

AMETHYST

NICCI

7 Signs You're Relationship
is Ready for the Next Level

Warning Signs You Might
Be Dating a Narcissist

Andrea | BiancaH | Hailey | Lauren | Lizzy | Yulia



magazine
AMETHYST

March 2026 ~ Issue #28

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March 2026

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ON THE COVER

Nicci

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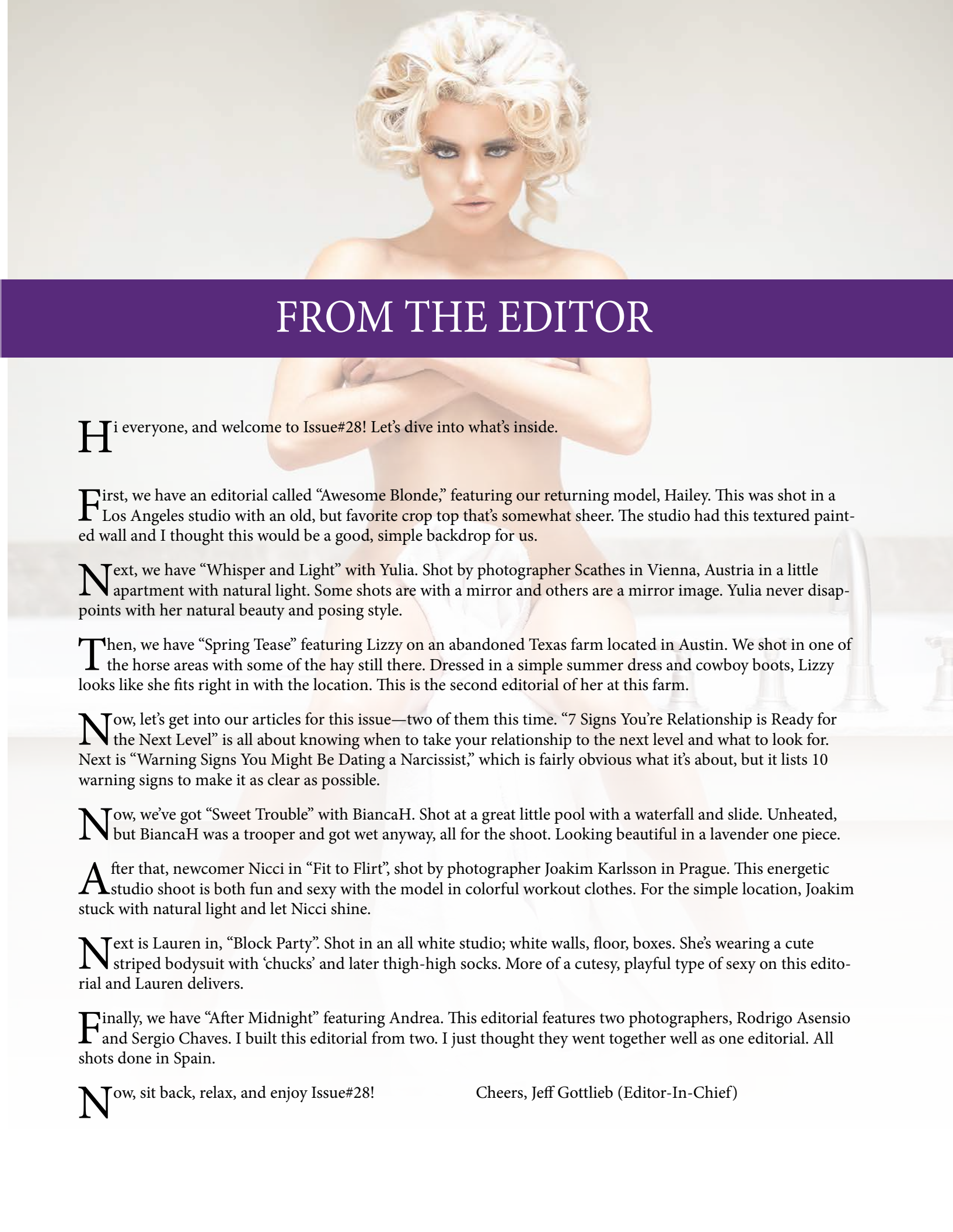
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FROM THE EDITOR



Hi everyone, and welcome to Issue#28! Let's dive into what's inside.

First, we have an editorial called "Awesome Blonde," featuring our returning model, Hailey. This was shot in a Los Angeles studio with an old, but favorite crop top that's somewhat sheer. The studio had this textured painted wall and I thought this would be a good, simple backdrop for us.

Next, we have "Whisper and Light" with Yulia. Shot by photographer Scathes in Vienna, Austria in a little apartment with natural light. Some shots are with a mirror and others are a mirror image. Yulia never disappoints with her natural beauty and posing style.

Then, we have "Spring Tease" featuring Lizzy on an abandoned Texas farm located in Austin. We shot in one of the horse areas with some of the hay still there. Dressed in a simple summer dress and cowboy boots, Lizzy looks like she fits right in with the location. This is the second editorial of her at this farm.

Now, let's get into our articles for this issue—two of them this time. "7 Signs Your Relationship is Ready for the Next Level" is all about knowing when to take your relationship to the next level and what to look for. Next is "Warning Signs You Might Be Dating a Narcissist," which is fairly obvious what it's about, but it lists 10 warning signs to make it as clear as possible.

Now, we've got "Sweet Trouble" with BiancaH. Shot at a great little pool with a waterfall and slide. Unheated, but BiancaH was a trooper and got wet anyway, all for the shoot. Looking beautiful in a lavender one piece.

After that, newcomer Nicci in "Fit to Flirt," shot by photographer Joakim Karlsson in Prague. This energetic studio shoot is both fun and sexy with the model in colorful workout clothes. For the simple location, Joakim stuck with natural light and let Nicci shine.

Next is Lauren in, "Block Party". Shot in an all white studio; white walls, floor, boxes. She's wearing a cute striped bodysuit with 'chucks' and later thigh-high socks. More of a cutesy, playful type of sexy on this editorial and Lauren delivers.

Finally, we have "After Midnight" featuring Andrea. This editorial features two photographers, Rodrigo Asensio and Sergio Chaves. I built this editorial from two. I just thought they went together well as one editorial. All shots done in Spain.

Now, sit back, relax, and enjoy Issue#28!

Cheers, Jeff Gottlieb (Editor-In-Chief)



AWESOME BLONDE

HAILEY
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HMUA
MAYMAY
@makeupby_maymay

Stylist
J.ALLAN
Location
LOS ANGELES, CA















WHISPER AND LIGHT

YULIA
@yuliiapoddubna

HMUA
MODEL

Photographer
SOCATHOS
@socathos

Location
VIENNA, AUSTRIA

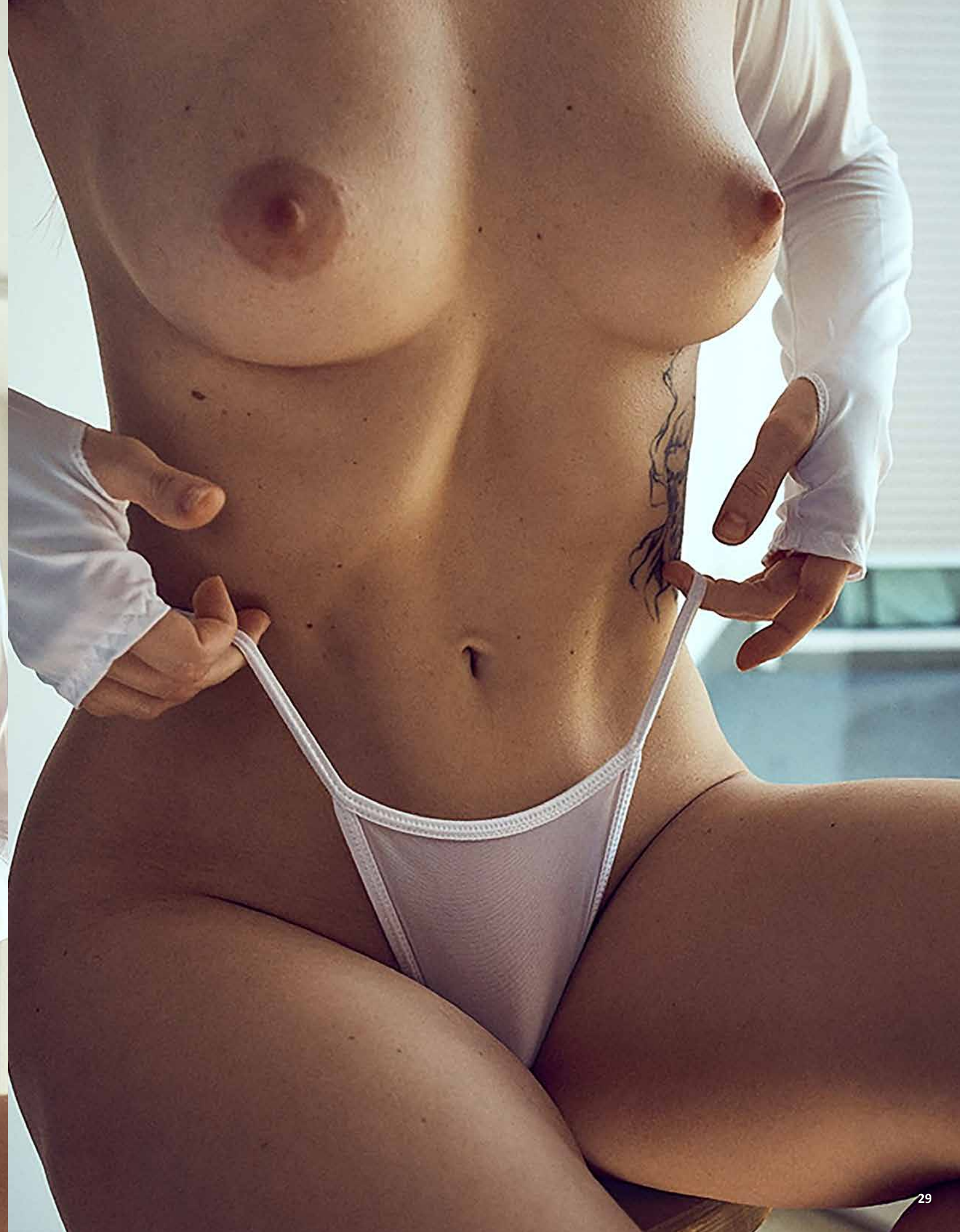
























SPRING TEASE

LIZZY

HMUA
KELLY.
@violet_hour_glam

Stylist
J.ALLAN

Location
AUSTIN, TX.

















7 Signs You're Relationship is Ready for the Next Level

In any healthy relationship, there's that moment when everything feels different. The excitement settles into something more stable. Those late-night texts become shared schedules. The future feels less like a dream and more like a reality.

But how do you know when you're truly ready to move forward—whether that means being exclusive, moving in together, meeting families, or even discussing marriage?

Here are seven signs that suggest your relationship might be ready for its next chapter.

1. You're Choosing Them — Not Just Feeling Them

Chemistry is strong, but lasting relationships are built on purpose.

If you're consciously choosing this person—not just riding the emotional wave—that's maturity in action.

Infatuation says, "I can't help how I feel."

Readiness says, "I want to build something real."

2. You Can Talk About Hard Things Without Fear

Every couple disagrees. The key is how you handle it.

If you can:

Express concerns without being overly cautious

Listen without immediately getting defensive

Apologize and make things right when needed

That's emotional safety—and it's essential for deeper commitment.

3. You've Seen Each Other's Imperfections

The "best behavior" phase doesn't last forever. Eventually, real life shows up—stress, moods, messy habits, and tough days.

If you've witnessed those moments and still feel respect and affection, that's a strong sign. Moving forward means loving the whole person—not just the perfect version.

4. Your Values Align Where It Counts

You don't need to be identical personalities. But being aligned in core areas is important:

Life goals

Family expectations

Financial philosophy

Views on commitment

If those conversations feel natural instead of scary, you're likely building on solid ground.

7 Signs You're Relationship is Ready for the Next Level

5. You Feel Secure — Not Anxious

Taking the next step shouldn't feel like a desperate attempt to "lock someone down."

Instead, it feels calm. Confident. Mutually desired.

If you're not constantly questioning where you stand—and neither are they—that emotional security is a green light.

6. You Support Each Other's Growth

When a relationship grows, it's not about blending into one another. It's about making your partnership stronger.

Think about this:

Do we cheer each other on when we succeed?

Do we motivate each other to pursue our own dreams?

Do we both grow, individually and as a team?

If the answer is yes, your relationship is helping you grow—not holding you back.

7. The Future Feels Natural to Discuss

You don't feel anxious when someone asks, "Where are we headed?"

You don't avoid talking about where you'll live, what you're planning for the future, or how you'll share responsibilities.

Instead, discussing the future feels like an adventure, not a chore.

When "someday" becomes a reality without hesitation, that's when you're ready.

The Real Test

Moving your relationship to the next level isn't about sticking to a schedule. It's about being emotionally ready.

It's when being committed feels like the next natural step, not a big jump.

If you see yourself in these signs, it might not be about whether you're ready... but how you want to move forward.

And that conversation?

That might just be your first step into something even more meaningful.

Warning Signs You Might Be Dating a Narcissist

You met them at the perfect moment. They're charismatic, attentive, and seem to "get you" in a way no one else ever has. But sometimes the charm masks something deeper — a pattern of behavior that leaves you feeling drained, unseen, or constantly on edge. Narcissism isn't always overt grandiosity; often it's subtle, infectious, and hard to spot when you're emotionally involved. Here are the top 10 red flags that might signal you're dating a narcissist — and why they matter.

1. They're Charming... at First

In the honeymoon phase, they're irresistible. They compliment you, remember tiny details, and make you feel like the most special person alive. But once they feel secure, that adoration can evaporate — replaced with criticism or distance.

Why it matters: Narcissists often use love-bombing to draw you in — intense affection followed by emotional withdrawal once attached.

2. It's All About Their Story

Conversations often circle back to their experiences, successes, and opinions — with little genuine curiosity about yours.

If you try to share something meaningful, the topic might get minimized or redirected.

Why it matters: Genuine partnership includes mutual interest. Constant self-focus suggests an imbalance.

3. They Demand Excessive Praise

They don't just enjoy compliments — they require them. If you don't affirm them enough, even gentle feedback can trigger defensiveness or anger.

Why it matters: Narcissists seek validation to stabilize a fragile self-image, which puts emotional labor on you.

4. Empathy Isn't Their Strong Suit

When you're upset or hurt, their response might be dismissive: "You're overreacting," "You're too sensitive," or "Can we talk about something else?"

Why it matters: Empathy — the ability to understand and share feelings — is core to healthy relationships. Its absence is a glaring sign.

5. They Play the Victim

When conflict arises, they often flip the script: "If you really loved me..." or "I've been nothing but good to you."

They might try to shift blame, which can make you wonder if you're overreacting.

Why it matters: Healthy relationships are built on taking responsibility, while narcissistic defenses can hide that.

6. Jealousy Hides as "Concern"

They might say they're just looking out for you when they check your messages, comment on your friends, or react to your boundaries with insecurity.

Warning Signs You Might Be Dating a Narcissist (con't)

Why it matters: Boundaries are important. Jealousy that seems caring often masks control.

7. You Feel Like You're Always "On"

Instead of feeling peaceful and comfortable, you're constantly keeping an eye on their moods, trying to avoid arguments or get approval.

Why it matters: Love shouldn't feel like walking on eggshells. If you're always tense, it might mean there are deeper problems.

8. Your Achievements Get Downplayed

When you share good news, the reaction might be lukewarm or quickly overshadowed by their own stories or needs.

Why it matters: Partners celebrate each other. If they don't show interest or compare you to them, it can hurt your self-esteem.

9. They Don't Offer Long-Term Emotional Support

They might show up when it's convenient, but disappear when you need consistent support, empathy, or a deep connection.

Why it matters: Emotional availability is key to intimacy. If they're not there for you, you might feel alone.

10. You Feel Drained... Not Loved

Over time, you might notice that after spending time together, you feel exhausted, confused, or anxious instead of uplifted.

Why it matters: Love should energize and support you. If you're constantly drained, it might be a warning sign.

Final Thought

Seeing these behaviors doesn't mean your partner is narcissistic, but only a professional can diagnose personality disorders. If many of these signs seem to apply, it's a good idea to look at your patterns, set clear boundaries, and think about getting support from friends or a therapist.

Your emotional well-being is important, and recognizing early warning signs can help you protect it.

SWEET TROUBLE

BINACA H.
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Stylist
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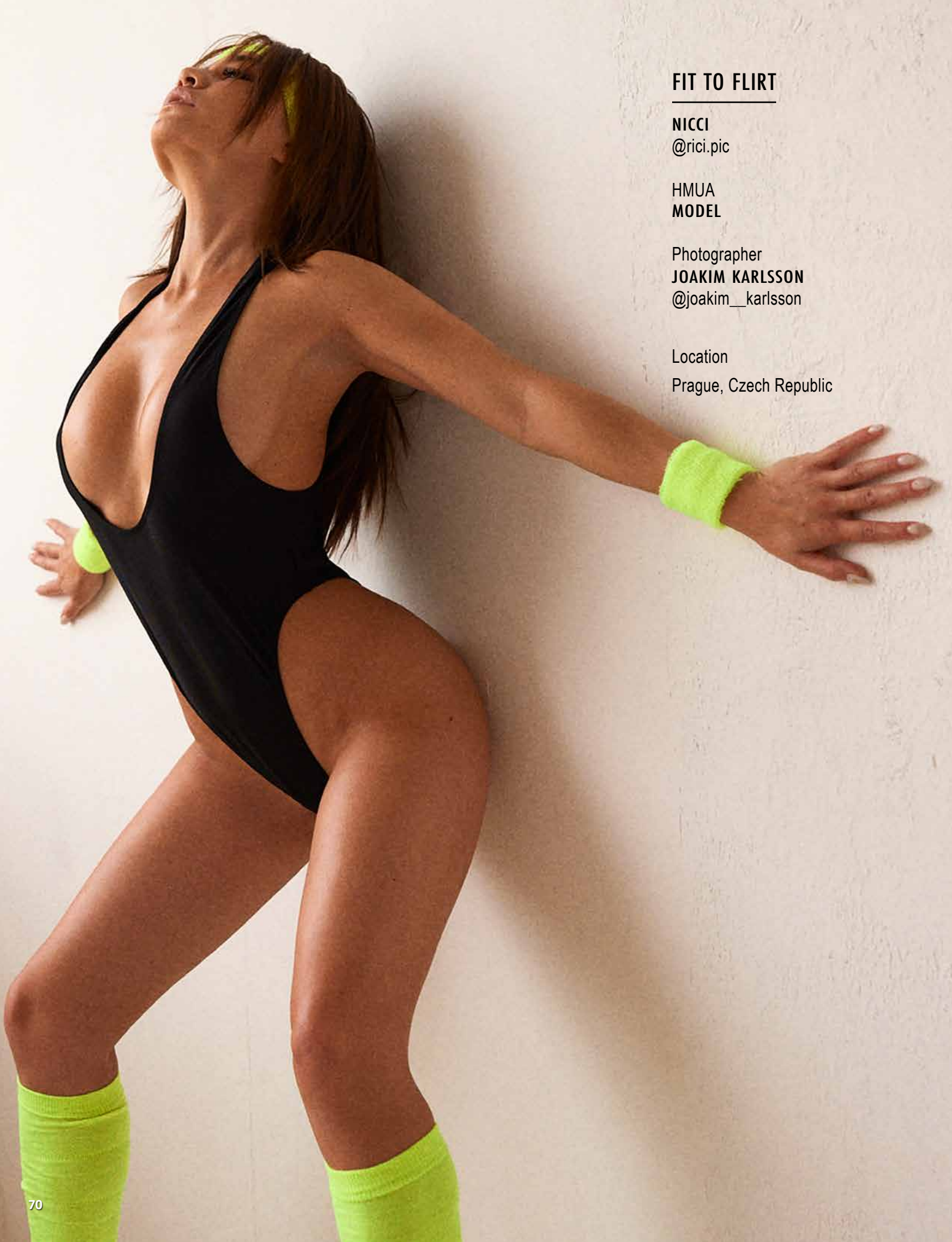
Location
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FIT TO FLIRT

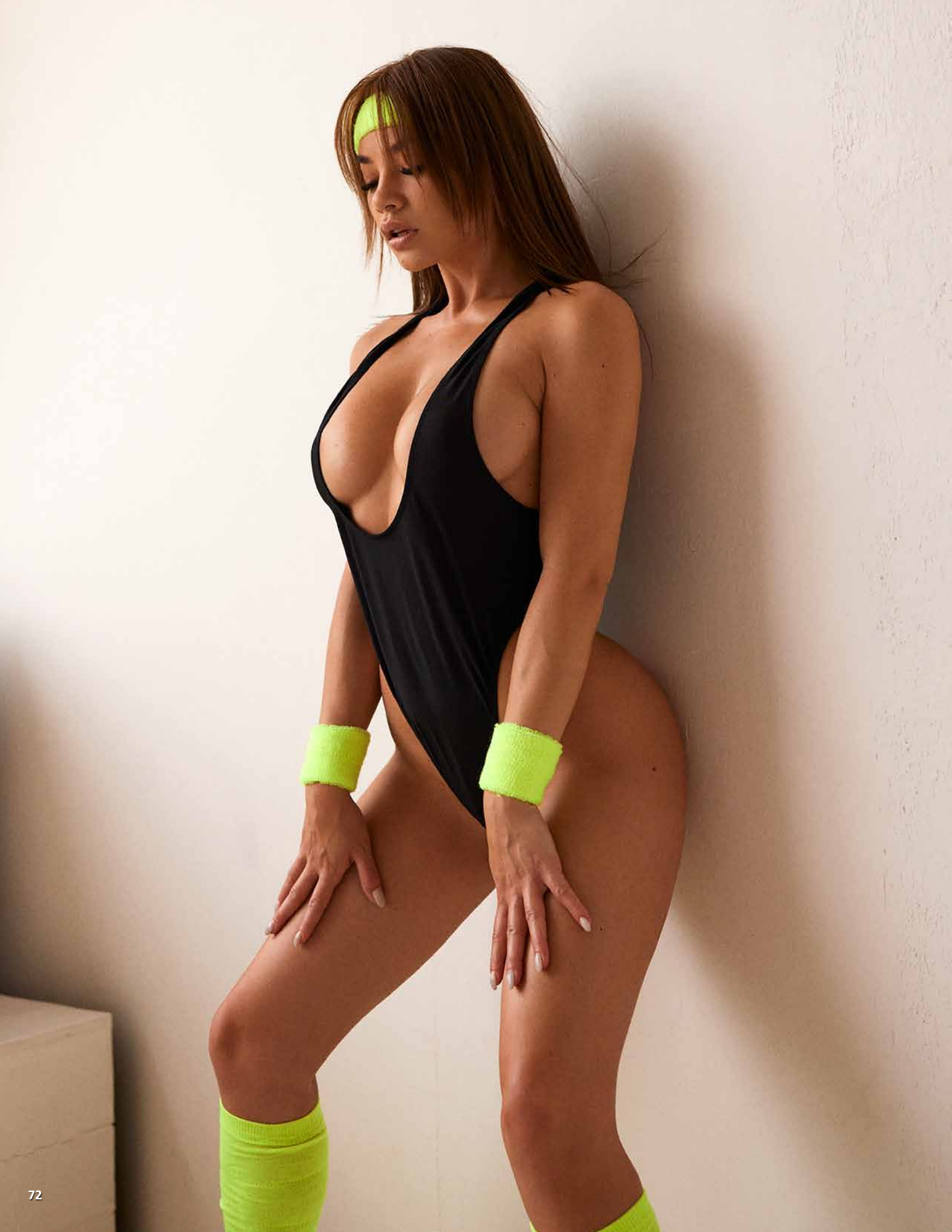
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