

Pretty Curious with Jonathan Van Ness & Samantha Barry

JVN Who's that over there? Is that the curious people? Welcome back to Pretty Curious, our podcast on all things beauty. I'm Jonathan Van Ness. This week we're having a gorgeous conversation with the editor in chief of Glamour Magazine, Samantha Barry. But first, it's time to get ready with me and you guys. This is unprecedented. If you are driving, pull over. Not really. It's not that big of an apology, but it is our first product review retraction. When I said that I didn't like the La Mer Skin moisturizer and that jar a few weeks ago. I meant what I said at the time. I've been using it. I didn't understand it. It felt too thick. I didn't like how it felt on my skin. Then my friend Denise came to town and she stayed with us, for 4th of July. And she said, what the fuck? And I said, I'm paraphrasing here, but I said, yeah, I don't like it. And so then she she took the, the cream. She rubbed it on her fingertips for like, not 10s, not 20s like a good 45 second. She rubbed it on the tips of her fingers until it was like almost translucent. Like almost like not even white anymore. Like almost like a little white, but mostly translucent. Then we patted it. She patted it on to my face and onto my neck, and she patted and patted and patted. It probably took two minutes. After we did that. I was not expecting to have any different. I was like, I already did my review. It's over. I don't like it. There's nothing that you're going to do that's gonna make me like this. My skin, the the bounce back on my skin, the plumpness of my skin. The way that my pillow lines from sleeping on the side of my face literally went away in those two minutes, and I patted stuff on my skin. I've done gua sha. I've done rolling. I've. I've done similar massage techniques to my skin. And it did not make those fine lines, like from sleeping on my pillow go away immediately. This shit bounced the fucking pillow lines out of my fucking skin and like 90s maybe two minutes like the the about like once. So then I knew that I really had an, error, user error. And I was the user. I was using it wrong. I was using too much, and I wasn't really warming up the cream in my fingertips to begin with. And once I did that, and I've been using it ever since, I love it. It got gifted to me and then I shit on it. I'm sorry. I would buy it back a second time. I love it, it, I do. I just really like it. The I, the I concentrate obsessed. I love the skin concentrate. I just didn't know about the moisturizer. But it's flawless. They're not trying to get paid you guys, unfortunately. So this is not. This is. This is just. I gotta own it when I fuck up. I did fuck up. I actually really do like it. I just didn't know. We've never done that before. But now, you know, I just thought, wow, I am someone who's been in beauty for a long time. I know how to read directions. And I somehow didn't read directions and thought I didn't like a product, when in reality I do end up liking the product. So interesting. Interesting there. If you just cannot get enough of me in your life, I totally get it. Like I am obsessed too. LOL. Who says that? But again, it's giving like the podcast for Queens of Queens who love to talk about sex and other things too. It's giving like. It's giving adult content. It's giving question and answers with, like, sexy time. But just like questions around sex, but other things too. Sometimes it's beauty. And I also give you like, beats. We record like weekly for the week, and I just give you insights into things that are maybe going on, and, it's just giving like an after dark with some fun. So love to see you guys over there. We work really hard on it. We. But it's also just, like, so fun. We can't even tell how hard we work. Oh, okay. Oh, I dropped my notebook. Anyway, let's get to our conversation with Samantha Barry. Samantha Barry is the American editorial director of Glamour Magazine, where she oversees content development and consumer experiences across the brand's digital, social, video and print platforms. Barry has served as editor in chief of Glamour US since 2018, where she has transformed the annual women of the year awards, led the brand to reach record breaking

monthly audiences and grown video across platforms. She joined glamGlamouror from CNN worldwide, where she served as executive producer for social and emerging media. Prior to that, Samantha was a social media producer and journalist for BBC World News in London. Oh, I love that. Welcome to the show, Samantha. How are you?

SAMANTHA BARRY Good. How are you?

JVN I'm just thriving now. We. I was saying just before we started recording We Love and editor in chief episode. I just I'm very honored. Editor in chief Glamour US. You're here. I'm queer. And let's talk about beauty. You know beauty. I also like what I was about to say. We're queer. But then I was like, I don't know anything about like that. Very. And then I was like, I'm going to. I just try to do a quick pivot. My eye just involuntarily twitch. Bahari doing this morning.

SAMANTHA BARRY I'm great. I'm great. You know, surviving the New York summer, which is like a three hour a day kind of day. You know.

JVN I've been here for a few days, and it really is, what part of Ireland are you from?

SAMANTHA BARRY Cork. The best.

JVN Okay, now, if Ireland was like the palm of my hand. Where's cork?

SAMANTHA BARRY You're down in the bottom. So, like the right in the south. It's kind of in the middle.

JVN Okay, so like south central. Like in the middle. On the bottom.

SAMANTHA BARRY Yeah. And it won't work as a big county. So it spans way out to the, the west.

JVN I think I've heard that. Okay. Wait. So enough about that and more about you Samantha. So 2018, which was a great year. You become editor in chief of Glamour, right?

SAMANTHA BARRY 2018.

JVN But your back story is just so interesting. We need to hear about it. So is Sophia Petrillo would say picture it. It was.

SAMANTHA BARRY Cork. Cork. It was cool. It's interesting because I think I, you know, what it it was, I think a surprise for a lot of people this I had spent my whole career in news. Right. And hard news at that. Right. I started in radio in Ireland doing news bulletins in the middle of the night, because that's what they do when you're, you know, 21 and you're coming out of college and you can mess up. I worked in Papua New Guinea for two years with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. Over there working with like, young journalists, I worked for BBC World News as a television producer. Again, all really hard news. And I came over to the US in 2014 to run social media for CNN, which was a kind of a newer job. It's interesting to be in an election cycle now and watch it from not in a newsroom like CNN

in a different way, and how we tackled the Glamour. And then, I was approached about this job and it was a total pivot in some ways and in others not, because I think my whole career, whether it was in radio or TV or social media, the anchor, the North Star for me was always storytelling. Right now at CNN, that was like breaking news tweets from what's happening, you know, calling elections. And it was, how do you take that storytelling ability and take it into this title, like Glamour that's been around for 80 plus years and do something new with it. And that was the challenge that I got really excited about. But yeah, it was. I'd never worked in a magazine. If, unless you count my, my, college, publications, which the New York press didn't but yeah, I'd never I'd always worked in newsrooms and broadcast at that. And so to come into the world of publishing and to come in as editor in chief was it's a shift and a challenge. And it was both, exciting and a little terrifying, I would say.

JVN Was the Australian broadcast network, was that like in Papua New Guinea? Was that like the when you moved out of Ireland?

SAMANTHA BARRY Yeah, when I left Ireland, I was in I actually spent a good part of my 20s in like two years in Papua New Guinea, in and out of Pakistan, a lot for a project and, and, and with the BBC in and out Myanmar. So I definitely got that like a really good pair. Yeah.

JVN God damn.

SAMANTHA BARRY So I spent a lot of like it's interesting now when I think about it, like I spent a lot of my 20s doing, kind of being at the front lines of great journalism that was happening in these places that I was so lucky to be in. And I really got to see up close versus like local journalists doing really good jobs, like when I was in and out of Myanmar for BBC. It was it was at a time when it was like 2010 to 2012 where the whole of that country was changing. You know, they didn't have they had one ATM in the capital when I got there. Nobody had a mobile phone. And by the end, everybody by the time I was leaving, it was such a dramatic change in two years that I remember going to Schrader Gone Pagoda, which is like the famous Buddhist temple there. And this monk had come down from the country, and he was like, squeezing on to two phones and was like asking me for my Facebook. And I was like, wow, that's how quick the world can change. And it was to see that up close and personal in Myanmar. So a little bit of that in Papua New Guinea as well, because, again, and this is the reason why I was so interested in doing social media and journalism and digital media, because I, I saw in those 20s in the countries that I visited, the real fast change that mobile phones change to how people consume news and media. And that's why I think I was really excited about this BBC job at, like, helping them fix and grow their social taking on the job at CNN, which was, you know, again, like this new job, head of social media, and then taking all those kind of digital skills into a legacy publication like Glamour and saying, okay, how do we look at things fresh and new and how do we think about the mobile user, not the desktop user or the person that has the subscription to Glamour for the last 20 years? How do we react in real time to the things that make sense for Glamour? Right. And at the moment, that is politics, right? We're we're deep in an election that women are extremely, are going to be a massive, hopefully potentially massive person on the ticket. But also, women's issues are more front and center than they have been in any, previous election of late. Right? When you think about abortion as a ballot mover this year, in a massive way, paid leave, which is something glamour's really been,

advocating for, is going to be a driver this year in a way that maybe wasn't in previous elections in the US.

JVN So you were with CNN. Was that from were you there from the 14 to the 18? So does that mean that you were there through the 16 election?

SAMANTHA BARRY Yeah. So it was you know, it's in and again, it's really interesting for me because and I've been talking to friends about this. When I came over, I was the global head of social media for CNN. And we built a massive team. And I don't think there was an more important election that you could have run a team like that. I was at every convention, every debate, every town hall.

JVN Oh my God. Did you have anybody at the Javits Center when like.

SAMANTHA BARRY Yeah, it was Javits Center. What was interesting is we had done a lot of, when you work in a machine like that, you do a lot of practice. Right? So we had spent and there, you know, in the machine of who get to call election, you have Wolf Blitzer who's does it on air. And my whole team was doing it was I was going to do it simultaneously on every platform that we worked, right? Twitter, Facebook, Snapchat, cake, anywhere we were. So we had to be all tied up and we had to be, extremely prepared. So for the weekends leading up to the actual election night, you do a lot of practice. You you do a run, you do a run where she wins. You do a run where he wins, you do a run where it's a constitutional crisis.

JVN Oh, my God, that is so fucking cool. Keep going.

SAMANTHA BARRY But you do, you go over. So which language? And I remember having a very interesting conversation with editors because, about whether we were going to say first woman president or first female president because first female president was was the grammatically correct thing to say, but the world was going to say the first woman president. Right. Which is, and how would we say that in the language that we would be posting around, you know, if she had won? And I think back to those weeks of prep for what we you prep for every eventuality. That's why they're a world class newsroom. And I interviewed every single candidate on the trail. I remember, being in Flint, Michigan for a Democratic debate, and it was still Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton. And, Martin O'Malley was still in the race. I remember interviewing every single Republican that was in the race, still in the race in Miami, in a toilet in the backstage of the toilet in Miami, because it's the only place we could make, work for Snapchat interview. And, and it was. Yeah. And there's this, this, this picture of me interviewing Donald Trump in a toilet in Miami for Snapchat. That my mom still thinks is like a madame to so picture. She never believed it was true. We interviewed all at Rubio, and so for me, it was really interesting because you you got to see really up close and personal, like the machine that is an election now where climate feels different because we're definitely coming at the election from, kind of a longer lead world where.

JVN And don't you get to have like an opinion it Glamour versus like in the news, you're supposed to like have to have one.

SAMANTHA BARRY Opinion. And for me, it's just kind of a pleasure because I remember, I remember when my first editors letter at Glamour in 2018 was about repeal the eighth Amendment in Ireland, which was, giving Ireland, Irish women the access to.

JVN We remember that.

SAMANTHA BARRY And I wrote in 2018 that I was so proud to come from Ireland and, come from a country and watch while I was in New York, a country that was finally, after decades of, women bleeding on planes to London, that they were going to get women the right to have an abortion. And I wrote in that writer's letter I was worried that I lived in a country that was going to take it away. And we have seen that happen. And that has been a big issue for us, a Glamour, just like, how do we, you know, we're, we're we're just put to bed a big book on the history of Glamour, which is out in the awesome. And when we went to the archives and I see these writers like Gloria Steinem, in the 60s, write about in the 50s and write about why women should have access to an abortion. And some of these writers aren't with us anymore. And the fact that they be turning over in their grave, that the Glamour writers are back at it. Writing about this topic in the US in 2024 is just so distressing.

JVN My brain could literally explode, partly because I realize that I don't have my normal pen that I have, and there is so many follow up questions were like, I like my. My brain was like, and and just look. What a relaxing year politically. You know, it's. No, no, seriously. I mean, there's just what, a lack of things to cover. You know, there's just, you know, we got a presidential election. Multinational fucking wars. A social media landscape that does feel, I don't know, on fire. How are you doing? How was Glamour doing it in 2024? Like, how's it going over there?

SAMANTHA BARRY Do you know what the nice thing as well about working at a place like Glamour is? You get to do the dark with the light. You get to do joyful, like, awards coverage and at the same time, really advocate for paid leave in America, which is not here in six countries in the world, don't have paid leave. And the others are Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, in a couple of small nations, and America. So you get and we get to do or we get to cover stories. And then sometimes, sometimes people want to come to Glamour for something that is escapism. And we can give that to them, too, whether that's in the world of beauty or style or we had an amazing, cover last year, late last year that started this massive conversation around bridesmaids. But the bridesmaid burnout was it was called and it was one of our special projects editor here. Room was like at one of her off sites with the team. She was like, I can't I've been a bridesmaid eight times this year. I'm not doing it. And it started a whole conversation with the team that ended up being a joyful, funny, irreverent, but really, you know, it was like women or some women in America over being bridesmaids. Some of them, especially the cast, the emotional. I put the physical, I put the bun and I put. And that was a fun kind of, I suppose, counter-programming to what was happening in the world of politics, right? Or, you know, we've had some great, joyful moments this year. You know, around Taylor, right? Like we are loving Travis and Taylor and, all that, that encapsulates thing, right? Love? Or when Beyoncé drops an album and we can come together as a team and watch it, or Love Is Blind has a reunion, and we go all in like, so I think that's one of the my favorite things about being a climber is that and again, historically, we've always done the light with the dark. We've always done the heavy with the soft. And because you know what? Sometimes people can and can't get wrapped their head around

that. A woman can be as excited about reproductive rights as she is about reality TV show, and that's okay. That can live within the same person. We had a weekend earlier this year and we had our most shared and commented, shared, engaged stories were two and they were kind of neck and neck this one weekend. And it was the IVF decision in Alabama and it was Love is Blind the Messiah season ever. And I know that a lot of those people were the same people that were commenting, engaging, like getting joy out of one and getting, you know, activated out of the other. And so I think that's a really nice thing at clamor that we get to do both.

JVN Glamour covers beauty, fashion, also politics and culture. And I think that we've showed we've even just seeing and hearing you talk, you see that that's you see that that's the case. So how do those worlds connect for you and how do you how do you do that work of blending light and soft and kind of like because obviously it's still a business and you need the traffic. So that's one thing that I kind of have an issue with sometimes, especially like on the podcast, like there are things that I'm really passionate about, but there's not necessarily like an appetite for it. And so like if I do things, I'm like something that not that many people think is interesting. That episode doesn't do as well. If I go for the thing that's just got higher traffic. So how do you like find your balance on what you want to cover?

SAMANTHA BARRY Sometimes your audience can surprise you. And and we did a piece last year with, across all the global glamour's where I went on a trip to, Malawi and Cape Town with Michelle Obama, Amal Clooney and Melinda Gates who'd come together to fight child marriage. And yes, these are three very powerful women with foundations and presence. But, you know, child marriage, it when you put it in a headline isn't necessarily something that you automatically think people are going to really dig into. They spent minutes with this like it was like millions of minutes reading this piece across the world. And so that for me sometimes was like, sometimes you have to take the punt to try to see. And it is a joke, right? Like you are looking at traffic, you're looking at audiences. But what I think in the world of media that we are in now, versus maybe the media landscape of 2012 or 2014, where it was a bit more clickbaity people are much more engaged with both brands that they trust, but also people that they trust. And for us, it's like we've done a big push of Glamour this year to have like. The staff front and center in the TikTok videos. Because you know what? Glamour's just Glamour. But like, if it's the beauty editor telling me that this mascara is going to be the best and honestly, I believe her when she like, I'm like walking in asking what should I be buying to do X, Y and Z? Or should I get this? Or should I get that? And having those people front and center is definitely something that we've been looking at, because I think it is a different world where it's not just traffic, it's engagement. Like it's I the I know the super fans of Glamour that come back like five times a month and they buy something for us and they read all the cover stories front to back. And, they're the ones that will buy the book and they will be the ones that get really excited when we announce women of the year. They're the people are more interested in somebody that, like, finds us in the general, like headline out of nowhere. You know.

JVN That's so true. So basically you're saying it's like, I'm looking for our base. I'm not looking for the person that's like coming to randomly criticize me or the brand.

SAMANTHA BARRY No, totally.

JVN That's so.

SAMANTHA BARRY And also like it's interesting is, you know, and there is. And the first part of your question, that intersection of politics and celebrity and beauty and style is, is so much more evident this year. We just, you know, we just did a whole story on why Kamala is brought. And like, I mean, I.

JVN Got I seen that it's so cute and it's everywhere.

SAMANTHA BARRY Everywhere. But the meme ification of that and it's actually been really nice to see, I think the Gen Z, generation really engaged in this election. Now, post, Biden's endorsement of Kamala in a way that like, I think I can see the excitement the way that you saw. And I think in a little bit around the Obama era where it was like, again, a different social media area. But, you know, the conversation around is and.

JVN That's what I wanted to ask about with the book. So now, like, is like when you get to do because you have a new book that's, coming out Glamour and extraordinary history, does that make like just the staff like, oh my God, it's like, it's like when I get to go to the salon and I'm like, yeah, I'm doing fucking highlights. I really the right. Yeah.

SAMANTHA BARRY They love it. And you know what? So much of the team have been involved in this process. It's kind of been a year and a bit and like so many of the team were deep in like physically in the archives. And if you ever have a chance to visit the Condé Nast Archives, like it is a special, special place. And we went through decades, right. Glamour has been around since 1939, and it has this beautiful history. It has this great photography, it has this fight for women that is under pins. Everything that it's done, like when you think it started as Glamour of Hollywood and the editor in chief went to L.A. To launch it and she left her office in New York, her family in New York, and refused to come back. And there's all these internal memos from Condé Nast himself saying, you've got to come back to New York and run this magazine. But she was like, no, I'm in L.A., living your best life. But then the world went to war in the 40s, and they brought a new editor in, and she changed the tagline in the 40s to Glamour for the girl with the job. And it did all this coverage. I know it was so ahead of its time. It's like the ultimate original feminist magazine was just. And they did it in a soft way, right? They did it in a stylish beauty way, where they would do these like eight page spreads of like the women going to work in, Rockefeller Center. Right. And it was like it was just it's a history. It's just a living, breathing, beautiful history. And the fact that we get to put it together in this book that's coming out, habits have changed, right? For for all the Glamour, that newsstand habit has changed in the US. Right. Like it's not where people are like picking up at the airport necessarily like that, ready to go, you know, that spontaneous. But there is a love for, holding something. And to have that book which I, we know is going to be like a just a beautiful archive of Glamour. We did a book last year, the year before Rome, Women of the year, and it was it's gorgeous. It's on coffee tables all over the world. It was it's beautiful. So if there's, like a book a year in us, I think that is a beautiful kind of ode to print. And we can do all the other stuff, right? Like covers. We do them digitally. Sophia Bush was a huge cover for us this year, and that was a digital cover. Right. And people, a lot of people read it. A lot of people shared it. But I didn't need a physical newsstand copy for that to be a huge success. I they were sharing it on Instagram. They were looking at our site, they were going to the YouTube video, and it felt like the cover experience, which I think we've done a really

good job at taking digital art, Glamour where the talent feels special. There's still a big moment. There's still an image that people want to share. But yeah, it's not physically in a copy on a newsstand. But yeah, I love some I love me some print. I get the New York Times over the weekend. I get a Saturday and Sunday. I want to physically open that paper and look at modern love. I love the New York. I get it every week like that. There's certain print that I just that I love and makes absolute sense. And then I think for us at Glamour, we found a real sweet spot of like being really strong digitally. But a print focused app feels, has got a long life and a lot of monthly life.

JVN I mean, sometimes everything that you just said. Is there any interesting trends that you see this year? Not like, you know, trend trends, but just like dynamics, like industry dynamics with beauty, like skincare, hair care.

SAMANTHA BARRY Yeah. Honestly, I have nieces, that are a 12 and 11 one lives in Sweden, one lives in Ireland. And the want for skincare, expensive skincare at that for the birthday wishes it that we've done a lot around that we did a story herb senior beauty editor around drunk elephant and the kids using you know the cult of following skincare at that age, which I honestly think is is not a bad thing. Right. Like I think about like 12 year old, 13 year old me. Like taking care of your skin is one of the most beautiful things you can do as a person, and it is one of the like moments of self-care that for me and I got much better at it during Covid, where it's like I went from like two steps, three steps to like seven, eight, nine, ten steps a night. And like, loving skincare in a way that I kind of fell in love with it, much more in recent years. But the thoughts of young men and women, boys and girls, like, that's if that's their advice. I'm here for it. If your advice is looking after your face and skincare and doing it, be nice to yourself. Is in those awkward pre-teen or teen years? Absolutely go for it. So that kind of gives me.

JVN That fresh take. Yeah. When you look at like bodies, I think specifically in discourse around commenting about people's looks, I think it has come a far way. Like, I mean, the print ended or like, you know, the the journalism community outside of like individual like bloggers. I do think in this sense, but clickbait is still very alive and well. I just lived through that myself. And just the more inflammatory, the more intense. Something reads like that part I think is still. And I see that like in politics, I see it in celebrity, I see it in body, I see it in all sorts of places where there's just like the most controversial but bit of something that's kind of taken out of like the wider point, because obviously we do need to drive traffic in, you know, and everybody's reporting to somebody that needs to make, you know, their, their thing. So I get that. But I also do see that like on just social generally like the worst like the title is on someone's TikTok. The more you know, whether that's like, you just see it everywhere I see it, my algorithm is like so intense is in that type of like my husband will always say, like when I'm watching those videos, I'll be like, is that all this person's job is to like just sit and cover like negative things about people and just be, like, hypercritical and an asshole. And then sometimes I'll be like, this person's like a progressive, so that's allowed. But then when they're like an asshole asshole, like, or like a conservative that I'm like, you're so right, Mark. But what's like the type of content or dynamics in the industry that irritates you?

SAMANTHA BARRY Do you know what I've seen recently? And I it gives me pause. I would say I'm seeing a lot on TikTok, people going, what should my glow up be? And like basically

putting themselves out there into the world to say, like, tell me what's wrong with my face or my hair or my look? And I don't know if that. I think you have to have a thick skin to be putting yourself out into the world and saying to random keyboard warriors, tell me what's wrong with me? So I that that trend.

JVN Is now I can't believe that's a trend people tell me anyway.

SAMANTHA BARRY I tell you I know exactly. But like, tell me what my glow up should be or whatever. And it's like, I hope you, I hope you have. Good. Like I hope you have good things to say about yourself because otherwise you're putting yourself into the lion's den there. So that's definitely one that, is not a fan I'm not a fan of. I talked a lot about and this is a, a daily practice for me. And it is so hard and I understand it, but I get up every morning and I look in the mirror and I say something nice about myself. And sometimes that nice thing is about I have good eyebrows today, but I for, I think a lot of people for many years, the first thing that they get up in the morning and say to themselves is something negative and you are carrying that around all day, like, oh God, I look like shade or oh fuck or whatever, sorry, whatever it is, like you should start your. And I know it sounds a little woowoo, I don't know, but like starting your day with saying something nice to yourself is honestly the best practice you could give. Because, like, I just did a speech at a university in Ireland and I was like, D. Biggest conversation you have with anybody for your whole life is yourself in your head. And if you are not kind to yourself, what are we doing? Because you like that the person you talk to most in the world is yourself. Right in the mirror, in your head, in your thoughts. And you have to be kind because like, otherwise, you're in for some misery.

JVN Diane von Furstenberg once told me that the most important relationship you'll ever have is with yourself, which I know I've said in the past a million times, that is just so true. Okay. Wait. I know you have a heart out. Let's do this or that. No. Although I do need to know these first four, so. I'm sorry. We're going to go really fast. Okay? Rapid fire. We're going. But your budget beauty recommendation under ten bucks.

SAMANTHA BARRY Is it ten bucks? Well, I love a little. Oh, shit. Budget to understand, like, this benefit. You know, the Latins.

JVN The guys probably right around it. It's probably. It's probably more, but that's okay. It's fine. And we love, what's your favorite splurge recommendation? It doesn't have to be beauty. Just anything.

SAMANTHA BARRY Perfume. Smell good.

JVN Oh, okay. What? Did you have a rec? Do you have a rec? All right, so right now that you're loving.

SAMANTHA BARRY Diptyque 34 I've loved it for years.

JVN I love their candles.

SAMANTHA BARRY It's a it's 34. And I love the story about this scent because, one time, one of the noses and I'm interested in perfume. One of the noses went into their. Their

flagship store for Diptyque is on 34 rue de la Harpe or something. It's in Paris, right. The store is 34 and that's tres. And he went in and all the candles were either burning or arriving. And he's like, this is the scent that I want to bottle into a perfume. I want to bottle the scent of the store into a perfume. And that's where 34.

JVN Oh my God, I have to go try it. I think it needs to be my new fragrance. What is the. What's a product you never leave home without?

SAMANTHA BARRY Okay. Yeah. Many years ago. And it is always the first base of my skincare. When I lived in London and worked at the BBC, I went into what's that store in London that has a nice skincare anyway? Yeah. No, no, no, that is very good.

JVN I love boots though.

SAMANTHA BARRY I love me some. Okay. Yes okay. It's basic and this was like, must be 15, 20 years ago now. And I bought Emma Hardy. It's a British dermatologist, the cleansing balm. And it has always been the basis of my skincare. It's the first thing I always do. It's beautiful. It smells gorgeous. It's all natural. Emma Hardy cleansing balm.

JVN Okay, what was your favorite vintage beauty look?

SAMANTHA BARRY Love a red lip and a winged eye.

JVN Okay. This or that final thing. Pen or pencil?

SAMANTHA BARRY Liquid pen? Pen.

JVN Probably boardroom or runway. Boardroom. Mineral sunscreen or chemical sunscreen?

SAMANTHA BARRY Mineral. Just sunscreen. Always. I'm the person under a towel in the sun.

JVN Sheet mask or clay mask sheet? Or acrylic or gel.

SAMANTHA BARRY I've cut some acrylics, I need some I need to my little potato picking hands. Need some.

JVN Some some some some strength. Yeah. Lip serum or lip balm? Serum conditioner or mask conditioner?

SAMANTHA BARRY I'm too busy for a mask.

JVN Showers or baths.

SAMANTHA BARRY Shower.

JVN Chunky highlights. Baby lights.

SAMANTHA BARRY Oh, baby lights.

JVN I think the chunky highlight really is coming back, though.

SAMANTHA BARRY I know, I, but I'm traumatized. I'm traumatized as well from my days of.

JVN Can't believe how hardcore it's back Queen.

SAMANTHA BARRY I remember I used I had like I had in the 90s, like I would say, and there's still picture evidence I just told you use on in just the front of your hair. And so it was bad. Mine was the road.

JVN Stripes, the rogue strips, you know, like rogue from X-Men. Everyone did that. It was just like chunk. Chunk. Okay, I love that. Wait, we just fell in love with you. Samantha. Barry. We're obsessed. Thank you so much for coming on. Pretty curious. Queen. Where can people follow you if they're just a completely is it just follow Glamour or.

SAMANTHA BARRY Yeah, Glamour mag. And then I'm at Sunbury.

JVN Sam. Barry, honey, follow. You guys, this is so much fun. Thanks so much for coming. I'm pretty curious, I you in?

SAMANTHA BARRY That was great.

JVN It's so much fun. Thank you so much.

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.