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KATE SPADE SPRING 2015

THE KIT BEAUTY & FASHION



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BOOKS
ROYAL WATCHERS
The gals behind hilarious celebrity blog Go Fug Yourself explore Kate Middleton's inner life (and eyebrow evolution) in a new novel

BY RANI SHEEN

We've all watched it happen: A sporty, down-to-earth girl falls in love with a prince and becomes an impeccably dressed, perfectly coiffed member of British royalty. If you've ever wondered what Kate, William and Harry are joking about at royal appearances, wished for an invite to a birthday party at Buckingham Palace or fantasized about joining them at the royal skiing compound in Klosters, Switzerland, *The Royal We* is for you. Characters based on the young royals are the focus of the third novel by Jessica Morgan and Heather Cocks, writers of the blog *Go Fug Yourself* and two YA novels, *Spoiled* and *Messy*. While there are familiar elements of reality, the characters are pure fiction (Bex, a young American, meets future king Nick while studying at Oxford), and Morgan and Cocks let their imaginations run wild to concoct the hijinks that go on (unless Kate and Harry really have been locked in a closet, drunk, together...). We had a three-way phone chat with them from their homes in L.A.

Why did you focus on Kate for this book?

Heather: Imagine falling in love with a guy in college when you're that young and all of a sudden you're the Duchess of Cambridge. To imagine the emotional journey that came with that and how amazingly she appears to handle it, we were like, there has to be more going on under the surface.

How does Kate's life compare those of other celebrities?

Heather: Kate always has to have her game face on, more so than celebrities who can have a what day on the red carpet or can look sad or mad or whatever. I think if she were ever to have a bad day and let it show, she would really take it.

Continued on page 7



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LOOK
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“My summer look is Canadian tuxedo, join me, eh?”

@mindykaling, March 26, 2015

BEAUTY MATH

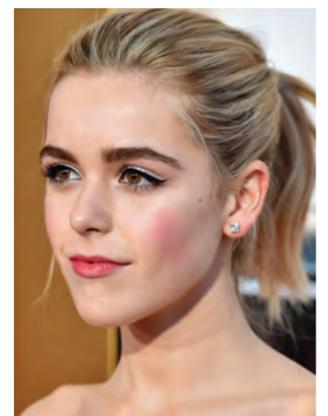
Silver lids and sheer pink blush add up to an ingénue look we love



A SHIMMERY EYESHADOW LIKE **BOURJOIS PARIS** LITTLE ROUND POT IN ARGENT PAILLETES, \$17, SHOPPERS DRUG MART



A CREAMY ROSE BLUSH LIKE **SMASHBOX** L.A. LIGHTS BLENDABLE LIP & CHEEK COLOR STICK IN BEVERLY HILLS BLUSH, \$36, SMASHBOX.COM



Actor Kiernan Shipka kept it pretty and playful and in line with the *Mad Men* era for the show's Black & Red Ball on March 25 in Los Angeles. Sweep silver shadow across the eyelids to highlight black winged liner and full lashes for a cool 1960s update. Apply pink cream blush to the apples of the cheeks and blend downward in soft, circular strokes for a youthful finish. —*Natasha Bruno*

MONTH'S BEST

Back to the future

Man made it to the moon in 1969, but years before that, André Courrèges was pairing minidresses with goggles and helmets for a space-age look that was out of this world. Now, more than 50 years after Courrèges's runway debut, Estée Lauder revives the storied brand with a playful makeup collection.

The 12-piece limited-edition line will likely sell out faster than a trip to Mars. Scoop up the lunar-inspired eyeshadow colours (made with a silicone polymer that sticks to skin to ensure long wear) and the creamy highlighter, which can be applied anywhere you'd like a moonlit glow. Or recreate the 1960s-remixed white cat eye seen on Nanette Lepore's Spring 2015 runway with the white liquid liner, which has a long handle for easy control. For those who see beyond black and white, there is a pop-y pink lip gloss and a berry lip and cheek stain.

While the French couturier's designs had *Vogue* wondering, “Is Courrèges Wearable?” in 1965, for this collection there is only one answer: absolutely.

—*Veronica Saroli. Photography by Adrian Armstrong.*

COURRÈGES ESTÉE LAUDER COLLECTION EYE AMPLIFIER, \$29, IRIDESCENT BALL HIGHLIGHTER, \$29, AND LIP + CHEEK BALL, \$29, ALL.ESTEELAUDER.CA



TALKING POINT



ANGELINA JOLIE

GIRLTALK

After a double mastectomy in 2013, Angelina Jolie has gone public about removing her Fallopian tubes and ovaries to prevent the disease that took three family members. Jolie has been lauded for talking about taboo topics, such as entering menopause at 39. Comedian Tig Notaro, who also had a double mastectomy, opened her stand-up show the day after her cancer diagnosis by saying, “Good evening. Hello. I have cancer. How are you?” She's the subject of a documentary, *Tig*, debuting at the Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival on April 23. We support these inspiring women for getting on the soapbox.

—*Veronica Saroli*



KENDALL & COURRÈGES SEE KENDALL JENNER IN ACTION FOR THE COURRÈGES COLLAB WITH ESTÉE LAUDER AT THEKIT.CA/KENDALL-JENNER-ESTEE-LAUDER/

BARBARA BUI
SPRING 2015



EDUN
SPRING 2015



ONE TREND, TWO WAYS

HEADBANDS

A sleek, skinny headband frames the face and adds a twist to both casual and polished hairstyles, whether loose and flowing or gathered into a bun.

1. 1990s resurrection at Barbara Bui

Hairstylist Damien Boissinot applied Moroccan oil mousse for waves with movement before saturating the roots with shine spray and combing hair back for a wet look. He then slid on a stretch-comb headband to separate the damp hairline and dry, textured lengths.

2. Simple stretch at Edun

After working in a Phyto glossing cream, hairstylist James Pecis raked hair back with his fingers for piecey separation, then gathered it into a low ponytail. He added a slim elastic headband before twisting the pony into a relaxed knot and tucking the ends into the hair tie to secure the look. —*Natasha Bruno*



DCNL TORTOISE AND YELLOW STRETCH COMB, \$3, SALLYBEAUTY.COM, **SCUNCI** NO-SLIP GRIP HEADWRAPS, \$8 (4-PACK), REXALL

STYLE THERMOSTAT

Coco Rocha

The model and her husband, James Conran, welcomed baby Ioni to the world with her own Instagram account.

Net-a-Porter

Yoox merged with the e-tailer to create the largest online luxury retailer, with a combined net revenue of about \$1.6 billion.

Prada Group

The slowdown in Asian markets and a corruption crackdown in China caused the fashion group's profits to fall 28 per cent in 2014.

Narcissisticks

Selfie sticks are banned from Coachella and Lollapalooza. Selfie-obsessives will have to trust their friends or their arms again.

Versace

The Italian house is being accused of plagiarizing a T-shirt designed by Los Angeles-based artist Kesh for American Apparel in 2013.

THE KIT WILL RETURN IN TWO WEEKS

SPRING NAIL REPORT

Vive la French

When beauty editor Rani Sheen had a French manicure in Paris, she rediscovered a much maligned classic



It was a beauty bucket-list item of mine: Get a French manicure in France. Ideally, I wanted it to be in Paris, in the hushed spa of a grand hotel where well-coiffed *mesdames* go to get discreetly, tastefully primped. I wanted to see if the white-tipped pink nail look done the French way—as opposed to the long, square, garishly contrasted North American way—would lure me into its classic clutches. So when I was in the city in January for a press trip (lucky me!), I made it my mission to book into the Dior Institut at the Plaza Athénée hotel on ritzy Avenue Montaigne. By the time I left the cushy confines of the spa, my hands looking as polished and refined as French actor Catherine Deneuve's in the 1967 film *Belle de Jour*, my suspicions had been confirmed: Parisians do it better.

Lupita Nyong'o shares this sentiment: She Instagrammed a picture of her white-tipped nails at the Cannes Film Festival last year with the caption "When in France..." It was a daring choice: While the French has long been a staple of many women's

weekly nail appointments, it has fallen out of fashion favour—opaque brights, pastels, near-blacks, metallics and neons have ruled the brushes of most fashion-forward nail enthusiasts for at least a decade.

In my mind, the French has come to be associated with Pepto-pink nail beds and chalky-white tips, a look more suited to a Real Housewife of New Jersey than a real beauty editor of downtown Toronto. (Ironic, really, considering the North American fetish for French style that I wholly share.) As for the French pedicure, I feel it's best left under closed-toe shoes—even in August. But with the rise of no-makeup makeup, I find myself wanting to see my natural nails, or a more polished version of them, rather than covering them up under a thick coat of coloured paint.

It's important to note here that the French manicure was invented by an American—Jeff Pink of Orly, who came up with the neutral, white-tipped nail look for Hollywood actresses in the 1970s, so they wouldn't have to switch their polish to match each costume

change. The story goes that it got its name when the style showed up on Paris runways—a case of wishful naming since French beauty and fashion was considered the *ne plus ultra*.

It still is—hence my visit to the Dior Institut. After I'm served peppermint tea and fresh dates next to the reflecting pool in the lounge, my manicurist, Ludivine Lecoeuvre, ushers me into a private room. I sit in



From left: Lupita Nyong'o posted this Instagram photo of her French manicure at the Cannes Film Festival 2014; the writer's French manicure.

a large reclining chair as she painstakingly shapes, buffs and cleans my nails and cuticles (taking plenty of time to scrape the grimy undersides with an orange stick, a process that's usually rushed). She checks her work after each ministrations and makes minute adjustments. "This is the best manicure in Paris," she declares in her halting English, adding that the French is the most popular choice for her well-heeled local regulars, with red a close second. (Teal and neon orange, not so much.) When she's satisfied with her canvas, she takes Dior's white felt-tip Stylo pen and carefully draws over the natural tip, which is now slender and rounded. "This part is very delicate," she breathes, using a remover pen to perfect the line. When all 10 are done and look great to me, she wipes two off and repaints them. Once the tips dry, she takes a pale blush polish named Muguet and covers the whole nail with it. She asks whether I want a second coat, but I defer to her wisdom, and she decides to leave it as one. "*C'est parfait!*" Clear topcoat is the final step.

She's right; it is perfect. My nails look like healthy, groomed, almost imperceptibly enhanced versions of themselves, as if they're wearing very light makeup to accentuate their best features. I can't stop staring at my hands, and when I post an Instagram shot of them, a male friend comments, "Your fingers look expensive." (They are: The service costs 110 euros.) When I pop into Max Mara up the street a little later, to make puppy-dog eyes at the wrap coats, my nails make me feel like I belong among the executives and heiresses, and I stand a little taller when I enter the unspeakably chic *le Dôme du Marais* restaurant for dinner that evening.

When I come home, the glow lasts about as long as the manicure does (around six days), and then wears off. And so, like cheese-only meals, it will be something I partake in exclusively when in France.

COLOUR THEORY

Finding a polish to suit your skin tone isn't easy—and the wrong shade can leave your hands looking corpse-like or jaundiced. With expert advice from Gina Edwards, lead manicurist for Morgan Taylor, and Leanne Colley, owner of Tips Nail Bar in Toronto, our mani colour wheel will pinpoint your perfect polish matches

Your best neutral: "Go with mushroom-toned nudes," says Colley. Stay away from pale pinks, which will enhance redness. **EVE SNOW SKINNY DIP**, \$19, NET-A-PORTER.COM

Your best bright: A deep red with a cool blue tone will counteract the pink in the skin. "Choose deep burgundy, not a candy apple red," says Colley. **SOTHYS ROUGE NUIT**, \$20, SOTHYS INSTITUTE AND SPA

Your best neutral: Go for a hue that's close to your nail bed rather than trying to match your skin. "If you want to go with a neutral, go a tad lighter than your skin tone," advises Edwards. **MAYBELLINE BETTER IN BUFF**, \$5, DRUGSTORES

Your best bright: Play with fluorescents and brights, especially cobalt blues. "Go for a colour that stands out," says Edwards. **FORMULA X OCEANIC**, \$13, SEPHORA.CA

Your best neutral: Choose a soft rose to complement olive skin. "You don't want the colour to disappear, and having a hint of pink will give it more of a punch," says Colley. **COVERGIRL PERMA-PINK**, \$6, COVERGIRL.CA

Your best bright: Brilliant white will really pop. "I normally go with an opaque white colour. White is great because it kind of neutralizes the colour in the skin tone," says Edwards. **JIN SOON KOOKIE WHITE**, \$22, GEE BEAUTY

Your best neutral: "Pinky beige is a great colour for warmer skin tones," says Edwards. The golden undertones will enhance your natural glow. **BUTTER LONDON HIGH TEA**, \$18, BUTTER LONDON.CA

Your best bright: Saturated peachy coral. "You can pretty much wear anything, including pastel shades and bolder shades," says Colley. **REVLON COLORSTAY GEL ENVY JOKER'S WILD**, \$8, DRUGSTORES

MUST-TRY MANIS FOR DIVS AND OUR FAVOURITE CELEB NAIL LOOKS VISIT THEKIT.CA/NAILS/

MANI MAKEOVER

During New York fashion week in February, we asked three runway nail experts how they really feel about the French manicure and how they make it fresh

BY RANI SHEEN



ZANG TOI SPRING 2015



SOPHIE THEALLET SPRING 2015



Jin Soon Choi
Founder, *Jin Soon* polish and nail bars, New York City

"I don't like a typical white French mani—I cannot stand when people have the big square nail with the thick white tip. I just want to cut their nails off," says Choi. "But that and the moon manicure were really the first nail arts."

Her take: Paint the tip with colour or tweak the shape so the tip has a wavy edge. "All of our design concepts came from the French manicure, you can play so much with it."



Madeline Poole
Global ambassador, *Sally Hansen*, New York City

"I love them; I think they are awesome. I love that it was not invented by a French person; we learned the story in beauty school. I also like the concept of it; recreating the natural nail is very conceptual."

Her take: Poole files the nails quite round and paints the tip in a deep curve. She uses a light pink or beige on the whole nail to tone down the white edge, and uses a sheer white to soften the contrast.



Julie Kandalec
Creative director, *Paintbox Nails*, New York City

"The French is back, but it's not the same way we have done it in the past. It has been gone for so long; I feel like you can do it, like, every five years."

Her take: File tips according to your natural nail shape, mirroring the shape of the nail bed. And prep is key. "You need a really clean palette under the free edge and around the sides. Cleaning underneath with extra pressure will give that free edge extra pop."



SALLY HANSEN COMPLETE SALON MANICURE IN ARM CANDY, \$9. **SHOPPERS DRUG MART DIOR FRENCH MANICURE CURE PEN**, \$25. **DIOR BEAUTY COUNTERS, JULEP OXYGEN SMOOTHING BASE COAT**, \$22, SEPHORA.CA.

GREY SCALE

For a more subtle version of the French, let your free edge show through in the season's grey-toned pastels



FROM LEFT: **WET N WILD WILD SHINE NAIL COLOR IN YO SOY**, \$2. **REXALL CND VINYLUX WEEKLY POLISH IN THISTLE THICKET**, \$12. **TRADE SECRETS, DEBORAH LIPPMANN POLISH IN MISTY MORNING**, \$20. **SEPHORA.CA, ESSIE POLISH IN PERENNIAL CHIC**, \$10, SHOPPERS DRUG MART.



NEUTRALS AT TORONTO FASHION WEEK

Nail pro Rita Remark recreates the chiffon-effect nails from Mikhael Kale's Fall 2015 show

- 1 First prep nails with a smoothing base coat like Essie Fill the Gap to create a nice clean surface and fill in any ridges.
- 2 Apply two coats of a pale beige-taupe polish with a taupe undertone such as Essie's Sand Tropez. Lay out a small square of tinfoil and put a few drops of opaque white polish on it. Add a drop or two of acetone and let it start to thin out the white, giving it a translucent quality.
- 3 Working quickly, take a pointy-tipped paintbrush and dip it in the white mixture. Softly press it over and over onto each nail, covering them in teardrop-shaped dots. The acetone will make the beige and white swirl together, creating a watercolour effect.
- 4 Finish with a clear topcoat to set the polish and help it merge even more.

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WEEKEND UPDATE

THE RELAXED TRENCH

Spotted everywhere on street-style stars this season, the perennial favourite takes on a looser silhouette. Oversized cuts and drapery fabrics make it look and feel new—and perfect for spring

BY NATASHA BRUNO



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5



6

1. Off-duty refresh

Model Sasha Luss's lightweight cream topper, sleek sandals and patterned scarf elevate her casual basics for an uptown off-duty look.

2. Candy coated

Lucky magazine's Eva Chen's boxy pale-pink coat, grey sweater dress, black pumps with matching pink fur and lilac shearling clutch create a polished ensemble that's soft, feminine and playful.

3. Bold and green

Fashion consultant Yasmin Sewell aces subtle colour blocking by contrasting a cheery emerald topper and funky, green-and-black-striped wedges against simple onyx separates.

4. Picture perfect

The muted photographic print and bow accent of this flowing coat on fashion blogger Valentina Siragusa create a romantic statement, and the floor-skimming hemline balances out

skin-baring short shorts for an alluring yet tasteful outfit.

5. Flower power

Need a stylish get-up for running weekend errands? This navy overcoat with floral add-ons looks striking teamed with jeans and a tee and sneakers: tomboy cool with feminine appeal.

6. Simple neutrals

A classic beige trench, floaty white dress and black accessories add up to an easy, well-put-together look. Combat boots lend a tough-girl edge.

The It item:

Minimalist and versatile, this oversized coat will take you from work to weekend in style.

ZARA OVERSIZED COTTON TRENCH COAT, \$169, ZARA.COM

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Lovingly, Rani Sheen

MV ORGANIC SKINCARE GENTLE CREAM CLEANSER, \$58, MUSLIN CLEANSING CLOTH, \$22, THEDETOX MARKET.COM

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DRESSING UP

LID GLOSS

In need of a major pick-me-up, Amanda DiPasquale discovers a new look for day and night: the glittery, glam glossy eye



Sometimes a new look can give you a renewed sense of confidence, and in late January I was in need of a shakeup. I had split from my boyfriend, and a week of tears had rendered all eye makeup useless.

When I saw Rihanna, dressed down in slouchy double denim in her "FourFiveSeconds" music video, released February 3, I felt inspired. I'm usually gawking at her bold hairstyles and revealing dresses, but here it was her bare face and glossy, reflective eyelids that stood out. She looked like she couldn't give a damn.

New-York-based makeup artist Yadim created the singer's edgy, barely-there look. "It was in a way inspired by the everyday," he says. "She's not overly done, and this could easily be recreated for any girl walking down the street, and still look great." Maybelline's global makeup artist, Yadim used the brand's Baby Lips balm to create Rihanna's wet-look effect. He used it again on models' lids at DKNY's Fall 2015 show in February.

Copying his technique turned out to be easy and convenient: I could dig into my purse and hydrate my lips and freshen my eye makeup at the same time. For a little more reflection, I moved on to M.A.C's Studio Eye Gloss, which was used widely backstage

at Spring 2015 shows including Missoni, Aquilano Rimondi and Kenzo. At first, the viscous texture worried me, as I didn't want to end up with my eyes sealed shut. However, when I warmed it in my fingers and dabbed my lids with it lightly, it went on smoother than expected. Soon, I had light, sparkly lids that made me look and feel more perky, though my sister said my eyes "look sticky."

The eye gloss and balm worked for my everyday coffee shop routine, but both wore off fairly quickly, and I wanted a look with more drama and staying power for a newly single (girls') night out. "There are ways to get the look of the glossy eye without using actual eye gloss," said makeup artist Victoria Radford when I visited her Yorkville studio in Toronto. "Using metallic eyeshadows, both wet and dry, can give the same effect." Radford knows about high-impact makeup: She worked with Fergie on the Black Eyed Peas' *The E.N.D.* world tour.

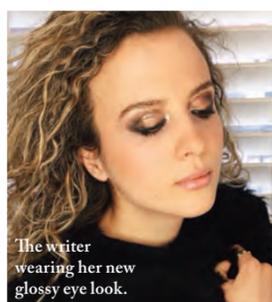
As we got started, I confessed that I wasn't feeling my best because I'd just come out of a breakup. Radford, with her twinkly green eyes, smiled and said, "Congratulations!" She promised I'd feel much better after she was done.

Radford went to work using bronze, grey and gold eyeshadows, adding water to them for a reflective effect without the sticky lids. She topped it off with brow gel to add complementary shine to my eyebrows.

While the balm made me look like a fresh-faced freelancer-next-door, this made me stand up straight and do a double take when I walked past a mirror. From different angles, the depth and brightness shifted and glimmered.

When I left Radford's studio, my waterworks were effectively on pause, as I wouldn't dare ruin her metallic masterpiece. I thought of Rihanna, who didn't seem like the type to sob on the street over a guy.

She'd march on. And so I did.



The writer wearing her new glossy eye look.



FROM LEFT: MAYBELLINE NEW YORK BABY LIPS, IN QUENCHED, \$5, DRUGSTORES. STILA MAGNIFICENT METALS FOIL FINISH EYE SHADOW, \$42, SEPHORA.CA. M.A.C COSMETICS CINDERELLA STUDIO EYE GLOSS IN PEARLY VARNISH, \$27, MACCOSMETICS.COM.



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@jesshotson

Senior Editor
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Vanessa Taylor
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Beauty Editor
Rani Sheen
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Digital/Special Projects Editor
Michelle Bilodeau
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Assistant Digital Editor
Carly Ostroff
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Assistant Art Directors
Sonya van Heyningen
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Kristy Wright (on leave)
@creativewithak

Designer
Amber Hickson
@amblynncreative

Publisher, The Kit
Giorgina Bigioni

Associate Publisher
Tami Coughlan

Project Director, Digital Media
Kelly Matthews

Direct advertising inquiries to:
Marketing Manager
Evie Begy
eb@thekit.ca

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THE ROYAL WE BY JESSICA MORGAN AND HEATHER COCKS, \$29, GRAND CENTRAL PUBLISHING, AT INDIGO

ROYAL WATCHERS

Continued from cover

How did you go about researching all the royal details?

Heather: We went to England at the beginning of our process. Being over there really got the juices flowing. The Buckingham Palace tour was hilarious because people were mostly wide-eyed and listening and looking, and we were scribbling every single detail into a notebook.

Jessica: We were in the music room in Buckingham Palace—actually the tour is great, it's led by, like, art historians—and I was like, "Sir, you have all these chandeliers; how often are they washed?"

Bex has a weird student fashion designer friend; were you inspired by the infamous see-through dress Kate wore?

Jessica: If you're Kate, people are going to come to you for favours like that. It was a bit of a Go Fug Yourself angle—what is she going to wear; what do people want her to wear?

What's your favourite outfit Kate has worn?

Jessica: I have to take the wedding dress out of contention. So it's that blue-green Jenny Packham lace-back gown that she wore to the Olympics event in 2012. But also I long for a McQueen coat with all my heart—sadly I do not have the money for a McQueen coat.

Heather: I loved it when she wore jeans and boat shoes and the striped shirt to that polo match, where she brought George and he was crawling around her feet. It's the closest thing to a regular mom we were allowed to see her as in public.

Do you think she wears extensions?

Heather: I think she wears extensions for sure.

Jessica: Do you really? I have extensions in my own hair, so if she does I would love to know whose they are.

Heather: If you look at her eyebrows, they used to be kind of a crazy shape. I don't know when they changed, but all of a sudden they were fantastic. And I think that her hair incredibly slowly reached the point where you can't tell. You think maybe it's foreign, but maybe it's just deep conditioning?

Jessica: I've never seen a bond in her hair!

Heather: I think if you're Kate Middleton and you're going to get extensions, you're going to get the very best. My theory is that she does and there's no shame in it. I kind of wish that if she did she would be like, "Hell, yeah, I do."

Jessica: I just want to know so I can buy them and stick them on my own head.

Does Kate inspire a lot of traffic on Go Fug Yourself?

Jessica: Yes. The two people who get us the most

traffic are totally opposite sides of the coin: Kate and Kim Kardashian

Heather: It brings out the people who are not in favour of the royal family, who think that they're a money suck, a time suck, who think that she in particular is a schemer who is using sexual sorcery to keep Will under her thumb.

Jessica: That's a direct quote!

Heather: It also brings out all the people who love her and will defend her till the end of time, and the people who are like me, in the middle, where I really like Kate, but I don't love everything that she wears and I don't mind saying so. You get the entire spectrum. Very few celebrities motivate people to actually go through the process of making a comment just to be like, "I don't know, whatever." She inspires a reaction in people, and they cannot resist talking about it.



Top: Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge, visits the Brookhill Children's Centre in Woolwich, England, on March 18, 2015. Bottom: Authors and Go Fug Yourself bloggers Heather Cocks, left, and Jessica Morgan.

READING LIST BOOKS WITH STYLE

Four more new titles that will inspire your wardrobe as much as your imagination

BY VERONICA SAROLI



Sunday afternoon
Kim Gordon introduces this coffee-table book about actor, style icon and ultimate cool girl Chloë Sevigny. From snaps taken by high school friends to memorabilia like Polaroids and pages from her day planners to Juergen Teller-lensed shots, the book is filled with style inspiration.

CHLOË SEVIGNY BY CHLOË SEVIGNY, \$35, INDIGO ON APRIL 21



Cocktail fodder
Fern Mallis, who created New York fashion week as we know it, draws on her insider access to sit down with designers Tom Ford, Marc Jacobs, Calvin Klein, Michael Kors and photographer Bruce Weber, who share intimate insights and personal pics.

FASHION LIVES: FASHION ICONS WITH FERN MALLIS BY FERN MALLIS, \$55, INDIGO ON APRIL 14



Beach read
A pair of Rick Owens sneakers leads Jess Dunne into the inner circle of an agoraphobic film composer and a rising starlet as a personal assistant, but trouble ensues when her estranged Hollywood-hungry mother catches wind.

OH! YOU PRETTY THINGS BY SHANNA MAHIN, \$31, MAJOR BOOKSTORES ON APRIL 14



Metro minutes
"When dealing with older women, a trip to a hairdresser and two Bloody Marys goes further than any prescription drug," writes George Hodgman, a former Vanity Fair editor, who moves to Paris, Mo., to care for his irascible and quick-witted mother who has dementia.

BETTYVILLE BY GEORGE HODGMAN, \$33, MAJOR BOOKSTORES

FASHION

Live-work wear

With designer Marissa Webb at the creative helm, Banana Republic is not just for the office anymore

BY CARLY OSTROFF



@marissawebb

WHAT WOULD MARISSA WEAR?

The designer styles three new pieces for work, weekends—and everywhere in between



THE MOTO VEST

"I think it's about having those pieces that you can transition. I like that you can wear things over it, too. It's about the shape, the silhouette, the material, not just a straightforward vest. To feel a little more feminine, maybe wear a statement necklace with trousers, or if you can wear jeans to work, nice jeans and heels."

THE ROMPER

"The romper has legs of its own. It's one of those things that so many people, once they try them on, are dedicated for life. I would wear it with a men's tuxedo blazer, and I would probably size up a little, because I like my things a little bit looser, and maybe grab a cool pair of gladiators or sandals."

THE HALTER DRESS

"I love this one because it's so sharp; the angles on it give it a different style, and there's so many ways of wearing this. If I had a great tan, I would certainly wear it just the way it is with a great pair of sandals. Right now, I love wearing button-ups underneath it. I would probably slap a bow tie on it, too."



BANANA REPUBLIC MOTO VEST, \$370, BANANA REPUBLIC; **FREE PEOPLE** CULOTTES, \$148, FREE PEOPLE; **GIANVITO ROSSI** HEELS, \$1,095, HOLT RENFREW.

BANANA REPUBLIC ROMPER, \$185, BANANA REPUBLIC; **TALULA** BLAZER, \$85, ARIZIA; **ANCIENT GREEK** SANDALS GLADIATOR SANDALS, \$270, HUDSON'S BAY.

BANANA REPUBLIC APRON DRESS, \$205, BANANA REPUBLIC; **BAND OF OUTSIDERS** OXFORD SHIRT, \$271, NET-A-PORTER.COM; **TED BAKER LONDON** BOW TIE, \$75, TED BAKER LONDON.

Since taking over as creative director at Banana Republic last April, designer Marissa Webb has been on a mission to recast the workwear chain into "a 360 life-style brand." Webb, who trained under Jenna Lyons, was womens-wear director at J.Crew and designs her own label, is behind what she calls "the new BR."

From the start, Webb's mandate was to infuse Banana Republic with new energy. "It's not just about the product," says the self-proclaimed tomboy. "It's also about having a point of view in the voice that we have, and how we put looks together."

The social-media-savvy designer (who shares outfit inspirations with her 86,000 followers) and her team are not the only ones embracing the new vision. There is a younger generation rediscovering the brand, like Webb's friends Alyssa Milano, Coco Rocha and Wendy Nguyen of Wendy's Lookbook, but customers of all ages (including Webb's father) remain loyal. The designer says she is approached in the street by people

saying, "I love Banana Republic. I've noticed changes in the stores and I still go there every week."

Her coveted aesthetic aside, Webb credits her drive and determination for her success. "You don't always have to be born into the industry you want to be in," she says. "I was not raised with a lot of money; it was really about working hard and making connections through work; and that's how I got to where I am now," says Webb, who was adopted with her siblings at age four from Korea.

For her much-anticipated summer 2015 debut, Webb imbued the collection with a contemporary edge. For women, she styled with her signature blend of tomboy-meets-girlie: a tailored black dress worn under a utilitarian trench vest; a white open-knit dress, which looked tougher topped by a moto jacket; accessories like leather backpacks and woven oxfords packed punch. The new BR is all about closing the gap between what you wear at work and at play, and for that you can sign us up.

REVEAL

Calvin Klein



A NEW FRAGRANCE FOR HIM

#REVEALMORE