THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2016 TORONTO STAR



HUDSON'S BAY



DREAMING 0/Christmas

Warm wraps, soft sleepwear sets, one-of-a-kind onesies and more great gifts for the holidays

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"The Jo Malone Wood Sage & Sea Salt perfume is my top pick for the holiday season. Fragrance makes the best gift, and this scent is absolutely delicious. I hope that I'm on





item on it—the Gucci Princetown leather slippers. They're the ultimate





"When it comes to the holidays, it

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La vie est belle LANCOME

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TRÈS BELLE

Gucci Guilty Eau de

 $\mathbf{>}$

Toilette (75mL), **\$118**

ADVERTISEMENT

Treat yourself to Lancôme's gourmand, iris and patchouli fragrance and receive a complimentary La vie est belle body lotion. With the perfume and cream at hand, the scent will last all day long.

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Clarins Gift with purchase of \$75

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beauty **BOUTIQUE**

by SHOPPERS DRUG MART 🤿

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THEKIT.CA / 3

SWEETTOOTH

You need to pamper

yourself with good food," says Mandy Kan, the owner of Toronto's Dessert Lady bakery (dessertlady.ca), who whipped up the hand-

crafted confections shown here.

MOST WANTED

`reat yourself

'Tis the season of never-ending parties and seemingly bottomless drinks. For some epic overindulgence that actually leaves you feeling good, slip on a pair of glossy, glitter-flecked, good-enough-to-eat shoes that truly take the cake. —By Jillian Vieira. Photography by Hamin Lee



1. TOPSHOP, \$110, HUDSON'S BAY. 2. FRANCES VALENTINE, \$485, DAVIDS. 3. CHARLOTTE OLYMPIA, \$1,045, DAVIDS. 4. JIMMY CHOO, \$1,125, HOLT RENFREW. 5. MARC JACOBS, \$495, THEBAY.COM. 6. ZVELLE, \$315, ZVELLE.COM. CAKE PLATES: UNDER GLITTER FLATS, \$20, UNDER BLUE CAKE, \$20, UNDER GREEN CAKE, \$15, HOMESENSE

SPOTLIGHT **STYLISH** HOLIDAY SIPS

A wine expert answers all your quaffing questions

"I'm lucky to be able to create something that makes a meal better-that makes life better," says Megan Schofield, a St. Catharines, Ont.born winemaker. Though Schofield grew up in Niagara's grape grove, she now works in Napa Valley as head winemaker for Robert Mondavi's famed vineyard. We caught up with her to get her refreshing take on all of our holiday vino FAQs, but her best advice is applicable before you set foot in the wine store: "Don't stress out about it! Wine is just food."

HAIR **MODERN BEAUTY** Why American Honey's breakout star, Sasha Lane, is our new mane crush

BY NATASHA BRUNO

Since delivering a raw and wild performance in the recent coming-of-age drama American Honey, Sasha Lane has become a style-world one to watch, sitting front row at the Coach and Louis Vuitton runway shows and choosing Dolce & Gabbana, The Row and Louis Vuitton looks for premieres and events. But it's her always-changing hairstyles that have really stolen the red carpet show. With her piled-high twin buns or a thick side braid, Lane is proof that with dreads comes a steady stream of great hair ideas. "I've honestly never felt more beautiful than since I've gotten them," she says.

"I feel natural." It was those brunette dreadlocks and tattoos that caught the attention of Oscar-winning director Andrea Arnold among a partying crowd on a Florida beach in 2015: Lane was 19 and on spring break. Within days, Arnold gave the now 21-year-old Texan the lead role in American Honey alongside Shia LaBeouf and Riley Keough. "I remember asking Andrea, 'Are you sure that this is okay?'" Lane recalls, looking herself up and down. "For her to be like, 'All of you is beautiful, and that's what we want,' I felt really whole."

What should I bring to a friend's dinner party?

"A good first step is to find out what the host is serving. Then, get to know your local steward at the liquor store and talk to them. Don't be afraid to experiment! You can always fall back on the white-meat/white-wine rule of thumb because you really can't go wrong there. Then once you get a little more comfortable, you can start to play around and cross those boundaries."



What do you bring as a hostess gift? "For Robert Mondavi's 50th anniversary, we have commemorative labels on the Napa Valley Fumé Blanc and Napa Valley Cabernet. The wines are really easy to pair with different meals, and the beautiful label makes it feel a little more special. They stand out."

ROBERT MONDAVI MAESTRO BORDEAUX, \$50, SELECT STORES ACROSS CANADA

I like red but my friends like white—is there a please-everyone wine? "Pinot noir is a crowd pleaser. If someone is a white wine drinker who doesn't like red, a good transition is to give them a glass of lighter pinot that isn't like a huge extracted cabernet, which might be too much."

How do you know if you've scored an awesome deal on an inexpensive bottle? "Labels can be confusing, so I wouldn't point people in that direction. In a red wine, I look for a pronounced nose, good colour and fullness and richness on the palate. In a white, I look for it to be vibrant, super fresh and for it to have a very aromatic, lifted nose. The main thing is that if you like it, then you got a good deal!"

What are the best holiday pairings? "Chardonnay has a round, toasty-oak creaminess that really speaks to mashed potatoes and gravy. It's a classic. I like to do something a little more unconventional: I find that an aromatic white pairs really well with holiday meals. Our Napa Valley Fumé Blanc is floral, citrusy and pretty refreshing, so it's a good contrast to the savouriness and heaviness of holiday meals. The grape has a natural acidity that cuts really nicely through the richness of the food. An easy red to pair is cabernet. It's intense, dark and rich, so it can stand up to the richness of the food." -Kathryn Hudson

DREADLOCK ESSENTIALS

INTENSE MOISTURIZING SHAMPOO & CONDITIONER: MOROCCANOIL HYDRATING SHAMPOO, \$24, HYDRATING CONDITIONER, \$25, MOROCCANOIL.COM/CA

COCONUT OIL: SHEA MOISTURE 100% EXTRA VIRGIN COCONUT OIL, \$19, INTL.TARGET.COM

1. Wispy half-up look. 2. Double topknot updo. 3. Space-age half-up twin buns. 4. Super-sculptural updo. 5. Romantic side braid.

THREE MAKES A TREND ELECTRIC-RED LIPS

Let your lips do the charming this festive season with an arresting swipe of velvety colour. Backstage at Proenza Schouler, makeup artist Diane Kendal electrified a clean slate of brushed-up brows, taupe eyeshadow and a touch of

white eyeliner with punchy tomato-red lipstick. She applied the vivid shade with a lip brush, then blotted lips with a tissue and loose powder until they were perfectly matte. It's a surefire way to get noticed under the mistletoe. -Natasha Bruno



4 / THEKIT.CA

"My house is littered with crystals—amethyst, rose quartz, green aventurine, you name it—so it was a bit of a jaw-dropping moment when I realized these decorative beauties do double duty as soap. Pretty and useful-win!"



KRISTY WRIGHT Assistant art director "This year I'm hoping to check off the gifts I've had my eyes on—for my ears, belly and nosefor quite some time. Modern minimalism all the way."

CLARINS

"I think this phone just convinced me to get a land line installed."

make a rer



RANI SHEEN Beauty editor

"For this year's list, I'm doubling down on my favourite things: linen, Aesop, Zadie Smith, fancy flats and luxurious lip balms.

ZADIE SMITH SWING TIME

RODIN

SIA



JILLIAN VIEIRA Fashion editor "Since I tend to buy myself practical things, I'm all about gifts that play up my love of the mystic. Insert crystal ball emoji here.'

"I'm all about a holiday party flat, and these ones are just fancy and mysterious enough to take me to any kind of celebration. I'm imagining them for a white-tie gala, not that I have one to go to...yet.

GIFT GUIDE Our editor wish list

The Kit team is dedicated to sourcing the best in beauty and fashion year-round, but that doesn't stop us from getting extra excited about holiday gifting. To get into the spirit, six staffers got together to share the goodies we're hoping to receive this season, from perfect pyjamas to the world's best lip balm

NATASHA BRUNO Associate beauty editor "I'm lusting after beauty heroes-plus a few standout fashion items -



JILL

FROM TOP: SOAPROCKS SOAP, \$15-\$20 EACH, SHOP.AGO.NET. FLEUR DU MAL SWIM TOP, \$155, BOTTOMS, \$145, FLEUR-DUMAL.COM. LE FOU BY WILFRED FOR ARITZIA. TOP, \$135, ARITZIA. COM. BIRKS EARRINGS, \$895, BIRKS.COM. EDDIE BORGO BAG, \$1,480, EDDIEBORGO.COM

KRISTY

FROM TOP: WILD & WOLF PHONE, \$100, INDIGO.CA. ARITZIA SWEATER, \$110, ARITZIA. ARITZIA SWEATER, \$110, ARITZIA. COM. LINEA CARTA CALLIGRA-PHER PLATE, \$8, ANTHROPOL-OGIE.COM. DIOR SUNGLASSES, \$610, NORDSTROM.COM. ELIZ-ABETH AND JAMES NIRVANA BOURBON EAU DE PARFUM, \$107 (50 ML), SEPHORA.CA. CLARINS STRETCH MARK MINIMIZER, \$54, CLARINS.CA

RANI FROM TOP: H&M DRESSING GOWN, \$60, HM.COM. SWING TIME BY ZADIE SMITH, \$34, INDIGO.CA. AESOP THE AVID EXPLORER SET, \$150, AESOP.COM. RODIN OLIO LUSSO LIP BALM, \$38, SHOPBLACK-CAVIAR.COM. LOEFFLER RANDALL SLIDES, \$396, LOEFFLERRANDALL.COM

NATASHA

NATASHA FROM TOP: NEAL'S YARD REMEDIES DELI-CIOUSLY ELLA ROSE CITRON & CUCUMBER FACIAL WASH, \$32, NEALSYARDREMEDIES. CA JENNY BIRD EARRINGS, \$85, JENNY-BIRD.CA. SIBELLE SUN BATH, \$42, URBA-NOUTFITTERS.COM/CA. OTHERWILD SWE ATSHIRT, \$68, DRAKEGENERAL-STORE.CA. VERNON FRANÇOIS PURE FRO CONDITIONER, \$54, NET-A-PORTER.COM. FARMHOUSE FRESH COCONUT BEACH HYDRATING LIP BALM, \$15, FARMHOUSE-FRESHGOODS.COM

LAURA

FROM TOP: CHRISTIAN DIOR LA COLLECTION PRIVEE: LA COLLE NOIRE, \$245 (125 ML), NORD-COLLECTION PRIVEE: LA COLLE NOIRE, \$245 (125 ML), NORD-STROM. **REFORMATION** DRESS, \$495, NET-A-PORTER.COM. **BOBBI BROWN** HIGHLIGHTING POWDER IN SUNSET GLOW, \$54, BOBBI-BROWN.CA. **ANN TAYLOR** BAG, \$158, ANNTAYLOR.COM. **MONIQUE PÉAN** RING, \$10,820, MONIQUE PEAN,COM. **MARIAGES FRERES** COSTES TEA, \$45, KAVUT.COM

KATHRYN

KATHRYN FROM TOP: TASTE OF PERSIA BY NAOMI DUGUID, \$50, INDIGO.CA. ACNE STUDIOS HAT, \$148, NET-A-PORTER.COM. CUTLER AND GROSS SUNGLASSES, \$642, CUTLERAND-GROSS.COM, JCREW PYJAMAS, \$128, JCREW.COM/CA. HASSELBLAD TRUE ZOOM MOTO MOD CAMERA, \$349, MOTOROLA,CA. LEAVES OF TREES MARRAKESH TRAVEL KIT, \$95, LEAVE-SOFTREES.COM





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> POUR HOMME EAU DE TOILETTE

EAU DE TOILETTE

#DGLightbluewinter

A perfect gift for every sign

Fashion's favourite astrologer divines a stellar zodiac gift guide to help you score the ultimate presents

BY RANI SHEEN AND JILLIAN VIEIRA

We rarely do anything without consulting Susan Miller. God forbid we should plan a big party, book a job interview or invest in a Max Mara coat only to discover that Mercury is in retrograde. The high priestess of the Astrology Zone app and website, Miller is also a fashion-world fave: She writes columns for style mags

from the U.K. to Japan and collaborates with companies like Neiman Marcus and Fresh, for whom she has designed 12 beautifully packaged zodiac soaps, each adorned with its birthstone and a miniature reading tucked inside. Miller spends most of her time writing free detailed forecasts for her six million readers, amounting to thousands upon thousands of words per month, but there's one thing she won't divulge: "I can't tell people what my sign is because then I get hate mail," she explains. "They'll think I'm partial to one sign." In the spirit of fairness, we asked Miller how to shop for every star sign on your list.



LEO July 23-August 22 "Leo wants something expensive. I would get her a pair of designer sunglasses in a beautiful box—even if she's going to work, she wants to have a touch of

> be unique. If you get her jewellery, she wants something that no one else has." **1. GIVENCHY** LE MAKE-UP LE ROUGE GIVENCHY COUTURE EDITION LIPSTICK IN CARMIN ESCARPIN, \$44, SEPHORA. CA. **2. GUCCI** GUILTY PLATINUM EAU DE TOILETTE, \$118 (75 ML), HUDSON'S BAY. **3. CALVIN KLEIN COLLECTION** BAG, \$10,700, CALVIN KLEIN COLLECTION A. **NANNETTE** DE GASPE FACE MASQUE, \$145, HOLT RENFREW. **5. CHLOÉ** SUNGLASSES, \$1,400, HOLLYEYEWEAR.COM. **6. TOM FORD** DRESS, \$13,316, TOMFORD.COM

glamour at all times. And she wants to

LEOS FROM LEFT: JENNIFER LOPEZ, MADONNA, HELEN MIRREN

VIRGO August 23-September 22

"Virgo is very modest and interested in helping others. She loves the idea of organic, natural products. But since she's also so busy, you could get her a new smartphone, if she's really a good friend. She has to stay organized, and she loves that—she walks around with lists."

3

1. ODACITE SYNERGIE [4] IMMEDIATE SKIN PERFECTING MASQUE, \$72, THEDETOX-MARKET.CA. 2. TUCK SHOP TRADING CO. COAT, \$595, TUCKSHOPCO.COM. 3. SALVAGE AUDIO BLUETOOTH RECLAIMED WOOD SPEAKER, \$395, ETSY.COM. 4. A PEACE TREATY SCARF, \$368, APEACETREATY.COM. 5. AG HAIR CARE USE LOVE EDUCATE FIRE-WALL ARGAN SHINE & FLAT IRON SPRAY, \$25, CHATTERS.CA 6. ME TO WE BRACELET, \$15, METOWE.COM

VIRGOS FROM LEFT: BLAKE LIVELY, MELISSA MCCARTHY, FAN BINGBING





3

AQUARIANS FROM LEFT: ISLA FISHER,

LIBRA

September 23-October 22 "Libras always look so polished this sign is the arbiter of fashion. If she's not a fashion or beauty editor,

then she's a museum curator. She loves art, so you should definitely get a museum pass for her. If you're getting her jewellery, it has to be real jewellery. Libra wants something that will last forever and she will always remember you by it."

1. CHEAP MONDAY SWEATER, \$65, LA MAISON SIMON'S. 2. L'OCCITANE EN PROVENCE DIVINE HARMONY SE ERUM EN PROVENCE DIVINE HARMONY SERI \$225, LOCCITANE CA. 3. COACH DINO-SAUR PUZZLE, \$530, COACH.COM. 4. MAKE UP FOR EVER ARTISTIC LIP INK, \$50, SEPHORA.CA. 5. MARCHESA EARRINGS, \$211, NORDSTROM

LIBRAS FROM LEFT: ALICIA VIKANDER, GWYNETH PALTROW, MARION COTILLARD

PISCES February 19-March 20

"Pisces is the Cinderella. She's always putting other people first, and when life gets a little hard, her imagination saves her-she believes better times will come. Pisces rules the feet, and she loves shoes, so get her a glamorous pair of heels or an evening dress-something very romantic!'

1. GUERLAIN SOUFFLE D'OR DE SHALIMAR PERFUMED IRIDESCENT POWDER FOR HAIR & BODY, \$105, GUERLAIN BOUTIQUES. 2. ROGER VIVIER SHOES, \$1,572, ROGERVIVIER.COM. 3. PAUL & JOE MIRROR, \$34, BEAUTYBOUTIQUE.CA. 4. TIBI DRESS, \$602, TIBI.COM. 5. THE COVETEUR: PRIVATE SPACES, PERSONAL STYLE BY STEPHANIE MARK, \$44, INDIGO.CA

PISCES FROM LEFT: QUEEN LATIFAH, DREW BARRYMORE, ELLEN PAGE



Guerlain



From left: Ciara on set with Revlon; showing off her baby bump at the American Music Awards

CIARA'S TOOL KIT

REVLON BROW FANTASY IN DARK BROWN, \$11, ULTRA HD MATTE LIPCOLOR IN SEDUCTION, \$12, DRUGSTORES. CETAPHIL DAILY FACIAL MOISTURIZER SPF 15, \$16, DRUGSTORES. EVOLVE WRAP SCARF, \$8, SALLYBEAUTY.COM. REVLON ULTIMATE ALL-IN-ONE MASCARA, \$12, DRUGSTORES. GHD BLACK PLATINUM PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE STYLER, \$300, SEPHORA.CA



EXCLUSIVE

Pitch perfect

She was named after \overline{a} perfume and got her cheekbones from her grandmother—stylish singer Ciara dishes on her beauty secrets

BY NATASHA BRUNO

This has already been a major year for Ciara: The Grammy-Award-winning singer-who is working on her seventh studio album-got engaged to Seattle Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson in March, signed a modelling contract with New York agency IMG in May, was married in July and is expecting her second child. To top it all off, the 31-year-old became Revlon's latest spokesperson in October. It's a match made in beauty heaven, seeing as the two have been connected since before the singer was born: Her mother named her after the Revlon fragrance Ciara, which

launched in 1973. "[My parents] were stationed in Texas, and my dad bought her the fragrance from the commissary on the military base," she explains. "She was torn between two other names she had for me: Bianca and something else. When she got the fragrance, she was like, 'Oh my gosh, this is it!" Read on for Ciara's beauty secrets.



Which beauty steps do you never skip? "If you feel droopy and like you just got out of bed, I think a little concealer gives your eyes a nice lift. And I've always believed that eyebrows change the game for your makeup look. Years ago I discovered the Revlon brow pencil, which allows me to fill in my brows without it looking too heavy."

What are your makeup essentials when performing? "Revlon Ultimate All-in-One Mascara makes my eyelashes look really long and gives more drama, which you need for on camera. For a video or photo shoot, we always seal [a makeup look] with powder, so if you sweat it's held in."

How do you maintain your skin's glow? "I wash my face twice a day with a foam face wash by Dr. Sabena Toor. It cleanses really well and is made with natural ingredients. And then I actually use Cetaphil lotion. I think my dermatologist would kill me if she knew, but I like it because it's not scented and it hydrates really well. Especially when I'm travelling, my face gets so dry."

What are your hairstyling essentials? "I can't live without a flat iron and a silk headscarf. I wrap my hair in a silk scarf almost every night to protect it, especially when I travel because hotel pillows can be a bit hard. It helps keep my style in place."

Who do you look up to? "Growing up, I admired my grandmother. She's beautiful with really high cheekbones-I actually got my cheekbones from her. She made a lot of her own wardrobe, and I admired that about her. Now, it's one of my closest friends, makeup artist Yolanda Frederick. It's very inspiring to me to see how much she puts into everyday care for herself."



ONE-MINUTE MIRACLE

Dear Rimmel Wonder'full Volume Colourist: You're full of surprises. To the naked eye (get it?) you're a perfectly serviceable mascara: dark and inky, volumizing without being clumpy, with a tapered brush that makes it easy to coat the tiny lashes in the corners. But where you excel is the fact that your formula contains a small dose of dye, so you actually tint my lashes over time. That means that on lazy weekends my mouse-coloured lash tips look less naked. even when they are. This is going to be a long-term relationship. Yours, Rani Sheen

RIMMEL WONDER'FULL VOLUME COLOURIST MASCARA IN EXTREME BLACK, \$11, DRUGSTORES

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🅦 @ranisheen

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Jillian Vieira **)** @JillianVieira

Rani Sheen

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Project Director, **Digital Media** • @creativewithak Kelly Matthews

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

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Acting Publisher, Toronto Star and Acting President, Star Media Group David Hollanc

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Instead of relying on older silica technologies, HA Blur uses an unusual new form of Hyaluronic Acid powder base for its blurring approach. Hyaluronic Acid has never been used for this purpose before and renders HA Blur compatible with all makeup and all skin types, while the blurring effect is exceptional. In fact, it's so compatible with makeup that you can apply under or over foundation, or mix it with any liquid foundation for an ultra-high-definition skin finish.

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