

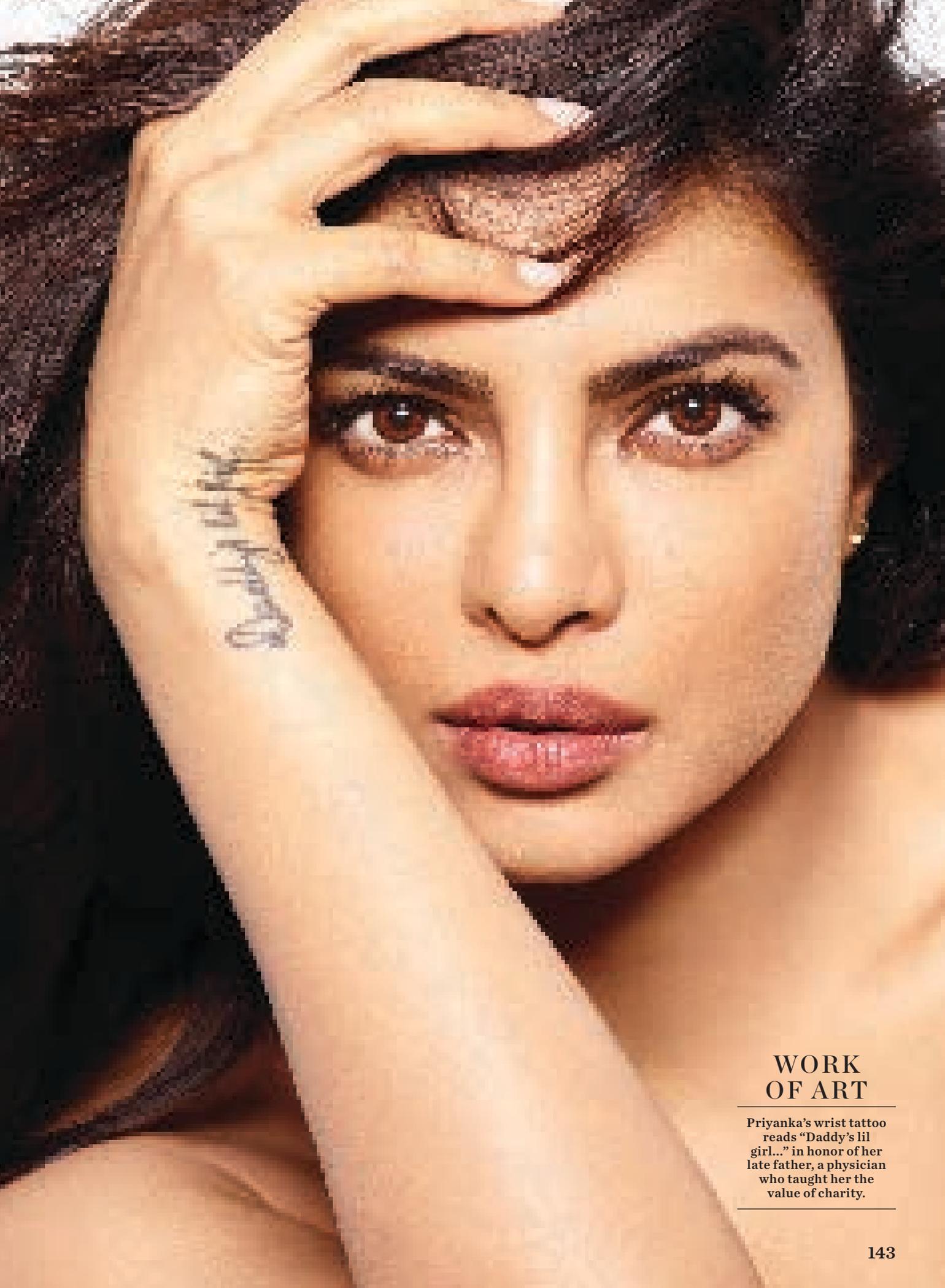
IMPATIENCE IS A VIRTUE

*The woman you're having an intense staring contest with right here? That would be Priyanka Chopra, current star of ABC's *Quantico* and long-time legend in her native India. Yes, she's stupid-gorgeous. Which is precisely why she's modeling some of the buzziest skin potions in this very story. But like those next-gen beauty buys, there's more to Priyanka than simple aesthetics. There's smarts, zero filler, and a primal desire to get things done—now.*

BY HANNAH MORRILL

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAMES WHITE





WORK OF ART

Priyanka's wrist tattoo reads "Daddy's lil girl..." in honor of her late father, a physician who taught her the value of charity.

Which of the following has Indian actress Priyanka Chopra *not* done yet? A) Been crowned Miss World. B) Recorded a hit single with Pitbull. C) Produced a documentary. D) Written an op-ed for *The New York Times*. E) Starred in more than 50 film and TV productions. The answer? C. But only because the opportunity hasn't arisen—yet. Priyanka is the Energizer Bunny of actresses, if, that is, the Energizer Bunny ran on drive, ambition, and conviction.

As the 34-year-old sees it, though, her résumé is still in draft form. "Success is always about what's next," Priyanka says. "I don't settle and I don't stop." Clearly, she's a woman of her word. The previous day's shoot for *Quantico* lasted 16 hours, well into dawn's light. But here she is, perky, warm, and welcoming. Where, pray tell, does she summon the energy?

Priyanka smiles knowingly, as if she's been asked this before. "My career is very important to me. No one's forcing me to do it. Also? I drink a lot of coffee," she quips, flashing a white smile that hardly backs up her claim. But then she quickly turns serious. "People always say you should listen to your body. But I don't listen to my body. My body listens to me. I can't afford to be sick or low on energy. It's mind over matter: I'm *going* to have a good day, and not in that fake 'Happy girls are the best girls!' way. Identify the weaknesses, shut them in a box, find your strengths, and run with them."

Go ahead and collect your jaw off the floor. In a celeb-o-sphere where stars mince their words into bite-size, press-junket pieces, Priyanka's bluntness is like a slab of filet mignon—rare, juicy, satisfying. There's no pushy publicist watching her every word. Priyanka is the architect of her life.

This determination is likely one reason that she—already one of the most famous women in India—has become the first South Asian actress to star in a network TV show in the U.S. And why, online, she boasts 15 million followers on Twitter and 10.5 million on Instagram. (For perspective, Madonna has a mere 9 million on both platforms combined.)

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GOOD WILL HUNTING

This star power is impressive, considering Priyanka hadn't dreamed of a career in show business. Growing up, the brainy brunette had planned to become an engineer. But then she won a few local pageants as a teen...which led to Miss World...which led to producers and directors approaching her about television and film projects.

As the child of two doctors in India, she was instilled with an authentic and personal commitment to giving back to those who have less. "My dad used to have two beds in the hospital free of cost for anyone who couldn't afford surgery or treatment. As people, my brother and I were raised like that," she says.

Today, she donates 10 percent of her earnings to a foundation she started that supports the health and education of underprivileged children in India. She's a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador. She funded a cancer ward for a hospital in Mumbai. She's spoken alongside Bill Clinton and Steve Wozniak at a World Leaders Education First conference. Not surprising, then, that this year she was named one of *Time's* 100 Most Influential People in the world for being a role model.

She's also a proud feminist. "In India, there's a lot of disparity between boys and girls. But if my parents treated me differently, I would not be where I am today," she says. And that gift of equality is one she'd like to pay forward. (Her *New York Times* op-ed argued the importance of education for women; in her role with UNICEF, she speaks to young women about empowerment.)

Of course, equality hasn't always been handed to her. When ABC approached Priyanka in 2014 with the prospect of working together, she responded with

careful terms: "I'm used to playing the lead and I don't want to compromise." Enter *Quantico's* Alex Parrish, an FBI recruit (and suspected terrorist) whose complexity—*not* ethnicity—is central to the show's plot. Priyanka's insistence on a role that mattered and on not being just the Token Beautiful Indian Girl comes from an experience early in her career when a producer told her that actresses were interchangeable. He said, and Priyanka quotes, "If it's not you we'll get another one, and if it's not her I'll launch a new girl." That stuck to me, and it happens," she says, her brow furrowing. "I never want to be replaceable."

ROLE-PLAYING

Since that day, Priyanka has sought projects where her nuances as an actor can shine. Take the 2009 romantic comedy *What's Your Raashee?*, in which she played 12 distinct characters. She's also had roles as a psychologically complicated model, a serial killer, and an autistic woman.

As meaty as those roles have been, Priyanka longs to produce movies (she did so in India). And to get back to her singing career. And to have a family. "I want, like, 13 kids. I adore kids." When pressed about whether or not a large brood is too ambitious—what with the acting and the producing and the singing—she shoots back, "When boys have a career and family, no one says a word."

But global domination and a cricket team of kids will have to wait for now. Priyanka has a more pressing goal for the moment: *Pokémon Go*. She is chasing the little guys around New York. "I've got 223 Pokémon out of 250," she says, holding up her phone for proof. Even when playing, our girl can't help but compete.

THAT BEAUTIFUL FACE

The great-skin tricks Priyanka swears by—especially on days when she's gotten zero sleep

1 / FOR DARK CIRCLES: RED LIPSTICK

"If I'm tired, my mouth will be red—not a bright-ass coral but a deep scarlet that's just bold enough, like M.A.C Lipstick in Ruby Woo. It deflects from my exhausted eyes!" \$17, maccosmetics.com

2 / FOR DULLNESS: TURMERIC

"I mix a tablespoon of fresh cream, a tablespoon of whole flour, a pinch of turmeric, and some water to make a thick paste, and I keep it on for 15 minutes. It leaves my skin more luminous and hydrated."

3 / FOR DRYNESS: COCONUT OIL

"I moisturize tremendously. My grandmother swore by coconut oil, so now I do too. I'll take a warm bath, and while I'm in there, I'll slather coconut oil head to toe, using a wet washcloth to gently exfoliate."

AMAZING SKIN, ASAP

Get this: Sales of long-term anti-aging products (the ones that typically take six to eight weeks to deliver results) are down, says new data from the NPD Group. And researchers are pointing to the influence of millennials. It's not because this gang doesn't know what a wrinkle is (many are well into their thirties). Rather, they expect their skin care to run like everything else in their lives: on demand. No matter your generation, we can all lap up this Insta obsession. Beauty brands are launching hard-working innovations that deliver on their complexion promises immediately—but also over time. These four star formulas satisfy the want-it-now (and later, please) dream.



TRUE COLORS

Worn alone or before concealer, Cover FX Click Color Correctors (\$18 each, sephora.com) fake flawless skin by canceling out opposing tones. Green softens breakouts (red), peach lifts dark circles (blue), and lavender brightens sallowness (yellow).



RYAN OLSEWSKI/RODALE IMAGES; STYLING: ANNE EDWARDS (FACE MASK AND BLUE BLOBS); SHUTTERSTOCK (TOP WHITE BLOBS); ISTOCK (BOTTOM WHITE BLOB)



TO BRIGHTEN...

GLOTIONS

Luminizing creams—lotions that contain light-reflecting pigments—are nothing new, but past versions didn't do much to improve skin's glow for more than a few hours. Anti-agers like retinol, a vitamin A derivative that speeds cellular turnover and stimulates collagen, were left out because "they increased the photosensitivity of skin, making it more likely to burn," says cosmetic chemist Ron Robinson. But because new microencapsulation techniques now allow retinol to penetrate more effectively, companies can put less of the ingredient into a cream, which eliminates the sensitivity concerns while still delivering the benefits. Case in point: **L'Oréal Paris Revitalift Bright Reveal Brightening Moisturizer (\$20, at drugstores)** combines retinol with glycolic acid and vitamin C—the latter two improve skin's texture and tone (smooth skin reflects more light); SPF (a must with a retinol day product); and a sprinkling of mica to create a gentle radiance.



TO PERK UP EYES...

PATCHES

Old school: Quickly banish circles and puff under your eyes with a cold spoon or, if your fridge is stocked, a cucumber slice. New school: patches. Housed in single-serving packets, the actual patch is made of everything from cotton to plant-derived fiber cellulose, and it's soaked with brightening botanicals, smoothing hyaluronic acid, and line fighters like retinol. "Chemists can pack concentrated actives into these single-use eye strips because they're protected from the air, so their effectiveness doesn't weaken over time," says Robinson. Plus, because patches have a high water content, they're slightly cold, explains dermatologist Joshua Zeichner, M.D.; this chill tightens blood vessels, making dark circles disappear. **Tarte Pack Your Bags 911 Undereye Rescue Patches (\$22 for 4 sets, sephora.com)** are infused with hyaluronic acid and algae, a combo that immediately plumps crinkled skin and fades lines over time.



TO DEEPLY MOISTURIZE...

MODELING MASKS

Few beauty treatments call to the selfie set quite like a face mask, but most aren't as effective as we think: Actives in clay can evaporate as they dry, says Robinson, and sheet masks often cling awkwardly, unable to get into all the nooks and crannies of our faces. The modeling variety, however—which are powder to start but transform into a goopy rubber with water or gel—completely conform to skin, and "the rubberizing effect creates an evaporation-free barrier, allowing for heightened penetration of ingredients," notes Robinson. The rubberizing agent in most, including **Dr. Dennis Gross Hyaluronic Marine Hydrating Modeling Mask (\$46 for 4, sephora.com)**, is algin, a brown seaweed extract that instantly drenches skin in hydration and helps it retain more water, so you can do the dew for the long haul.



TO TIGHTEN...

SCAFFOLDING CREAMS

Complicated makeup contouring isn't the only way to summon cheekbones and sharpen jawlines. All the buzz in Asia, scaffolding creams act like shrink-wrap on your face. **Philosophy Uplifting Miracle Worker Instant-Effect Cool Lift & Tightening Booster (\$55, philosophy.com)** does the job with pullalan, a polysaccharide polymer originally used in breath strips; it forms an incredibly effective film that firms skin like *that*, says Robinson. (It's completely sheer, so you don't have to worry about looking like you're coated in Elmer's Glue.) "It's like a mini, immediate face-lift without the knife or the nervousness," says Zeichner. The addition of collagen-boosting peptides and amino acids keeps things looking up even after you've washed it off. ■