

## Pretty Curious with Jonathan Van Ness & Darcei Giles

JVN: Hey, curious people. I'm Jonathan Van Ness and welcome back to another episode of Pretty Curious. It's December burrr. Um, I hope you all had a gorgeous opportunity to spend some time with loved ones last week. I hope you didn't get any family like fights. Um, yeah, I, I just hope you made it through your Thanksgiving with grace and ease. This week, we're sitting down with beauty influencer royalty, Darcei Giles. You may know her from her at Miss Darcei channel on youtube or from her candid and hilarious K beauty reviews. We're going to get into all of that with her today. But first we've got a beauty Q and A with some listener questions y'all submitted on Instagram on which I love this. I'm gonna read it. I shall be the voice, this listener asks – oh, actually, we're just doing one question actually. Now that I realized so false alarm also hope you're settling in. Also, are you loving Pretty Curious? And also I saw Death Becomes Her. Do you guys want us to do more Broadway show hair and makeup interviews? Because there was so much going on there. Now I have questions but sidebar back to the question. Our listener asks, what should I be looking for on my scalp and hair to tell if the shampoo I'm using is causing build up. And what would the first step be to remedying that? So it's probably more likely that your conditioner would leave a build up more than a shampoo would because shampoo is in and of itself like has more surfactant in it, which is the cleansing agent or like the bubbling agent. So typically a shampoo would not leave build up because there is some sort of literal bubbling agent that kind of more takes everything off. So I think conditioner is the thing that's more likely to create build up. But a shampoo could also create build up. But the way that you would tell would be if your hair is just heavy, like it's heavier, it's limp and the styling products that you normally use aren't working. Another way to tell that there's build up is like that kind of slimy feeling that your hair gets if you swim in the chlorine a lot, if your hair is like not moisturized feeling, but kind of slimy that are like kind of like in like slick in an unnatural sense, that can be a little bit of build up, but it's really that the hair is too heavy, like once your hair is dry, um how you would remedy that would be to do some sort of clarifying or like chelating shampoo I never know if I say that word right? Chelating, chelating or clarifying shampoo. Um, our most clarifying shampoo that we have for JVN Hair would be our embody, but you could get like a classic clarifier. A little note if you're doing a clarifying shampoo, which can make your hair really shiny and nice and it's good to do like once a month to just like get everything off your hair even though when, if I do that to my hair, like my hair is just like so dried out and shitty and I only use JVN Hair so I just don't really get a build up in my hair. I can't help it. I'm not trying to brag it's just how it is. Uh, but when you're doing a clarifying shampoo, don't like scrub your hands together with your hair in it. Like don't go all like circles over your hair and like because the clarifying shampoo is like a little bit more drying than it normally than a shampoo normally would be. So if you have curly hair or really long hair or hair, that tangles easily, make sure you're just like give like vertically applying like like almost give your hair, like let me think for an all ages comparison, you would be more putting the shampoo on the way that you would see someone milking a cow, like it's more vertical as opposed to like horizontal in circles. You just like, because if you think about the outside of your hair. If you think of the outside of your hair, imagine like scales of a fish running down all in one direction, like pointed towards the ground that's like the cuticle or like the outside of your hair. So if you're like doing like circles or like rubbing it really intensely, especially like with a shampoo on it, all those cuticles are gonna get stuck on like the hair around them and that's

why it gets so tangy. So try to just approach the hair like along with the cuticles. So it's always going like from scalp to end scalp to end and you're not going like back and forth. So also too with shampooing you really, it's about your scalp so much more than it is your ends and your ends are way more porous like that cuticle that I was talking about is more open. So it's easier for you to get the build up off of the mid links and ends and it is for your healthier like new growth that's like closer to your scalp. So really, we, we want to clarify the scalp, that's where the most dirt and debris is. And then if you do feel that your hair is really build up, you literally kind of take sections of your hair and I kind of like take sections and I take my, my hand from my root all the way to the ends of my hair and I'm not going back and forth. I'm only going in one direction from roots to ends, let go from roots to ends, let go. And I'm doing that in sections all over my head. And that's after I've taken the pads at my fingertips to really get my scalp super clean and like break down your hair in sections so that it's like front, left, front, right back, left back, right and then like your crown so that you really get everything because like if it's, it should take you like a minute to wash your face. So it should take you like definitely more than that to wash your hair because your scalps like a lot of real estate, there's like a lot going on there. So that's what I would do. Um, I think another really big uh little villain of the build up thing though, not trying to be a nightmare and you know, I'm sorry to say, but it is true. I do find that like silicone heavy hair oils do tend to build up on fine hair more than non silicone oils. Um, so I do think that that's a thing. They normally make your hair feel really good at first, but then once your hair gets to a certain point, it's like it's too much and it just doesn't act right. And there's certain really popular silicone hair oils not trying to come for anybody's bag, but that's kind of what the thing is so if you're experiencing that it really could be your hair oil and then a clarifier is a great chance or is a great thing and that'll kind of like get you all back to square one. So that's my thing on that. I love you guys so much. Uh, let's get into our conversation with Darcei Giles. Here's the thing she's giving you like Michelle Phan like OG youtuber, like she's been on youtube for a minute. She's been doing this for a while and it's like, I just, I love her. We also kind of like, I feel like I realized we kind of came up at a similar time. Like we both got like a little bit more. It was like 2018, 2019 and she said something to me in our conversation that I've been thinking about all weekend, which is that when people get um – her friends that have like dealt with like cancellations issues, they lean more into it. They don't, they don't back away, honey, they lean in and that's one thing that I thought was really interesting. I've been thinking about it. I loved our conversation with Darcei. I hope you guys do too. Um, but happy Monday, let's get into this conversation. Let's hear Darcei's bio.

Darcei Giles known as Miss Darcei captivates viewers with her vibrant personality and unique perspective on everything from trending makeup looks to discussions on cultural appropriation. With a deep interest in Korean culture. Darcei brings her audience a blend of K beauty, k fashion, and K pop insights. Making her a go to for fans of the genre. Her popular series Black Girl Tries has played a key role in her rise, showcasing her fresh and often humorous takes on diverse beauty trends and establishing her as a one of a kind voice in beauty content. In 2022 Darcei became the first Black creator to win the Streamy Award for Beauty an achievement that underscores her influence and dedication to inclusivity in the digital space. This recognition solidified her position as a Trailblazer for underrepresented voices and beauty empowering her to continue inspiring and entertaining a broad engaged audience with her infectious energy and thoughtful approach, Darcei's channel is set to remain a powerful presence, bridging cultural gaps and bringing inclusivity to the forefront of the beauty and lifestyle industry which honey, we need that a lot right now because we are

on a slippery slope n' slide into the past. And so Darcei's work is more important than ever. Darcei. Welcome to Pretty Curious, how are you?

DARCEI GILES: I'm great. How are you?!

JVN: Queen, we are thriving. We were just saying everyone that Darcei is joining us from Canada. So I've got a little bit of like North American jealousy like I just wishing I was a little bit Canadian wishing that our prime minister was as cute as yours, jealous of the gun laws, jealous of the health care. But you know what you deserve it. You're a good person and Canadians are great. So welcome.

DARCEI GILES: Thank you so much.

JVN: Um, when did you realize that you were like, becoming one of the people on youtube? Like one of the biggest influence, influencers on youtube?

DARCEI GILES: Oh my God. It must have been like right before 2020 because that's when I quit my job. So I was, I've had many different jobs, but at the time when I started doing youtube full time, I was working at Sephora. So uh yeah, I worked at Sephora from 2016 to 2019. So I quit in December of 2019 and then in January of 2020 I started doing youtube full time. I think it's like once I started to make enough money on youtube that I could quit my job at Sephora, I was like, ok, this is like a thing like this is actually a popping off and then all of 2020 I think I gained maybe like 700,000 subscribers that year. And that, that's the year that I got to a million subscribers –

JVN: Was 2020 –

DARCEI GILES: Yeah.

JVN: There's a lot in there that I feel really inspired by and, and interested in. Which is that like for me doing hair, I didn't stop doing hair in the salon until like May of 2018. Like like a few months after Queer Eye had already come out like I was still in the salon full time. Because I wasn't sure that my income from like the rest of my career would be.

DARCEI GILES: Mhm.

JVN: So it wasn't until me being in the salon cost me money that I quit being in the salon. Like, because it was causing me, like –

DARCEI GILES: Ohh.

JVN: But it's like that, it's fearful when you have like a side thing, when the side thing becomes your main thing. How do you know when it's time to kind of like, make that leap?

DARCEI GILES: Yeah.

JVN: So if there's anyone listening to us that is kind of going through that, do you have any suggestions for entrepreneurs listening about like when to know is the right time for you to take a leap and kind of bet on yourself?

DARCEI GILES: Mhm. Well, for me, I actually made like an actual income goal. So I literally, OK, I googled, I was like, how much does the average Canadian make? Right. And I use that as my goal because I was actually making less than that at Sephora. So I was like, ok, if I can make what the average Canadian is making just off of youtube, then I'm good. Right –

JVN: Good old google honey.

DARCEI GILES: Right? So yeah, as soon as I was making that amount off, like off youtube for one year, I was like, ok, bye, bye Sephora.

JVN: Good luck. We, we our my Sephora and your Sephora eras didn't overlap. I'm devastated –

DARCEI GILES: Ohh.

JVN: But we need to send you some JVN Hair because I feel like our prewashed scalp oil you would love, it's like really gorge.

DARCEI GILES: Thank you.

JVN: Um, so basically though, it's like, so what I hear you saying is like, set a goal for yourself and then once you make that goal, it's time to go.

DARCEI GILES: Mhm, yeah. You know, because then you're, you're proving to yourself like, oh, I actually did it like I actually did the thing that I said I was gonna do and then, you know, you get that confidence and then you can just keep the ball rolling.

JVN: So with be amassing 3.55 a million subscribers another time, please give it up it up for Darcei. Um, how's that adjustment period been or like learning curve been as far as like dealing with the feedback? Like are people nice on your channel? Can people be really mean on your channel? Like I just for me when people are like really cruel or like if I like survive a pile on, the idea that like, oh, well, you signed up for this because you're in the public space. Like I'm still not used to it.

DARCEI GILES: Yeah.

JVN: Like knowing that people find me really annoying or like hate the sound of my voice or think that I suck at doing hair or just think that like I'm XYZ whatever it still bothers me. Like I'm still not all the way used to it. How does it affect you?

DARCEI GILES: I mean, when it first started happening to me, I think it was like when my numbers started going from the thousands to the millions is when, you know, it got pretty bad. And I feel like it was a learning lesson for me because at first I, I wanted like, I'm, I'm a very, like, combative person. I'm a Scorpio. So we're very like, you know, like angry and I had to learn like, I, I can't fight everyone. Right? Like that. Normally in my real life, every once in a while you get like a mean person, I'm sure it's ok to like stand up for yourself. But in our, our position when we have, you know, thousands, hundreds of thousands, sometimes of people coming at you all the time. You don't, you, you really, you don't have time to fight everybody, right? So I had to like, really like look inside of myself and be like, mm why is this triggering me so much? Right? Um, because I don't even know this person and they don't know me. So their opinion of me is not very valid, is it? Right? And so I had to like what I do like practical things because I'm the kind of person that needs very practical things to do. I can't just be like, oh, I don't care, right? I need like an actual thing because I'm having like a physical response to it, right?

JVN: Yes.

DARCEI GILES: You get like like anxiety and that feeling in your chest and right, right –

JVN: My jaw clenches and then I start to like get my Brockovich fingers out and I'm like, I'm gonna fucking tell you about it on the comments.

DARCEI GILES: Exactly. Yeah. And sometimes I still get like that like during the week before my period, like my willpower kind of like flies out the window. But normally I can, I've started to do like things like breathing exercises and meditations on like a daily basis. And so now my baseline, my emotional baseline is like more stable so that when someone comes at me with something, I don't just like fly off the handle, I can like, brush it off a lot easier.

JVN: You have like a bigger window of tolerance –

DARCEI GILES: Yes.

JVN: Because you're like helping your like mental health. And so is there anything that you do? Like, if you're in an acute state of stress, like someone's really pissed you off in the moment and you're doing your dailies but maybe it isn't even PMS –

DARCEI GILES: Mhm.

JVN: Maybe it's just like, fucking like, you're like, wow, this isn't in my schedule. Like, do you do, do you, do you like any like techniques for like an acute pissed off situation?

DARCEI GILES: Yeah. There's actually like a lot of them on tiktok too. Like I have some of them saved where you can do like exercises to calm yourself down in the moment. My favorite one and I actually found this one by accident is like, I will like go in and like massage, like kind of like my armpit –

JVN: Yes!

DARCEI GILES: And I don't know what that is, but there's something in there that like automatically just calms you down.

JVN: Um, ok, so wait, so you said in a recent IG post that you've been using K beauty seven whole years –

DARCEI GILES: Yes –

JVN: But it's obviously had like, we've had like some diversity issues. We've had like availability issues. What keeps you so inspired and like loving K beauty? Like what sets K beauty apart from what, how we do beauty here?

DARCEI GILES: I think what the, the big thing for me, like when I first started is that, you know, uh Black women, they kind of had like the stereotype of what we're supposed to look like and the kind of makeup that we're supposed to do, it's like very specific, right? And I was like, like that makeup is like really pretty but then like when I put it on me, it felt like it was too harsh. Like, you know how like that whole like low contrast, high contrast thing is happening –

JVN: Yes.

DARCEI GILES: Kind of like things like that. Um, like, I felt like it just didn't work on me as well and I felt like a like a lighter look, a softer look, look better on me and K beauty. That was the trend in K beauty. And so I just decided just to start using K beauty, but again, like it didn't really like the colors didn't really match me. Things were kind of ashy. And so um I took

the technique from K beauty but a lot of times I would have to use Western makeup in order to replicate it in order to get like the correct colors and stuff. And that's when I started experimenting with it and doing my Black Girl Tries series. And I think um I inspired, like, accidentally, I inspired a lot of people to start using K beauty as well. I would start getting DM's from Black girl saying like, oh, I was too afraid to try this until you did because a lot of times when I would use the Korean beauty products, some of the things that I thought wouldn't work on me actually did. And I was, I was surprising myself.

JVN: Like what, like what kind of things

DARCEI GILES: Like a lot of the lip products? Um, a lot of like those sparkly eyes shadows, like, you know, like they're like almost like crystallized, like very like light, like, you know, like the um like Fenty Diamond Bomb?

JVN: Yes.

DARCEI GILES: This was before, this was before Fenty Diamond Bomb, right? And like they ha that's like their bread and butter is like those kinds of glitters. And I didn't think that was for me. I didn't think that was good on me, but like, I, I would try stuff like that. Um, the lip glosses, like my favorite lip glosses are from Korean beauty brands because they're so like nourishing and hydrating and also really pigmented like very surprisingly pigmented and things like that. I just discover like just by trying new things, you discover things that you like, like think outside the box, you know?

JVN: I feel like they also do. What's your opinion on like, k beauty skincare versus like American skin care?

DARCEI GILES: Oh, yeah, for sure. Also, I started doing like a whole, like Korean beauty routine –

JVN: Just like a twelve step –

DARCEI GILES: Like, back then they were, yeah, back then they were doing like the 10 step routine. So I was like, doing that. I've, I've, I've gone down to like maybe like five or six now, but um I still use a lot of Korean skincare as well. I think it's just like, it's a really good quality and it's also extremely affordable compared to like American or European brands.

JVN: Yeah, it just, it does feel more luxurious or something. South Korean Beauty. It's like, it's almost like the new France. Like we've always been obsessed with like France in the United States, like beauty wise –

DARCEI GILES: Yeah, yeah.

JVN: Like I've been researching like, it's like put a French name on it and like people want it, but it's like K beauty is starting to give that more now. Um, what do you think? I mean, I think the thing that made Tier Tier a success story in consumer feedback was like their response, your guys' continued relationship. What do you think brands, what do you think brands are getting wrong about feedback and reviews now? Just generally –

DARCEI GILES: U, I think that –

JVN: Or how can brands be better?

DARCEI GILES: Yeah, I think that a lot of brands simply just don't listen. Um, I think that some brands, especially if they've been around for a very long time, they honestly think that they're too good to listen to their consumers and that they know what works because they've been around for like 50 years or 30 years or however long and that they don't need to listen to customer feedback. I think that what Tier Tier has done really, really well is that when they're formulating products, they're making it for actual people. And when I say actual people, I mean, like a literal specific person with a name. So like Gloria, for example, she helped formulate the darkest shade of the Tier Tier foundation. And you know, because they, they consulted her specifically, they made a foundation that fit her specifically. And so of course, it'll fit there a lot of people who look just like her, right? But I think that sometimes brands will do this like backwards, where they'll create the shade and then try to match the shade to a person instead of like finding a person and making a shade for them. I feel like that makes a lot more sense. And that's why the Tier Tier foundation fits so many people. It fits so many skin tones. And then like when you, when I put it on it, like it's like literally an exact match and it disappears because like they're making it for real people and not just like a hypothetical person that they're selling to.

JVN: Ok fine. You're really selling me on fucking cushion foundation. Fine Darcei. We like we had, we kind of talked about, oh Jessica Cruel like forever ago. But like, so how, where, where does it go on in my process? Is it, what is the order of cushion foundation if I'm incorporating that into my makeup?

DARCEI GILES: It's literally just like regular foundation. It's just like in a cushion form. So you know how like foundation can be in like in a stick form as well –

JVN: Or like a pump –

DARCEI GILES: Yeah, yeah, it's, it's literally just the packaging. So um it, I, I feel like cushion foundations are like really convenient and the fact that like you can kind of just carry it around with you everywhere, you can put it in your purse, it's really good for traveling and it has like the mirror attached to it already. So you don't have to like take your foundation and a mirror, right? So uh basically you just put it on the same, you know, you put on your primer and then you put on your foundation and then so on and so on and it just goes on –

JVN: But does it go on like a cream or does it go on like more of a powder?

DARCEI GILES: Definitely a liquid.

JVN: It's a liquid.

DARCEI GILES: Yeah, it's a liquid, it's just like within like this little cushion and so you kind of get the the right amount that way. So you kind of just, you know, press in and then like you can take some of the excess off, but really you're getting like a good amount just by it being in that cushion form.

JVN: So skin care. So like if I was gonna do it, on me, skincare that I would do, I've been doing this like under painting thing lately –

DARCEI GILES: Oh, ok.

JVN: Where I'm doing like, I'm doing like, I'm correcting my under eye color with this like Huda beauty thing. I've never like done under eye color, correcter. But I do feel like it's like making my shit like way prettier and less purple like I feel like it's really canceling it –

DARCEI GILES: Mhm, yeah.

JVN: So I do that. Then I do my concealer, then I, then I've been doing blush bronzer and then putting my foundation kind of like around the blush and bronzer but kind of on top of the blush and bronzer like kind of mixing it –

DARCEI GILES: Oh, ok.

JVN: And it's so it gives me this like less of a blush blindness and like less of an obviously like contoured look, you know, by kind of covering it.

DARCEI GILES: Yeah, yeah.

JVN: So is that so, so then I would use so then I would just use it for that. Just kind of like press around it like blend with that.

DARCEI GILES: Yeah –

JVN: I would do powder to set, then I would do my powders like my powder brush, my powder bronze or whatever like eye stuff I was gonna do. Then I would do wait standby after I did the foundation part, I would do my softer setting spray that we're going to do the Morphe. Then after I did all my powders, then I would go in with like more of like my all nighter and then press press press. Now, are you saying that? Like, so like, let's say I do that and that's really cute sometimes when I do my makeup like four or five in the afternoon. But then if I'm doing like a stand up comedy show and like a meet and greet that night, like I just notice my bronzer and my blush like fades like it just –

DARCEI GILES: Yeah.

JVN: It's not as like bright and nice as it was. So I will like refresh on top of a setting spray with powder and it looks good like it doesn't combine or do anything weird or crazy.

DARCEI GILES: Yeah! Yeah.

JVN: So can I refresh with like with a press foundation like on the foundation? Like on my skin colored parts like after setting spray and powder?

DARCEI GILES: With the like go in with the cushion foundation?

JVN: Yeah, like at the end, like if I'm trying to refresh at like six o'clock at night, but I did my makeup that morning or is that gonna look crazy?

DARCEI GILES: Oh, I actually never tried that before but I don't know because it is still a liquid foundation. It's like in a liquid form. It's just like in the cushion compact. So I don't know if that would work but I you can try it out.

JVN: But when you say that, like, it's nice because you can, like, take it with you. It's like more of like, if you're gonna do your makeup on, like, it in the first place with you –

DARCEI GILES: Yeah, like on the go.

JVN: Like, not maybe touch up with it.

DARCEI GILES: I think that, like Koreans really like, uh, the cushion foundation because they, a lot of times they'll do their makeup on the go or they'll do their makeup while they're



at work and stuff. I know that they do do a lot of touch ups though. So I think that may work but I never tried it before.

JVN: Oh my god, let's DM about it if you touch it up with it later and see and find out that you like that.

DARCEI GILES: Yeah, yeah.

JVN: Ok, so we did that. Ok. Mythbusters makeup Mythbuster also. Are you still doing Black Girl Tries? Is that on your youtube or is that over or –

DARCEI GILES: Yeah, I say it's my youtube series. I haven't done it in a really long time. I would love to go back to doing long form content though. It's just that literally I have not had any time to do it.

JVN: I have a pitch for you. Are you ready?

DARCEI GILES: Yeah.

JVN: You could do long form on youtube. Like the things that are always like, you know, like that derma planing that was all over my tiktok for like six months. And then before that, it was like that whipped cream like sunscreen –

DARCEI GILES: Yeah –

JVN: And then after that, it was like the lip stain, like, peel off things you could do like longer form reviews of the tiktok stuff on your youtube.

DARCEI GILES: Mhm. Yeah, I could.

Yeah. I'm obsessed with that idea of my own of myself for you. It just producer, I don't even charge. So, just free.

DARCEI GILES: Thanks.

JVN: Ok. Why do you think it's important to bust Makeup Myth for your online community and your fellow beauty consumers?

DARCEI GILES: Well, you know, like people are using their hard earned money too by these products, right? And sometimes the products literally are a scam and they're trying to uh represent themselves as something that they're not. Uh, so I started doing my Makeup Mythbuster, I guess series um where I started doing uh reviews on color changing foundations because those foundations, they, you know, a lot of them, they represent themselves as like this is the foundation that's gonna match your exact skin tone somehow when really that technology does not exist. Um, and really all it's doing is there's little capsules inside of the foundation and as you rub it onto your skin, the capsules break and that's how the color comes out, but it's always the same color every time, right? So if that foundation matches you, well, you're lucky, right? It's lucky that your, that, that's your skin tone, but it's always the same skin tone every single time.

JVN: There is one brand that I really like that. I like their brand, but they have one of those within it and it makes me look so fucking bad and hilariously, the founder of this brand once gave me this product and was like, oh you need this because like sometimes your foundation isn't the right color for your skin. And I so badly wanted to correct this person be

like, well, it doesn't match because I've been using this, which you just gave me for the last like two months. And that's why it looks crazy and I knew it's been looking crazy but it was like your pr box that had me looking like this in the first place queen. Um, but whatever, God love her. Um, so, ok, so that's that. So what makeup myths keep you up at night other than, uh, self adjusting foundations?

DARCEI GILES: Hmm. I think maybe, I think maybe the myth that, um wearing too much makeup gives you acne. I think so many people still think this, like, I, you know, sometimes I see it in like people's comments that are like, oh, if you stop wearing so much makeup, then your skin would clear up kind of thing and really like acne is about different things like hormonal acne and like it has nothing to do with wearing too much makeup. Maybe if you wore your makeup and then you slept in it for like literally a week, then sure. But, you know –

JVN: Like, clean your brushes or something?

DARCEI GILES: Yeah. Yeah. But like, you know, the average person day to day who wears their makeup and washes their face, especially if you acne. I know those girls are constantly washing their face and, like, taking care of their face. It's definitely not the makeup.

JVN: Yeah, The time when I was in my twenties, I had pretty, like, I had like a phase of, like, in my 25 year old, like, where I had, like, really intense cheek and, like, around my mouth, acne was fully hormonal, like only hormonal. It's like such a thing. Um, what when you're thinking about buying a product, how do you discern if this product is like, worth the hype or not?

DARCEI GILES: Hmm, honestly, I feel like I have to literally just try it because a lot of times um I'll see like makeup products that people don't like and I'd be like, I love that one, right? Like everyone has a different opinion and really you have to try it yourself. Like get into the store, get a sample, like, try it on, see if you like it, right. I think that it's as a good consumer, like being a good consumer is about like, sure if I see something on tiktok and it looks really cool, like, sure I wanna try it. But I think it's a good idea to actually try before you buy it.

JVN: Yes.

DARCEI GILES: You know, if you can, sometimes it's only available online and screwed. But if you can.

JVN: Also sidebar, I'm obsessed with Kosis. I just started using a bunch of their BB cream and their foundation and their concealer. I've just been like trying all sorts of it. I love it. I love how it smells. Like. So spa, like, like their, like their makeup. It's giving me spa.

DARCEI GILES: Mhm.

JVN: Like when I smile, don't know what that smell is but it's like really pretty. Um, you just, you just went on a trip with them, didn't you? For, was that the, was that the Korea one?

DARCEI GILES: No, it was to Hawaii

JVN: to Hawaii? Gorgeous. Who was all there?

DARCEI GILES: Uh so many people Mikayla was there, GlamZilla –

JVN: I love her, we both have psoriasis.

DARCEI GILES: Oh, yeah. Have you interviewed her?

JVN: No, but we got to get her on.

DARCEI GILES: Yeah, you should.

JVN: I love her.

DARCEI GILES: Yeah. So there was, there was like actually like a bunch of us. I don't know if you know the Ha sisters, they're like, really cool.

JVN: No, but they sound fun. And then so like, so what happens at like an influencer event? Do you guys all just have like, is it all like or like an influencer vacation? Is there like events at night? And you all just like kind of like do you get like the day off or no? Like how does work?

DARCEI GILES: It usually like, it really depend on the trip but like usually it's like a lot of different events like throughout the day. Um and then there's always a dinner at night time. So you always have to add your outfit for the dinner at night time and then like throughout the day, like I, we went on a boat ride. It was kind of a disaster because like the the waves were just like crazy intense. Like there was water like splashing into the boat. We had to turn around, but that was one of the events that we had scheduled –

JVN: Like a boat full of makeup influencers and like huge waves like it's not happening.

DARCEI GILES: Yeah. Um, so yeah, it's basically like you do the events and then the dinner at night, it's a lot of socializing. You get to meet like a lot of cool new people which I like because, you know, a lot of the times I'm just sitting in my room by myself, right? And I don't really get to meet other influencers, but this is my chance to meet other influencers. So pretty cool.

JVN: When someone encounters cancellation type content, how do you vet cancellation content now that you've been a public figure for so long?

DARCEI GILES: Like what do you mean how do I vet cancellation?

JVN: So, um but like let's say that like I had been a Jeffrey Star fan and then all of a sudden I'm like what he's like um like he's whatever, like how do you decide if something's true or not or if you're gonna let that thing influence your purchasing decisions?

DARCEI GILES: Oh, that's interesting. You know what? Honestly that's never happened to me before. That's never, that's never happened to me before where I like, I like somebody and then they did something bad or like, they got canceled for something I can't remember. Like, anytime where that's happened to me, the only time that that's happened to me is in real life. So, like, sometimes there are influencers that I like and then now I know them in person and I not a fan. So, right? So then I kind of have to like, readjust my idea of them and like, and their content and so I guess I could relate in that way. Um I feel like what's important is that like, you don't really get attached to people that you don't know.

JVN: Mmm.

DARCEI GILES: I think that like in this day and age of social media, like we have like really strong, like parasocial relationships with people that we don't know. And then inevitably we get disappointed because we put them on this pedestal, right? And so we have to remember

that like, literally everybody is human and like all these people that we see online are not perfect and sometimes they have different opinions than we do and you have to keep that in mind. Um I feel like it really depends on what the thing is though because sometimes I'm like, you know what? I disagree with that a little bit, but I'm gonna keep buying that lipstick, right? But like sometimes it's like, OK, this is like a deal breaker and like, I'm literally blocking you. So it really depends, right?

JVN: Yeah. For me. It's like when I found out that, like, like when I found out that Equinox forever ago, like one of the owners of Equinox was like one of Trump's biggest supporters. I've literally never gone back in an Equinox again. It's been six years like I canceled that membership so fast.

DARCEI GILES: Oh wow, yeah.

JVN: But then it's like the whole thing about like Sephora being one of Trump's biggest supporters, like I had so many people being like, move your line, move your line. Like why would you support that? Go to alter its like this isn't as easy as canceling a gym membership. First of all and second of all, it wasn't even true. Like it wasn't even like founded, so I was like –

DARCEI GILES: I'm like, oh, I'm like, I didn't hear that one, like what?!

JVN: It wasn't even true, but that's what I need to do. People just get on these bandwagons where people take things as like certain facts. And so it's like, how do you, that's kind of what the question was like, how do you get something or like, you know, if it's real or not?

DARCEI GILES: Ok, like when I'm on tiktok and I see all this information, like random information, I feel like as a millennial, I'm really good at like discerning what's real and what isn't. And I will literally a lot of times what helps is literally just to Google it.

JVN: You have said that Darcei you have that you like the Google honey.

DARCEI GILES: I love Googling things. I'm like, I feel like Google's pretty reliable, like to stay on that first page. Like, I, I had like one of my cousins. She recently um she sent me this video of like in Canada and or in Toronto we have like the CN tower, right? And like that's our like big tower and there was a video of it being dressed up for Halloween and it was like, they put like this big sheet over it and it kind of looked like a ghost, right? Because it was like as like Halloween decoration –

JVN: Yeah –

DARCEI GILES: And then, and she was like, my cousin was like, oh my God, look at this like is, is this so cool? They decorated the CN tower and my mind was like, there's no way that happened. So I googled it and I didn't find anything and then we discovered, of course it's AI, right. It's not real like they did not put a sheet over the CN tower to make it look like a ghost, like some –

JVN: It looked so real –

DARCEI GILES: It did. Yes. The video looked very real. But you know, my mind is like, mm I don't think they did that. Yeah.

JVN: Hunty. Ok. I'm obsessed with that.

DARCEI GILES: You have to do your research.

JVN: When in doubt, get into Google –

DARCEI GILES: Yeah.

JVN: Darcei. You've been so good. We're on our final segment. It's fast. It's rapid fire. Are you ready?

DARCEI GILES: Oh my God. Ok.

JVN: Ok, rapid fire. What's your go to budget beauty recommendation under 10 bucks?

DARCEI GILES: Ooo, Elf.

JVN: What Elf though?

DARCEI GILES: Oh, well, I don't know what's under 10 bucks, especially in Canada our dollars different, but –

JVN: Ok, 20 bucks, 10 to 20 American or Canadian dollars.

DARCEI GILES: Like literally anything else. Like I love their lip products or blushes.

JVN: Anything else? It's all affordable?

DARCEI GILES: Yeah.

JVN: Ok, great splurge recommendation, bags, shoes, coat, makeup, treatment, anything, any splurge.

DARCEI GILES: Ooo, splurge recommendation and um I'm going to go with makeup and definitely Nars. Nars is like, yeah, the Nars foundations. Anyone of their foundations –

JVN: Dragon Girl by Nars will always be one of my favorite red lips ever. I think it's so beautiful. It's like this really beautiful that my favorite person wears it. It's like so beautiful a product you never leave home without?

DARCEI GILES: Lip balm.

JVN: What is your favorite vintage beauty memory or look? It could be a cover of a magazine, something like your mom or your grandma did some like character from a TV show just like your favorite vintage beauty look.

DARCEI GILES: Oh, I used to be a competitive dancer and my mom used to always do my makeup and she would always like put my little lashes on and my red lipstick. So that's like my favorite memory of makeup.

JVN: Do you love like Dancing with the Stars and stuff or is it too close to home?

DARCEI GILES: No, I I've actually, I think I've seen dancing with the stars like one time, yeah.

JVN: Girl, you might be obsessed with it because of your competitive dancer history.

DARCEI GILES: I know.

JVN: It's like kind of it's kind of good. Ok, this is hella rapid fire. Favorite foundation?

DARCEI GILES: Tier Tier!

JVN: Favorite lip gloss?

DARCEI GILES: Uh, Hera.

JVN: Favorite perfume?

DARCEI GILES: Oh, Forever Mood, I am her.

JVN: Best moisturizer?

DARCEI GILES: Vaseline.

JVN: Favorite candle scent or company?

DARCEI GILES: Oh, again, Forever Mood. Yeah.

JVN: What about favorite blush?

DARCEI GILES: Favorite blush right now? Uh, Kosis in the color of Thrill.

JVN: Oh, ok. Favorite accessory ring bracelet, shoe bag?

DARCEI GILES: Oh, I started to get into bracelets now. Like I want to like get a big stack but I only have two right now, but you know I'm working on it.

JVN: Ok. You're getting like your founder like era. Um ok. What about, oh, what's your favorite fashion era?

DARCEI GILES: Uh nineties?

JVN: I feel like I know this question or answer handbag. Favorite handbag?

DARCEI GILES: Chanel.

JVN: That's what I thought. I knew that one, favorite coat? Like if money was no object and you could just like go buy any fucking coat right now. What would it be?

DARCEI GILES: Favorite coat? Ok. It's not that expensive, but my favorite coat is the Aritzia Super Puff.

JVN: Ooo, who makes that?

DARCEI GILES: Aritzia.

JVN: Oh Aritzia, you already said that, get it together. Ok, what about favorite lipstick?

DARCEI GILES: Um I'm gonna go with Fenty like their velvet liquid lipstick.

JVN: Top three favorite influencers to follow?

DARCEI GILES: Oh no, that's so many. Um, definitely Gloria. Uh I'm really into Michaela stuff right now –

JVN: Same.

DARCEI GILES: And Glamzilla.

JVN: Um ok, so where are you the most active? If people have just fallen in love with you like I have, are you the most active on tiktok now? Youtube? Like where can people be following?

DARCEI GILES: Yeah, you can follow me on tiktok, Instagram and youtube all at Miss Darcei M-i-s-s-d-a-c-e-i.

JVN: Yes, I love how you spell your name. Um, is there anything that you need support on coming up or that you're excited about that you want us to be following or paying attention to?

DARCEI GILES: Um well, I have a little, a little secret –

JVN: Tell us –

DARCEI GILES: That I can't, I can't really, I can't really tell all I can say is that you're going to see me soon in a magazine.

JVN: Yes!!!

DARCEI GILES: Yeah, I'll post about it.

JVN: I'm so sorry, I have one more question I just remember Darcei –

DARCEI GILES: Yeah?

JVN: What cleanser do you use? Like what's your favorite facial cleanser for? Just you take all this makeup off all the time. What's like we've been on a cleanser kick over here.

DARCEI GILES: Yeah. My favorite cleansers are from Skin 1004 and Tatcha –

JVN: Ooo, we love Tatcha.

DARCEI GILES: So like I like, I like anything with like rice in it. Like rice milk.

JVN: Oh, you might like our blowout milk –

DARCEI GILES: Oh yeah?

JVN: If you're ever doing a silk press on your hair. If you're ever like rocking a blowout or silk press –

DARCEI GILES: Ooo.

JVN: Our blowout milk is gorgeous. It has a and also we have this new product that's coming out in December that has a dehydrated rice um protein in it. That's really beautiful for your hair –

DARCEI GILES: Ooo, ok!

JVN: Ok. Um, uh, what was I, I was just gonna say one other thing about, oh, and then when you're taking on makeup, do you like a washcloth. Like, do you have any, like, washcloth recs or like, taking makeup off recs?

DARCEI GILES: Oh, I actually don't use washcloths really.

JVN: Just your hands and like a foaming cleanser?

DARCEI GILES: Yes. But a lot of times, ok, I'm really bad. But these are my favorite makeup wipes. I love using makeup wipes because I'm lazy and, like, generally makeup wipes are like, really, really bad for your skin. But these ones are from Korea and these are the makeup wipes that I use all the time because they're so moisturizing.

JVN: I just feel like makeup wipes never get all the fucking makeup off my skin. Like I still have to –

DARCEI GILES: Well they don't. So you can you use the makeup wipe and then you wash your face –

JVN: Ohh –

DARCEI GILES: But it's all that like like if I were to wash my face with all the makeup on, it would just be like so messy and get everywhere.

JVN: I use like a black washcloth. But then when I don't have my black washcloth in, I'm like just these towels just look like fucking crazy when I'm done with it.

DARCEI GILES: Yeah.

JVN: So I didn't. So I was curious about how you do. So, but that's good. So it's like it's just like a disposable wipe and then you go in with a full wash and it's like, so you're kind of using a washcloth. It's just like, it's like same but different.

DARCEI GILES: Yeah, fair enough.

JVN: I love that. Ok. That's amazing. Sorry for like a weird random at the very end question, Darcei, but I love it and you were just an amazing and so sorry about our first time, but I'm just so grateful that you came on. I love you so much and I can't wait to follow along and see your journey. You're just amazing.

DARCEI GILES: Thank you so much. Thank you for having me. It was a great convo.

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