

Pretty Curious with Jonathan Van Ness & Desiree Verdejo

JVN: Hey, curious people. Welcome to Pretty Curious, our podcast on all things beauty. I'm Jonathan Van Ness. This week we're talking to Desiree Verdejo. But I just need to tell you guys something you're not talking to the same Jonathan anymore. They can't come to the phone because they saw the Era's Tour and they're really fucking different now. Ok? Because," and I levitate down your street, crash the party like a record scratches as I scream who's afraid of a little old me? You should be."

OK. Anyway, it was life changing religious. I forgot three quarters of it. And like, not that I did. I didn't forget it. I just blacked out from pure gay joy, like such unbridled queer joy that I, I don't know. I was just make it out with my husband listening to Taylor Swift giving you friendship bracelets, giving you a little bit of glitter and giving you a whole lot of queer. And it was stunning and the vibes were immaculate. And the only thing that could have made the Era's tour a better experience for me in London. If we could have like English breakfasts as like some sort of stick or like sandwich where like, it's like hash brown beans, sausage, black pudding, like in a, like, like as a handheld, like if I could have like had a martini in one hand, but an English breakfast in the other, that would have taken me to a whole another place. Um But honestly, like, that's not feasible. And who has English breakfasts in, in concerts. And so really it couldn't have been better. It was just the best experience of my life. And, and also I got to see Nicola got to see my British friends. I got to see Travis, friend of the pod. Y'all remember Travis Alabanza. I got to see Travis. I got to see Nicola. I got to see Camilla. We got to see Mark's family. Um We got to go, we got to launch our nurture in space NK and just go back to the UK, which was so nice to be back. OK.

Meanwhile, let's do a listener question. We haven't done one of those in a minute. Oh, wow, what a question. This is, how are people shaving their bikini lines without getting all bumpy? I've always just used a standard razor and shaving cream that I use for my legs. But should I upgrade to a bougie razor or try one of those trimmers? For me, I do not shave, shave my body hair because if I do, I get cystic acne and it doesn't matter how I do it, it doesn't matter how clean the razor is, it doesn't matter, it doesn't matter. Because I, I disinfect, I clean, I change razors, I buzz first before I shave to minimize friction. So for me, that's why I am just like a firm believer in trimming. Like I just trim, I take it down as short as I can, but I am just not going to do it now and, and I don't know what your natural hair is like, but if your hair is coarser and fuller and you want to shave, taking it down with the trimmer is really important first before you shave so that there's just like less friction and less work for the razor to do. Then what you want to do is make sure that you have um washing first, like you wanna like be shaving on clean skin. You don't want so much shaving cream that it's creating more debris between the razor and the hair. So you actually want like a thinner layer of shaving cream than what we ever see on TV. Because if it's too thick, it like just creates extra shit for the razor to have to like cut through, to get to the hair. So like a thin layer of cream is all you need. And I have heard people rave about those like no bumps like uh like like growing like ingrown things. It's like called like no bumps. So just through my career, I've heard people rave about no bumps. It's just like liquid that you put on after you shave that like prevents it. But ultimately, you wanna keep the like friction as little as possible on the skin and like the stress as little as possible on the skin. And then ultimately, what you really want to do is like razor bumps can just be like a dermatitis, like irritation of the skin, But also they can turn into zits really easy and like cystic or just like acne easier when you get more like bacteria

introduced into the space from just like itching and touching and rubbing because it's like when the hair grows back it gets itchy. So just keeping your hands clean, keeping the area clean is also important. Yeah. And then like a no bumps sort of solution afterwards is going to be really helpful. I hope that helps let us know how that goes and, or you could just like, have a real, just rock like a really full bush. I love a full bush. I, I, I've never met a bush I didn't like and, and I think a lot of people are like, actually a lot of people are not like that. Actually some people like not to be Ask JVN in the middle of Pretty Curious. But yeah, some people are not like that kind of thing about it. This one time I was hooking up with this like much older man when I was like 21 and I had like a flavor saver soul patch under my lip and a hairy butt crack. And when he got to my house, he literally made me shave my soul patch and shave my butt crack before he would fuck me. And, and the worst part is I did it. I wanted the dick so bad at like 21. I was like, oh sure. Like I'm so sorry that I'm sorry that I'm a human with a soul patch and, and a hairy butt crack. So I went to the bathroom and I fucking shave my soul patch and my butt crack. It gets worse, don't judge me. But this guy was like a border and customs enforcement patrol. Like I lived in Tucson. He, this is like 2000 and like five or six or something. So like there's like a different time. I didn't understand like I didn't understand like the evil of the immigration system and he was very muscular, um very attractive, very, very muscular. So after I shave my fucking flavor saver and my butt crack for him. The next time we hook up, we get in the shower afterwards after we hook up and he had the biggest white head zits on his like neck and upper back, just like really intense, like back knee, which on its own like totally fine. I don't care like he was super cute. I didn't care until he completely casually asked me if, if I would mind shaving his back in the shower. Speaking of body hair removal. So when the razor like went over the white head, it just like gushed blood and pus like in the shower. And once I saw that at 2120 there was no coming back from that. It didn't matter what hairy chest you had or what your face looked like. Like you asked me to shave your back and then you fucking pissed and bled everywhere. Um And so I left and we never talked again. And so that, that is what, that's what his story was. And um but now it's time for a gear shift. OK? We're going to go into fifth gear wide open. Let's get to our conversation with Desiree Verdejo.

Desiree Verdejo is a Puerto Rican and Black woman. She also was a lawyer. Desiree moved to Harlem after being in midtown full lawyer vibes, she moved to Harlem to open a beauty boutique before eventually launching her brand Hyper!, a skin care focused on targeting hyper pigmentation for deeper skin tones and sensitive skin types. Hyper! was an allure Best of Beauty. 2022 winner. Oh my gosh. So were we um sisters like Allure sisters? But y'all, I know that we do a lot of beauty brand founders. I'm pretty curious and we are going to talk about Desiree's brand and I'm also a fan of this brand. But I want you to pay attention to Desiree's story because it really involves following your intuition, following your gut and really doing something with something very risky but doing it because she bet on herself. Um And so I want you to listen for these three lines of the story. So I love her story. I loved meeting Desiree. Let's get to our conversation. Desiree, how are you?

DESIREE VERDEJO: I'm good. How are you?

JVN: Good. OK. So Desiree, here's the thing. Listeners to this podcast will know that I don't know if you know this about me, but Aaron Brockovich, it's like my favorite. It's my Roman Empire. I think about Aaron Brokovich all the time, both the movie and the person and even though according to the feature, Erin Brockovich fucking hated lawyers, she just works for one. But any time we have a story involving like any sort of lawyer, it just, I instantly go to, it

just does. I'm like the boardroom. Um I don't know what my problem is, but your story is so interesting because you went from lawyer to beauty skincare founder, which is just I feel I don't hear this every day. So you're minding your own business and, and then, and so can you tell us about like lawyer and then being like, I don't know, is this really all there is for me?

DESIREE VERDEJO: Yeah, I can. And I think I was the kind of lawyer that Aaron Brockovich hated because I was a corporate lawyer for seven years, big law firm, like, you know, office blue suits all of the things. Um And when I was younger, I thought that was my ideal path, um to be in that corporate setting. And when I got there, I realized that there was so much of my personality and my skill set that I just wasn't able to like, explore. I um wasn't creative enough, wasn't free enough. And so I practiced for a while and ultimately realized that I needed to find a career path that better suited me. Um I never thought it would be beauty though. Um I always had acne, I've always been obsessed with skin care.

JVN: I have one question really quick. I'm sorry to interrupt, but just because I think that's kind of incredible and to stick there for a little bit because becoming a lawyer is not easy. I mean, that's like, it's a seven year journey, four years of undergrad, three years of school, you put so much of your time into this and you're like, I'm not fulfilled. And I think that so many of us when we are on a particular track or a particular, you know, preconceived idea, leaving that is really hard and especially depending on what age you are. Can I ask how old you were when you realized?

DESIREE VERDEJO: Oh, that's a good question. I was in my early thirties. I was in my thirties

JVN: and you're like, Yeah.

DESIREE VERDEJO: Not when you want to start new. Not like, you know, twenties when you're just like, yeah, but you're right. It's, I think when even I do this, when I retell the story, it's like, and then I switch gears but it doesn't work like that. Right. Because you spend so much time, so much money and a lot of our identity is in, in our career, whether we want to admit it or not. And I think for me as someone that's like type a, a student, um being a lawyer is always the thing I expect it to be. And it was very hard for me when it, when I realized it, when I was honest about the fact that this is not where I belong, this is not where I'm thriving like I can do the work, but I need to find a path that really like suits all of me. It was, it was difficult.

JVN: So and then how long had you been at the firm before you like got the realization from the universe that you like needed to switch? Was that like eight years or something?

DESIREE VERDEJO: So I practiced for seven years? But I wanna say five years in, I kind of knew it was, it was very clear, there's also a certain path in law. Um And it may have changed in the last, you know, since I've last practiced. But I think it's pretty, pretty solid in that if there's a 10 year path. Like your first five years, you're a young lawyer. But when you're in that middle ground and I left at year seven, you're working towards being that senior lawyer, that partner. And so it's aggressive that period because that's when like, people make the cut that's people drop out or they, they move on. And so it was in that period that I realized like, you know, the people around me are battling for their lives because they wanna be partner, they wanna sort of, you know, run this place. And I don't like, I don't, I don't want like I would look around at the partners who are all people, many of them I keep in touch with now, all brilliant um you know, leaders in their, their respective

path. But I realized like this lifestyle, this environment is not, not for me. Um So yeah, around that year seven where it's like fight or flight, I decided, I think I should figure out what I really should be fighting for.

JVN: So it was like the second Obama administration, it's giving like 2012 or 2013. And you're like, this isn't for me. I'm like, I got to find something else. So what happens next? What do you decide to do?

DESIREE VERDEJO: So there's something else. It wasn't like I sat there and I said, what else should I do? Because I've always loved beauty. I've always loved products. Um I just always thought it was like my key thing on the side. Um So I, for about two years, I'd um been really paying close attention to the beauty market at the time. Um texture hair was on the rise. So, you know, these black founded like natural hair brands, I myself had gone natural in about 2012 and this is 2015. And so I was obsessed with those brands. I, I've always had acne, so I was obsessed with skincare. This was more of a, I want to say skincare was like, there were two things going on, but one of them was like that very green. Like we don't use ingredients that we can't pronounce like very tata Harper, et cetera. And even though that's not, I'm now like, I'm a clinical girly. But at that time, I was like, obsessed with this like ingredient. I was obsessed with ingredients and I always considered it sort of a side interest. But I started because I'm a lawyer and a type a girl. I started writing things down brands. I love. Um You know, and I, before I knew it, I had this like concept, I had a curation and then I realized I had a concept or a boutique. And so I didn't actually switch gears and launched my skincare brand. I switched gears and opened a beauty boutique in New York City in Harlem specifically because by that time, by that time I'd moved from the West Village to Harlem businesses were starting to pop up to um support the neighborhood different, mostly, you know, restaurants, also food based businesses. But as I mentioned, I was really into hair, that arena was blossoming. And I thought, you know, a beauty boutique would really like, be special here because at the time, there were mostly um like Korean, like beauty supply stores and so abundance of products but not necessarily curated and not necessarily featuring the clean and like prestige beauty brands that we're launching. And so I was super excited. Um also not really speaking to all of the categories of beauty, like a lot of the beauty supply stores were heavy on hair, but not necessarily so on, makeup, skincare, et cetera. And so I, you know, started to become obsessed with this idea, but it was just in my head and on paper for about two years because like you said, you don't just like jump off of the corporate ladder. It's a very slow, slow build to realizing that.

JVN: So, so, so when's the boutique era?

DESIREE VERDEJO: So the boutique is 2015 through 2018. So this is Pre Fenty Fenty very like, notably pre Fenty and our brands were mostly by pop founded brands that worked well for, you know, deeper skin tones or range of skin tones

JVN: So you open the store and it's like then Trump wins, you're like Jesus and then when does Hyper! come into your mind?

DESIREE VERDEJO: So when does Hyper! come into my mind and meet very shortly after I open the store because what happens is I'm in this space and you know, customers appreciate the curation. We are, you know, press is great to us. The community finds us like some of my, some of the most helpful people in beauty to me today I met on the floor of that store. Um and some of my favorite editor, friends I met they were shopping in that store. Um

But what happened is that we have this great like hair is, is kind of covered because natural hair and textured hair care is exploding. Um Makeup is, you know, in flux at the time, but customers are coming in every day, every single day and they're asking about skincare and we did have a few brands on the shelves. And as I mentioned, it was um like this very sort of natural skincare era or Korean skincare was on the rise. I think I was sort of between those 22 eras personally, but on our shelves, it was more of that sort of natural Tata Harper type um skin care when our customers are like, what do you have for XYZ? What do you have for razor bots? What sunscreen do you have? That doesn't make me look like Casper dark spots, you know, do you have anything for dark spots? Do you have anything for dark spots? Like day after day after day? We're just getting this like repeat list of requests.

JVN: So almost like more functional. It's like razor, it's like, it's like razor functional.

DESIREE VERDEJO: Yeah. But the people that needed something, it was really notable what they were asking and we didn't have a solution for them. We didn't have that clinical skincare brand. We didn't have those target treatments. We definitely didn't have anything that was speaking to skin of color in a way that I felt um I could really like put our stamp on and so my wheels started spinning then. And I've always been a skincare person. I've always had acne, I've always been obsessed with ingredients.

JVN: So it just really started moving, but I'm dying to know about hyper and hyper pigmentation. So it's so it's 2018. You're like at this point, I have found a white space like there is this white space for functional beauty. Oh Thank you. I find this clear space, honey. And it's like I don't have anything for hyperpigmentation. I don't have like things for razor bumps. Like I've been in touch with these consumers like face to face for three years. So like was it pre or post November? Like I don't know why everything comes back to an election for me. But is it like the blue wave of 2018? And you were like, bitch, I know I'm doing this. What happened?

DESIREE VERDEJO: No, life doesn't work like that. I decided that I was going to create piper but I also had some kids in the middle of this process.

JVN: You're busy. I know

DESIREE VERDEJO: a little busy, just a little busy. So we actually launched in 2020. We launched at the top of 2020 which is another Oh Nightmare. Of course.

JVN: Wait, literally you launch in like January of 2020.

DESIREE VERDEJO: Yes, of course. Yes. Yeah. So I decide like, you know, I have the thesis for the brand, we create it. Have my, I had my first child already. I had my second child and I waited until he was six months and then I launched the brand. So I had a, that was my maternity leave, I guess. And so it's 2020. I decide now I'm going out to launch this brand. I have my Hero product. So I like really talk targeted. Hyper targeted, really stayed focused on hyperpigmentation launch and our hyperpigmentation serum, our hyper even serum is like our our hero products to this day. But I launch in January of 2020. So we do apr campaign um the end of the year pr influencer campaign and then we launch in 2020 it's, you know, the world is normal.

JVN: Puerto Rico has something to do with. This doesn't Puerto Rico come into the into the fold?

DESIREE VERDEJO: So I am Black and Puerto Rican. And so that is very much infusing to our brand. You know, Hyper! is a brand for all, but I definitely wanted to make sure that any of the products that we created worked on a range of skin tones. And I always reference my like family members who, you know, range from your skin tone to mine. And beyond in terms of, you know, lighter skin tone to darker skin tones. And so, um when we're formulating products, one of the things I want to make sure of is that our products are effective. Like we always, we use this term seriously and serious. Like we're serious about formulations, the products have to work because I've used way too many products that didn't um but they have to be balanced. Um And so I think one of the things that, you know, I'm a millennial with acne. So we like threw everything at the acne or at the hyperpigmentation or whatever we were trying to treat and we're super harsh. That's the worst thing you can do for deeper skin tones because that will just leave your skin with dark marks, right? Like someone with a lighter skin tone might get redness. But if my skin has an acne scar or is angry, it is going to get a darkness that takes months.

JVN: Like if you put like salicylic acid on it or like too hard core -

DESIREE VERDEJO: too hardcore of appeal or something like that, what you will be left with is not redness that goes away overnight. It will be a dark mark that goes away in months if you have the right solution for it. And so hyperpigmentation is like the bane of existence for someone with a deep skin tone with the formulation.

JVN: Heading into 2020. Can you tell us about your hero product? And like what like what your faves are and not like to give away your trade secrets that like if you are someone who's noticing like dark spots on the skin, like when to treat how to treat, why do ingredients work? Like what to steer clear of all the things with hyper philosophy.

DESIREE VERDEJO: So we really like to focus on the full routine to tackle hyperpigmentation because we don't like to sell a miracle. And so for us, we offer a cleanser has metallic acid and then we also offer a more um intense but balanced mask. Um that features manic acid. It's like a more gentle form of A H A. So glycolic acid is a bit more harsh than mandelic, but mandelic will still get you glowing, get the dead skin off and really like sluff away at those the darker skin cells um and then treat with your serum. And so we started with hyper targeting hyperpigmentation. And now I'm really excited to like launch products in other categories and treat other concerns.

JVN: We got to interview um Dr. Renee Beach on the pod. She's like this fierce Canadian dermatologist who we love and she was, she posted this, do you know her?

DESIREE VERDEJO: I don't actually,

JVN: She's fun. She's cool.

DESIREE VERDEJO: But I love following the germs. I feel like derms are so. Yeah. Yeah,

JVN: She's great but she was like, she posted recently on her gray. It was like because she's a Black woman in Canada and she was saying how her clients are like, I don't need sunscreen. So in my mind, it was, I've been a nasty girl girl but that could just be because I want, I just want that right now. But it was like this mixture of all of these people, all of these darker shaded skins with really bad sunburns. Like you could see, you could see the swimsuit and it really is like,

DESIREE VERDEJO: I'm like mailing the social team as we speak. I've been a nasty girl with sunscreen.

JVN: No, it's so true. Well, because I think there are things that are like different, like because of like skin tone and hair texture. There are things that are going to act different for some people than other people, but like our skin is still skin and it fucking burns no matter what color you are.

DESIREE VERDEJO: And so like, it's a real conversation and it needs to be had in different ways with different communities. And that's what inclusivity is at the end of the day is having the products. But also knowing like I need to speak to this community like in a different way because we're telling some of our customers that they need sunscreen. And so, but you know, that's why I love like being able to create and like story tell every day because we get to like tell them they were nasty. You get to say that every day. Yeah.

JVN: OK. Last notes before our rapid fire, your skin is so pretty. And then I just was getting like really close because I was like, are you giving me braids? Are you like are these little braids? Twists?

DESIREE VERDEJO: Yeah, I love braids. I feel like it's such a low maintenance, so low maintenance and you're gonna be modern Moesha. Yes, I loved what moa was like.

JVN: I'm a millennial too like like I Cinderella with Brandy and Moesha honey like I like I might as well never be for white horses. Such fun and fiddly d of horses are impossible. Focus. Ok. Uh rapid fire. It's our final segment desire that you should be the most patient, incredible best founder ever that you thought are coming up pretty here. We love you so much. What is your go to budget beauty recommendation? It can be under 10 to 20 bucks.

DESIREE VERDEJO: I'm not usually a budget girl but I do love Coco Kinds Ceramide Serum. I feel like it's very like glycerin, very moisturizing, lightweight and like I don't know why I would need to spend more on that.

JVN: So splurge beauty fashion, whatever like anything you want to splurge on, what are we splurging on?

DESIREE VERDEJO: Ok. Always splurge on beauty, always splurge on skin. Treatments and tools. So I am a monthly facial girl. I am a micro needling girl.

JVN: I am a hydro facial oxygen facial hydro facial-

DESIREE VERDEJO: I actually love so my skincare brand is also sold at Heyday um love heyday and love that like member membership concept. So I want to do it all the hydro facial.

JVN: What about an oxygen? So this is like not rapid fire. I'm a nightmare but what about the oxygen facial? Have you done that yet?

DESIREE VERDEJO: No, I haven't. I've only done that. Oh no, no, I have, I did it at um Joanna Vargas but only one time. Whereas the Hydro Facial, I do regularly. Oh Yeah, I,

JVN: I, so I got turn on a fial on this podcast. I'm pretty curious but then when I was in Vegas, I got one at the encore and my lady was like, if I had another hour and I was like, you have a client right now and she was like, yeah, and I was like, why do you Upsell people when you

have another fucking client right now? I'm like ready to jump up like what is going on. But she was like, yeah, like after a hydro facial, like an oxygen facial because like your skin's all like open and extracted so it can really like take it on and she said that it gives you the most insane glow. And now I've been like really curious about that. But anyway, we're moving on a product. You never leave home without Desiree?

DESIREE VERDEJO: Ok. So I always have like five lip glosses in my bag. My favorite right now. And for a while is the Ani Cole Excellence, um, lip oil, I guess. But I'm loving summer Friday's new lip oil collection.

JVN: We love summer Fridays in this house.

DESIREE VERDEJO: Yeah, we love Summer Fridays. Like they just, they do everything right. So, yeah, I'm a lip oil girly. I'm also very oily and so, um, I love Charlotte Tilbury, like press powder. Um, and then I love oil blotting sheets, but there's no particular brand that I,

JVN: I love oil sheets too. Doesn't it drive you nuts when you see people use them too fast, like when they're like, and like

DESIREE VERDEJO: you like to see the dramatic

JVN: But like, no, like when someone comes on with like a plot plot, I'm like, what are you doing? Like, you gotta let it lay there for a minute. It's like, collect the oil, let it absorb, absorb. Ok. What's your favorite vintage beauty look or beauty memory?

DESIREE VERDEJO: After just, just talking about brandy? I mean, I think the nineties, but you know what? Actually my favorite is more personal. Please. Can I give you a personal one? My, my grandmother, I had, and I didn't realize it. Um, the most, like, elegant grandmother and the craziest thing is that she was a domestic worker. And so, but she, like, carried herself with such a, like classic like pull together uniform every day, like white silk blouse, certain like black slacks and a red lip. And for me, like a red lip is always, I think because of that like childhood memory, a red lip is always the pull together and I like a uniform. I'm not a uniform girl. I'm like, always like going through the trends but someone that can like pull off that uniform, I just always kind of love it. But um that's like my vintage memory but it works any day.

JVN: Desiree, that was so good. And I know this is fire around and we were literally almost done. But can I just say if you go to London or Paris or any big city? That's especially in Europe, that's not in America. Red Lip is still, it's never a travel because it's always, it's always beautiful and it's just like in cool cities, people wear red lips and it's like cool, interesting. It's like a sign of like knowing what's up and it's so true. Ok. It's like literally last thing and then you have to be a mom. I'm sorry. Ok. And this is Meh or Major and this literally is fire around me or major like uh or major physical exfoliant.

DESIREE VERDEJO: I sometimes you got to get Yeah. Yeah. Major

JVN: Slugging

DESIREE VERDEJO Meh.

JVN Anti ageing products.

DESIREE VERDEJO: I hate the term. Well, yeah, I mean, I'm in my forties. So, yeah, we, we're moisturizing -

JVN: The sun has nothing on you girl. Nothing mineral sunscreen. I think. I know what this is a meh not having it. Face oils

DESIREE VERDEJO: Oils for me, but I'm very acne prone.

JVN: Icing icing your skin to treat puffiness.

DESIREE VERDEJO: No, but I do believe in facial massage. So I do believe in the process of rolling. Um, but I've not gotten into icing but the process of guasha, I definitely like.

JVN: Red light therapy.

DESIREE VERDEJO: Yes. Red light therapy. Yes. Right. Anti aging and happy.

JVN: What like this is, this is really good or anything else? I'm, I'm, I'm oh becuall instead of retinols. No,

DESIREE VERDEJO: No just give me my retinol. Retinol is like one of the most studied ingredients in skin care. Like give me the retinol becuall is great, like throw it in something but like again, 40 give me the retinol.

JVN: I'm, I'm uh I think that is there any other like trending beauty things that people oh threading, threading over, like threading over waxing?

DESIREE VERDEJO: Oh You know what? I went through a threading phase. I don't know that one is better than the other. But if you use retinol then thread, you can't wax and thread, which is why I was why I was um threading. Um So yeah, I, you know, get the hair off however you get it off. Like there is like a cultural - threading is great.

JVN: Is there any final gorgeous thoughts that you and, and like, where can we follow you? Like where are you the most active. Are you on the gram the most or tiktok the most? Yeah.

DESIREE VERDEJO: So I'm on Instagram. I'm actually falling in love with tiktok though. I started using it for my like personal brand or I'm trying to um at um but our brand Hyper! Skin is on tiktok and Instagram and then you can find us on our.com and at

JVN: Sephora, I know that you guys can't see us on this podcast. But can I just say over the last hour, I have fallen but crazy in love with Desert. Y'all. The energy is just out of control. Beautiful. You are beautiful. Thank you for sharing your story with us and for working so hard to create an inclusive community. It is so important and I am so excited to get my hands on these products. I know that they're already in our cart in check out, but we're so excited to try it. And thank you so much for creating hyper and Burt listening to your intuition and sharing your story with us. Desiree.

DESIREE VERDEJO: Thank you and thank you for creating this platform. This is amazing. I love that you shared your energy with me and your time. This is so cool.

JVN: Oh my God. It's like beyond, I'm in the fall, but now thanks for coming Desiree.

DESIREE VERDEJO: Thank you. Bye.

JVN: You've been listening to Pretty Curious with me, Jonathan Van Ness. You can learn more about this week's guest in the episode description and follow us on Instagram and TikTok @CuriousWithJVN. Pretty Curious, drops every Monday. Wherever you get your podcasts and make sure to tune in every Wednesday for Getting Curious. Still can't get enough? Honey! You're insatiable! Subscribe to Extra Curious on Apple Podcasts for commercial free listening and our subscription only show. Ask JVN, we we're talking all about sex, relationships or really just whatever's on my mind that week. Our theme music is composed by Nathanael McClure. Come on. Nathnael, our editor and engineer is also Nathanael McClure. Yes, Getting Curious is produced by me, Chris McClure and Julia Melfi, with production support from Julie Carrillo, Anne Currie and Chad Hall.