newspaper in the world would want pictures, and he knew he could trust me not to leak them," says Isaac. "He told me, 'I can see the purity in your eyes.'"

Isaac was there when the soon-to-be Mrs. Michael Jackson, Debbie Rowe, delivered Michael Jr. last February 12. To get past the horde of paparazzi at the hospital, Isaac had to disguise himself as a doctor. Later, at Jackson's Neverland ranch, he made a series of portraits. "I shot Michael and the baby in his bedroom," says the photographer. "I can tell you all those reports of Michael sleeping in an oxygen chamber are false. He has a regular bed."

To make sure the pictures weren't leaked by a photo lab, Jackson had Isaac process his film in a makeshift Neverland darkroom. Jackson's company, MJ Productions, made a deal reportedly worth \$2 million (MJ officials wouldn't return our calls to confirm the figure) with the British magazine *OK* for syndication rights. A portion of the money was slated for charity.

None has gone to Isaac, but then he never asked about payment. "This was about friendship," he says. We talked with one photography agent who said Isaac should ask for 50 percent and settle for 20. "Michael will take care of me," says the photographer. Will friendship pay off? We'll let you know. —DAVID SCHONAUER

"Anzitutto si può parlare con la dignità a suo Michael" mentre i paparazzi