

Pretty Curious with Jonathan Van Ness & Randi Christiansen

JVN: Hey, curious people. Welcome back to Pretty Curious, our podcast on all things beauty. I'm Jonathan Van Ness. Happy Monday. Everyone. I am so glad to be back. Um I am queer as ever. This week, we're talking to Randy Christiansen who is the co-founder and CEO of one of my favorite body care brands Necessaire. Maybe you heard of them. I'm obsessed with their serum. We're going to be talking about that a lot today. We're to talk all about how they started their brand and what we can all do to take better care of our bodies and just like how to be chic. Like Randy Christensen is very chic. They're very Necessaire. They're very demure, they're very mindful. And if you have not seen um this demure, mindful queen on tiktok, you're really missing out. I would say one thing that we probably need to start doing on Pretty Curious is our Tik Tok spotlight of the month whom I would say without a doubt for me right now is Jools Lebron. She is, she came on my fyp last week. She is like beauty fucking influencer, extraordinaire. She's all about demure, mindful. She's not like the other girls. I am obsessed with her. I love her so much so, she's definitely like my tiktok superstar of the week that I'm loving. Um, she's hilarious you guys. I just feel like I love her so much. I can't stand it. And I'm, I'm fearful that she loathes me, but maybe she doesn't. But we love her and I think she'd be a great, Pretty Curious guest just saying, um, then let's do a little JVN Hair checkup. You guys, I just went to Toronto to go visit Sephora Canada with our team. We had so much fun. I got to meet, I got to see like lots of our Canadian friends who support the brand up there and it was **music in the background** oh leave me alone Chapel just coming on there like that. Um But it was really fun to be up there. I did get kind of caught up in that hurricane and my flight got messed around, but it was OK. I made it and um not to get all deep, but it's just one of the most fulfilling but intense and difficult journeys like entrepreneurship is not for the faint of heart and it is exceedingly difficult and so just I really never do this. But if you use JVN Hair and you love JVN Hair, post about it, honey, we need a little, we need your support and I think really our support we like we would have only made it so far without our consumers. But if you love JVN Hair, whether if it, if you're not a posting queen word of mouth, just your support and you're talking about us, that's what keeps us healthy and growing. So please share if you're a fan of JVN Hair, please share it out. Shout it out from the rooftops. Um we would love to hear about it, so that's cute. Um y'all, one thing I've noticed we are wearing a lot of hats. We're giving lots of extensions and we're doing just a lot of hats. A lot of extensions everywhere. I look, someone's getting new extensions or we are just giving you like that summer hat thing and I love both of these things for us, but I just want to say we're asking so much of our scalps. So if you are not prewashed scalp oiling, please get that in your life. It is the best thing for summer hair ever. Nourishes your scalp, nourishes the hair. Make sure when you're using prewashed scalp oil to put it from your scalp all the way to your ends. This formula will soothe and balance your scalp. It will strengthen your hair and make it more shiny and supple and beautiful. You put it in for like 5 to 10 minutes before you wash, then you're going to wash it out. It is gorgeous. It will reduce your breakage. It will make your scalp so much better. It'll make your hair healthier thicker longer try out pre wash scalp oil. If you haven't already, it is the best. We love it. Um and if you're just generally loving JVN Hair, don't be afraid to tell your friends, honey, don't be afraid to post about it. We love social sharing and we also just love your support. So if you're a JVN Hair user, thank you so much. We love you. We see you, we honor you, we support you. Also, we are working diligently on getting our direct to consumer things sent out as fast

as possible, which we are still working on and it is getting better. Um but you can also still get our things at Sephora.com. We're in like 200 Sephora stores. So either Sephora.com or JVNHair.com, love you guys so much. Thanks for supporting our brand. Um OK. First listener question, let's get to it. It's our only listener question now I think about it. Do the heat less hair curlers really work the ones that look like a little slap bracelet. Do you get good results with them? Yes, they do work. But it also really depends on your hair type. If you have really curly hair, like as curly as my hair or curlier and you wrap those in your hair, you're still gonna have curly roots and you actually can see that there's this really cute guy on tiktok named Jonathan who has like really gorgeous, big long curly hair, but he'll try to do these like heat less rollers with like pool noodles and like other kind of like variations of heat rollers. And you, oh my God, my stomach so crazy. Oh God again. But you can always see like his natural curl pattern on the roots like it works on the mid lengths and ends, but it doesn't really pull the curl pattern out of the roots as much. If your hair is straight or just like slightly wavy, then those um then those heatless curl roll roll or those heatless hair curlers are amazing. If your hair is straight or just like minimally wavy or like a little tiny bend, then it will give you like a great little blow dry like with no heat. Like put in some foam in like our embody foam or like our instant recovery serum. Just put a little bit of that in your hair. Wet, wrap it up on there, go to sleep. It's going to be great. The other way I really like to use it is if your hair is as curly as mine or curlier and you've got a blow dry, they're amazing as blow dry preservers. But only once you've like blown the curl out of your hair and like set it with a curling iron or a flat iron. Then wrapping around the um heat less hair curlers to preserve your blow dry for like either on an airplane or overnight. I love it for that, but if you're trying to like blow your hair smooth and it's curly, then you're, you're not gonna get like all that curl out of your root the way that you could if you would just like blow dry at first and then preserve the blow dry with your heat, less hair curlers. So that makes sense. Right? OK. Cute. So that's, that's the verdict on those. But now let's go back to our gorgeous New York City closet where I record when I'm in New York. And let's get into our episode with Randy Christensen.

Randy Christensen is the CEO and co-founder of Necessaire. Prior to Necessaire she had a 15 year career at Estee Lauder companies where she helped build and scale brands across the portfolio including iconic places like La Mer, Estee Lauder and ELC Ventures. But you guys Le Mer. She holds an MSE in Economics and Business Administration from Copenhagen Business School. Brandy, welcome to Pretty Curious, how are you?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: I'm wonderful. I'm so excited to be here, Jonathan.

JVN: Now, Randy, tell us, where are you joining us from today?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: So I am uh joining you from my home. I live in California in, in an area called Palos Verdes. If you're familiar, it's a little bit in the South Bay of Los Angeles.

JVN: Yes, it's very green. Very gorgeous, right?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: It is. I'm a nature girl. So this is exactly you hit it. There we go. We get started. We, I moved down here so that I could do my thing. Which one of my favorite things to do is hike.

JVN: Oh, my God. I love that. I would say that, um, hiking is not in my podium of top favorite things to do. But I love, but I love nature and I do love being outside. I just like to be a little bit more stationary in my, outsideness, like, especially in the woods but like a picnic or like a, a little outdoor forest grounding I really can get behind. My husband likes to hike. Uh, you

know, I like a view. I like a short hike. I don't want to say I don't like hike. I, I like a shorter. Yes.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: A short hike that ends in some celebration with a glass of champagne or big meal. Is that the vibe?

JVN: Yes. Yes. The relaxation has to be prioritized and the food.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Right. That's right. That makes sense.

JVN: But Randi, I got to tell you, I am not a little bit obsessed with Necessaire. I'm like big, big time obsessed with Necessaire. I think my first obsesh started at a Sephora when I found the body serum and I was the, was the body serum one of the first offerings.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Yes, it was, uh, it was not, you know, our very first I think sort of hero product was the body wash if, if you're familiar with that one.

JVN: Yes.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: And then shortly after I think Nick and I launched the body wash the body lotion, uh, the sex gel and then shortly thereafter we launched the body serum. So you're, you're

JVN: Did I sleep on the fucking sex gel? Necessaire makes

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: No no no! That was just, that was just us. We had fun when we, when we first launched the brand, we were like, gosh, why Wise Lube sold in its own aisle at the bottom of the floor when it's another thing we just use on our body and, and, and so we were having fun.

JVN: Yeah and like nice. It'd be nice to have some nice ingredients on our holes.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Yes, that's true! There you go clean and effective and all the things, you know.

JVN: What made you and in body care just I think the last time I checked, it's like, isn't it like 10? It's, it's not like a huge amount of the total business that like the beauty industry does. What gave you the confidence or the inspiration to like be like, honey, we're going to fucking take on body care!?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: You know what? It's so funny. Thank you for asking that question. I think, you know, Nick and I sort of joined forces and, and, and, and we both came from, from Lauder. He'd been at into the gloss and Glossier prior, but he and I, I think really saw this long term concept of a skincare destination, Jonathan of just these sort of essentials. And when we started to talk about when we started to talk about, how are we gonna break through, how are we gonna make noise. Where are we gonna start? I think we, we, we found the courage to say, let's go the opposite way. Let's start with all the skin and all the concerns and all the things we wanna address neck down, then then go to the scalp and then end on face, right? And just sort of uh be a little bit courageous in, in this space. And this was at a time where, you know, he and I had both lived in New York for years and we had come to Los Angeles and we were both like, you know, getting obsessed with green machos and juices and detoxes and yoga and all the things. And we were like, why the heck are we, you know, why are we putting shea butter with cheap fragrance on our skin that's

like need some of these ingredients that, that, you know, we knew so much about and we knew how to use and we knew how to effectively use them for face. And we were both like, fuck this neck doesn't start, you know, skin doesn't stop at the neck. And let's, we sort of coined this phrase, treat your body like your face, let's go treat your, you know, treat your face like your body. This is, this is one thing and the truth of the matter is sometimes, you know, I think maybe had it been, you know, one of us alone, we, we, we might not have had the courage, but we were sort of talking each other up and, and, and then it came and we just went for it and, and I think, and I'm sure you must know this very well. It, it, it takes a village right to get a, a brand going get a product sold. And I always get excited when, you know, we sell somebody a second product, right? Because that's when you get that vote of confidence that folks love your stuff. But we really had so much help in the beginning, I think we had media outlets, just people that joined into this conversation with us and it began, you know, it began a momentum of sort of talking skin care for the body and, and I don't think we could have done it without that help. And I think, you know that starting a brand is a humble thing, right? You, you get a lot of help from a lot of people to, to get going.

JVN: How do you maintain your, your passion? Because you've been like in big ass companies, you've started your own. How do you stay inspired in this fucking industry?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: I know! This industry, this I love that. Um you know, I kind of ended in this industry a little bit, you know, through how life goes, you know, I wasn't meant to, to start here and met somebody and it turned into an interview and, and I feel it's been, it's, it's, it's forever new. I don't know if you feel that way, but I, I really don't feel that I've ever felt stuck of static or at a, at a passing point. So, you know, Le Mer, I started at, at, at La Mer. Creme de La Mer when it was quite small. Um And was there until it was really, really big and did Estee Lauder and Tom Ford for Estee Lauder, many of that, many of those journeys um where, you know, it was white pieces of paper, turning it into something. And I, I think that what, what excites me is a, I'm a product person, so I love beauty products. Um b I get excited about building something, Jonathan that has longevity that has substance that can be here for a long time. And, and those are sort of to me the things that are, that are the forever pieces. And then there's this thing called marketing, right? And breaking through and making noise and having fun and, and as you know, that's an erratic part of our job because it changes every week, every month, every quarter, every year, right? So I, I get inspired by that juxtaposition of, of, you know, our jobs of, of like what is these things that really meaningful that we're building for the sort of the, the long haul and then what are these things we can turn on and off in the brand and all that combined makes it at least to me, I've never been bored. I've never had a boring day. If anything, I feel like it's getting more and more exciting. I don't know if you feel that way. It's more and more.

JVN: It's a rodeo, honey. I certainly feel like it's a

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: It is! Right.

JVN: When it comes to body care and like the white space of body care and what people need, what's lacking with body care. What have you found is like the most important thing we can do for our skin?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: I think, I mean, listen, I always say into this sort of in a very macro way. I I have always believed and feel learned from day one being in beauty that all things hydration, water in all of its ways, right? What we consume what we put on skin, the

humectant options we have are probably a fundamental, right? Because if you are dry and parched, it's hard. Um in general. So the the the to bring the the the skin into balance, I think the the the number one most fundamental thing is a cleanse that doesn't strip that moisture and then infusing moisture into skin consistently. And I know that's a very basic answer, but it is where I think basic skin health barrier health starts for most everybody and most all skin types. So we, we focused a lot. Um a lot we spent, gosh, we spent months, two years getting into the, getting into develop, developing a cleanser. And I think we were the first as a brand to really develop, develop a cleanser on glycerin, right? Um for the body which you know, that, that honey like that humectancy in, in the cleanser paired with these sort of gentle surfactants is a really crucial step that we saw a lot in facial skin care. And we were like, wait a minute here, we are stripping our bodies with like, you know, and the skin and our bodies with these sort of

JVN: Sulfates, just like hardcore ass sulfates.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Hardcore, yeah! Or even just yeah, and some of the basic, some of the basic structures in which soaps are made, right? And, and we just were like, no. And so I think there's 1000 things we each need individually because we have different skin concerns and, and, and the the concerns on the body, right, manifest themselves differently. Um but you can use many of the same ingredients that we use on face. Might it be the acids or retinol or, or, or vitamin C to address these, these, these things on the body? But for me, it starts with what are the basics, what are the essentials? What's the necessary the necessary for, for health and wellness. And that to me starts in your, your sort of your, your, your, your, your cleanse your moisture and your protection with SPF right? Like it does for most people. And then the question is, well, how do you, how do you deliver on that in the best possible way you can, where a lot of people can participate, right? Where the prices are not outrageous.

JVN: Totally.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: That's what I, that's what, that's, that's what we work on all the time. It's where we started and it's still today is our hero products, right. Our wash and our lotion. These are, these are core to Necessaire, um, and our philosophy.

JVN: What are we putting our Necessaire body wash on to, in your opinion, to like, have the best like ritual or like cleansing experience in the shower? Are we using washcloths? Are we using those little like, like loofas or we just using our hands? What do you do?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Hands.

JVN: I do a hands too but should I be using a washcloth to get down with my bad self? A little bit more?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: They are, they're so, you know, it's so funny you, I just found myself on an airplane having this discussion. I'm sure you find yourself an interesting conversation. Um I, I find, listen, first and foremost, um I like the way things feels. Um and I like the, the textorial experience of, you know, touch and texture and tho those moments. Um and you know, I have one wash cloth. It's that brand Bania if you've heard of that, that amazing the towel and, and such that that is, that feels luxurious and good. But like I love, I guess I love, I love feeling my own body and I I I, I think that that is, I know that that is. I know. Here we go.

JVN: I like it!

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Well, that's the Scandinavian in me. But I love, I love that feeling of, of, of, of, of the sort of the liquid wash and scrubbing the body. Um, I love the grind of an exfoliator. I love the touch of a soap bar directly on, on skin. And I've never really, you know, I've tried, I think it's fair to say I've tried every washcloth. I've tried every loofa, I've tried brushes. I've tried bringing a brush in with soaps. I've tried, you know, right now we're playing with sisal cloths and seeing. What do we feel with that, and I, for me personally, and again, this is an individual thing, I I, I come back to obviously, you know, super clean hands. You're in the shower and just, just working with the product. Um, that's, that's, that's me. Um, sometimes on my face though, admittedly I will use a washcloth but not in the shower on my body, I just get into it.

JVN: If I have more time, then I make a meal of it. If I don't have the time, then I don't, it's just kind of whatever.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: You don't. Yeah, that's the reality of life, right? That's the reality of life.

JVN: What do you think about Necessaire is something that makes it like unique unto other body care brands.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Well, I think, listen, we're five years old and, and we've been, you know, sort of a couple of publications have we feel very humbled when they've said you were sort of the first to put a stake in the ground on skin care for the body, right? Which was when we started extremely novel that, you know, yeah, you are going to use a hyaluronic acid body serum or yes, your, your, your body wash can be more than, than soap, right? And, and so I think what, what I feel makes what I feel makes Necessaire unique. I think in some ways starts with our name, this idea of the, the necessary and then I think it goes into our commitment which I know you're doing with JVN as well to sort of try to be really committed to, to create a brand that's not a, in a space and a product that's not a flash in the pan, but that doesn't take the the sort of the short runs, that's the short terms or whatever that saying is. But like trying to create something of substance that will be here a long time that inspires me. And then I think the, the other piece that makes us unique is I do think we went the opposite way of everybody else. And I do think we were um humbly, I think at least one of the first to go into, go into body and try to really innovate the space and, and make it, make it fresh, right? And, and the thing that's so interesting about body and I'm sure you feel this way about hair as well is that we have so much to do, right? We have a low price point because we all have a certain budget and we have we're building furniture for the bathroom. You know this, right? This this stuff is big bottles that sits in our bathroom and we're now in design and, and then we we we get into like really, you know, the pleasure aspect of these category, right? This moment we take in somebody's life and then into results. So and and delivering real performance and efficacy. So all that to me is very exciting, very hard. And I think at Necessaire, we sort of came out with a point of view on all that we have to sort of, you know, kick the ball in all those areas and it's, it's, we really believe that folks are going to come into this concept of less but better and that these everyday

JVN: Less but better is gorgeous.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: These everyday luxuries are really going to come into focus and that's really what, what we're fighting for and we don't really care about how long that's gonna take. We're just gonna build it one step at a time in a very calm way.

JVN: Yes! Randy. I'm obsessed with this. Now, packaging.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: I know, ugh.

JVN: And your packaging is beautiful.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Oh I know we try so hard. We have a lot of help here. So let's talk about this a bit.

JVN: Why is the way that something looks on a shelf or online so important to consumers?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: I think that in this space of beauty and consumer goods, we, you're seeing it if you go into a Target today, five years later, you're seeing that every subcategory is being designed into, you know, more of an object. Um and so I think as humans in general, we are attracted to beauty and um in our category of particularly in the shower and in the home hand washes, body washes shampoos, the things we are, these things are big and they, they become part of your aesthetic, your style, your your point of view and as, as, as an extension of what you believe in. And so I think design, I don't know what you feel, but I think design is, is part of the value proposition in a brand and it's part of our obligation and design is not just how it looks, it's also how it works, right? How it functions, how you engage with it.

JVN: Yeah, I love that. And it's like, it's like when people go into like a target or a Sephora or they look online, it's like there's so many cues that they can take from the package as far as like, that's for me, that's not for me.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Yeah.

JVN: Like I'm a bright person or I'm a like, I would like more clean basic. I like, I mean, for me, like when I picked these three colors. Like I was just like, those are three pretty colors. And in fact, our first nurture line that was purple. It wasn't until like the second week of our lunch and everyone was like, oh my God, I'm so glad you did a blonde shampoo. And then I was like, fuck, why did I pick a purple fucking container? Which everyone always thinks is a blonde shampoo. Like I just thought that was a pretty purple and then it's like the order number and like how many it was? I was like, fuck.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Oh shit. That's OK!

JVN: So we did change that and made it blue but it's like packaging and like user experience, I've just heard like trial by error in a lot of ways and

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: And that's OK too. Do you know what I mean? None of us, have been

JVN: We're all on our own path of learning.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: We all are and you know, the thing about, I mean, when I think about when I think about JVN and I think about the sort of um that the sort of way that fits in, right? It's, it's the same, it's different than Necessaire, but the same in that it's, I guess to me it's colors of nature, um and it's

JVN: Yes!

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: And it's a glimpse into people's lives, right? So that's what I see when I look at your brand, right? I'm not seeing like I'm seeing this sort of of, of, of, of a cue in the color, but also this great sense of calm and it fits into somebody's home in a, in a beautiful way and that I believe in that in our category very much. And, and I think, I do think though, don't you think when you go into Target and you think back 10 years ago, everything is more chic today, like everything like we, we react to chic now.

JVN: And even the things that were like because like for me in Target, what I think Target 10 years ago

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Yes!

JVN: Boots number seven comes to mind

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Yes.

JVN: Like when they like they just like come to Target like that to me in my like, you know, mid twenties

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Yes.

JVN: That looked, I was like, oh it's European, it's different like it looks, I remember like no offense to Alba because they were like not al but like remember

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Yes, I do.

JVN: Alba like that there was like more like green and yell like it just

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: That's true.

JVN: I like the simplicity of like of the boots just the way that it looked.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Yeah.

JVN: I was like, and I think that those are the ways, like there are just been certain

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: It's coming back, yeah.

JVN: Yes. Like there's certain trends that like and no offense like to other people's taste level.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: No, no no no.

JVN: But like, I've just always been able to tell what was going to be really cute soon, like early

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Yeah!

JVN: Like I just my ear to the ground.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: That is something you have an eye for. And I think I also think there was something else when you start a brand and this, this, this catches up to you, but you also have to be original. You have to, it has to be, it has to be authentic and it has to have a point of view. And you, you, you, you, you have to, I think if you look at big brands and you look back in time in our category, right? Whether it's the back to Le Mer, the white

classic jar from Le Mer or it's the yellow bottle from Clinique or it's Le Labo fragrance bottle or it's Aesop's brown hand wash like when you look at all those things that and that inspire us to do our thing. Do you know, be uniquely ourselves? And obviously every body wash bottle is built before we came and every tube and every pump and everything, but the way you treat it, the choices in color, the the artwork that I think, you know, having a very distinct point of view is quite important. Um and will carry you for a long, long time. You have to kind of be first to have that with your point of view, with your expression. And so I think we work very hard for that reason, you know how we have that crazy lock up with Necessaire at the top and the name is right after and everybody was like, are you out of your mind that the logo is not alone? No, I'm not. That's, that's a point of view, right? It's very different. Nobody's done that. No. Yeah, that's, that's what we do.

JVN: I love that part.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: You know what I mean? I always say this is for your vanity, this is for your information. Like those, those, those systems, right? The bottle is not, not unique. The cap might not be unique but like the way we

JVN: Although, I am obsessed with that cap, but I love how it travels just so we're clear. I love how you just twist it, it's so convenient.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Yes, you know what I mean? Your bottles, right? You that's part of

JVN: I wrote the copy myself.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: I know!

JVN: I did!

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: But like I'm saying, like, you know what I mean? When you, you, you really do try to make it uniquely so. And I think that's part of design too is to say no

JVN: It is.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: To 1000 things that other people have proven before. Yeah, guess what? That's theirs.

JVN: So I know that we have our gorgeous uh mineral based sunscreen. We love that. So and I also, I love a mineral sunscreen. I love that. Yours is mineral. Got to get into that. If there was one product that you would say like that you would want people to try from Necessaire that we talked about the moisturizer, we talked about retinol. Is there any like unsung hero? Like for me with JVN Hair it's undamaged. Like I feel like people just sleep on undamaged. It's like the nicest formula. I want people to use it more. Um any like is there any like product that people should try from Necessaire if they haven't yet. That's not the heroes?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: I think it's actually the one, like the body serum is huge from us. But if you are new to body and you're just in a wash and you're just in a lotion, which is a lot of people Jonathan, just try that darn body serum.

JVN: Try the serum.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Just try it because it is, it is from experience to feeling, to efficacy to the European pact to all of it. It's, it's, it's a luxury. I, I feel, I really truly feel that that's, that's sort of something I wanna shoot up in the air.

JVN: Yes. Um OK, because also just while we're here,

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: And it's not an unsung hero. It's just that a lot of people in body are not yet into serum and you know that and when they try that

JVN: And it doesn't have a strong fragrance.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: And they never leave it, you know?

JVN: Yeah I never leave it.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: And then the last thing I'll say is, is something in our brand that people keep coming back to with us is these, these sort of green scents, right? So this, this, this idea of eucalyptus and in the moment and the spa and the, the, the, the sort of the transformation that, that have somewhere else, which is just your mind and, and your wellness. So if you haven't tried our eucalyptus body wash and, and you're still in santal or you're somewhere else in old sandalwood, you, you you need to try those green notes from us because it's, it's, I feel what we're famous for.

JVN: What do you, where do you guys land on? Like because in the serum it's like a really? Is that unscented or is it just like it is?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Yes, it's unscented. So that people with psoriasis and eczema can use them.

JVN: Can use these, I love that. And then the cream too? Are all of those?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Unscented as well. Also eczema.

JVN: Everything is unscented other than the one body wash, right?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: We offer, I think we offer every single product we have in the line in an unscented way because we're skincare.

JVN: I love that.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: So it's our point of view that everybody should be able to join, right? And then there is the scent version. And the last, the reason I will say since I do, you know, do all the PD with our team here is like, I think that's a very important discipline that if your product can stand without a fragrance, it's a good product. But if it is, you know how fragrance can hide everything, um I, I, we, we like to say like this product needs to be able to go and be loved and be sold and by, by being a skincare point, having a skincare point of view and then we start adding fragrance at the end.

JVN: I love that.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: So we are, we, you can get most everything from us. If not, I think everything in a fragrance free version.

JVN: So is there, is there any like percolating newness that I know that we're very like Necessaire and we're very like we're only doing like essential, gorgeous, better but less, less but better. Is there anything that you're like, really excited for later or anything or just?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: We, you know what, we just worked with? The, the fine fragrance labs at IFF in developing, developing, you know, sort of the, the, the clean synthetic scents pairing it with real pure essential oils for functionality and really pushing that envelope in what clean scent can be and we release that in wash and this fall we're, we're, we're releasing that in lotion as well. And it was really a labor of love and, and, and, and that's kind of our fall moment. And then that product you love with the black jar is coming back with a white jar.

JVN: *screams*

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Uh but that's an update. That's an update.

JVN: Yes.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: We have so much love for that cream Jonathan,

JVN: It's so gorgeous, that cream.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: That we needed to fix that package. So that was a perfect example of of going into a into a glass that didn't work in people's homes, you know, admittedly we didn't nail it and we had to fix it. So that's it.

JVN: We get it and but I I'm so obsessed with you. It's time for our last round.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Yes! Let's go.

JVN: It's rapid fire. Are you ready?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Yes.

JVN: OK. OK. Rapid fire. What's your go to budget beauty recommendation? Under \$10?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: The best bottle of water you can buy every day.

JVN: OK. You got it. Splurge recommendation can be anything luxury can be body, skin, hair, things, treatments, anything.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: You know what I splurge on. I splurge on that black Diptyque candle that gives me a calm every day. I splurge on that. It's an insane splurge. But it is just what I go to and I love that candle.

JVN: I love a good fucking candle.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: You know which one I'm talking about? I have one right behind me here, but it's that chic one I remember. Is it basil or like it's just so chic and I, I splurge on that as often as I can find money for it.

JVN: We love Diptyque in our house. We love nice candles in our house. And when our best friend Patty comes to town, she's so fragrance adverse, it gives her migraines. We always know when she's in town because our house smells like put out candles

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: I mean, yes.

JVN: Because it's like we like she's like going around putting out all her candles.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: You know, I think that's sort of an adjacent splurge, right? But it is one for wellness and it is one for slowing down. Which, which, which matters.

JVN: I think it's so beautiful. OK. What's a product you never leave home without?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Uh I never leave home without I have a couple but let's say lip balm.

JVN: OK, that's great. Um It's a look. What's your favorite vintage beauty look? It could be like a famous thing. It could be a red carpet thing. It could be

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: The fifties, fifties, the red, the red, the red lip from the fifties.

JVN: OK. That's perfect. This or that: serum or oil?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Serum

JVN: Lotion or cream?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Cream.

JVN: Oooh, chemical or physical exfoliation?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Physical.

JVN: Ahh! Bar soap or body wash?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Body wash.

JVN: Oh! AHA or BHA.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: AHA.

JVN: Hyaluronic acid or Niacinamide?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Niacinamide.

JVN: Ooo, We're making you pick your babies honeys!

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Yeah I know!

JVN: Peptides or ceramides?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Ceramides.

JVN: It was such a hard one. I was, I was really triggered on that one too. I think I know this one, scented or fragrance free?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: I like, I like both for different reasons, but that's an impossible one for me. But if I had to do I would do scented.

JVN: OK. And also Randy as a non binary person playing this or that being me, I give you permission to say both.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: OK. Both.

JVN: OK. Um the body wash scent head to head. Eucalyptus, santal hinoki or Oleanna.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: I would have to say eucalyptus.

JVN: I love eucalyptus. Honey. We did so good. Now, before the literal last question, has anyone ever told you that you look like a celebrity?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: No.

JVN: O. Well, I'm not going to tell you who I thought because I don't know. I,

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: I, I mean that the truth is I've been told my whole life that I look like somebody's sister and, and yes, a couple of famous people's names, but I always get told, I look like somebody. Is that a thing, Jonathan? That some people constantly get told have I met you?

JVN: No, I think, well, do you, did you watch Game of Thrones?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Uh, yes. Some of it. Yes.

JVN: Did you like it?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Yeah, I like some of it. It's not one that I, but I don't watch a lot of TV, I'm one those stupid people.

JVN: No no no, of course, and that was like, really involved. To me you look like you're giving me a little bit of a Lena Headey vibe.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: OK good, is that a good thing?

JVN: She's stunning.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: I'll take it! Maybe it's the Scandinavian roots?

JVN: She's beautiful and stunning. I just, you know, people used to tell me that I look like Russell brand

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Yeah, ooof.

JVN: I'd be like, yeah, thanks. That feels great. So, you know, didn't like. So I just, I get scared saying that you remind me of someone in case you're like, I fucking hate her. She called me a bitch or something. But we love Lena, she's amazing.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Oh no no no no no. I love all people.

JVN: We love her. We love Cersei. I mean, she was a little bit problematic in there but she played that role so well. She played the role so well. Where can people follow you, Randy if they've just fallen in love with you and they need to be following. Are you the most active on Instagram or tiktok?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Well follow @Necessaire or follow @Randichristiansen

JVN: Will we see you on there? Will we see you on Necessaire?

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: I have been on Necessaire. I think my team put me up there recently. You know, I'm a shy person, so I'm I I, I wish I had that talent. But um I I, I have been up there recently speaking about some of our footprint work. So they're, they're, they're, they're playing with me getting out there a little bit more. What about that?

JVN: Well, I think you got I think you, I would love to see you out there more. You guys follow Necessaire yesterday. Get it together, Randy. Thank you so much for coming. I'm Pretty Curious. I appreciate you so much.

RANDI CHRISTIANSEN: Thank you Jonathan. I love this moment with 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, where 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 Nathanael! 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.