TARTARUS

Magazine

Volume 29

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Achlys

numero 10®

hellen van berkel

HEARTMADE PRINTS

Magazine

TARTARUS

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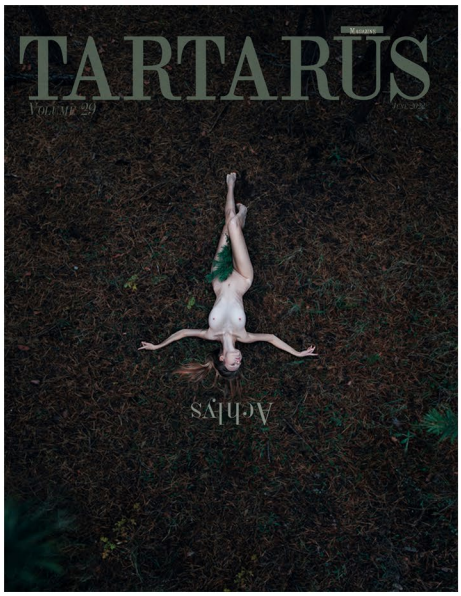

Cover
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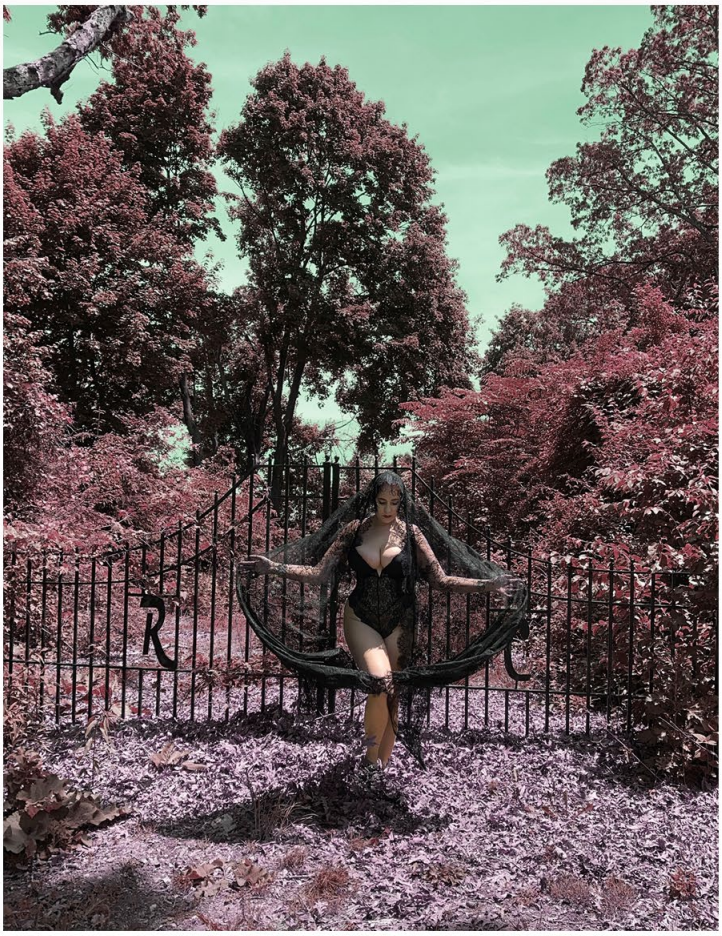
Letter from the Editor



Nora Kobrenik Photographed by Nora Kobrenik | Lady of Various Sorrows | May 2022

When I was little there was one rule I had to follow explicitly: I was to never pick, touch or carry out any plants or flowers at cemeteries. I have been told that anything that was rooted in the ground was contaminated in a manner of speaking by death, decease and ill omens.

I on the other hand have always found cemeteries to be romantic. There was a certain morbid fascination with the architecture, the melancholy art, the life that has sprung in the dirt with luscious greenery. The sense of stepping back in time. While beyond the gates life moved on, years changed, styles came and went but inside these walls time has remained forever frozen.

The inspiration for this book I found in another book. A psychological thriller set at an old estate in Ireland where a poison garden plays a crucial part of the story and is dominated and overlooked by an imposing statue of Achlys. I was at once entranced. I envisioned this book an ode to nature and it's deadly might. A love poem to botany and gardens, to a Goddess of Poison and all that she stands for. A terrible yet beautiful occurrence that only nature can produce. Flowers so alluring you can't help yourself but pick them only to be suffocated by their enchantment. A perfect metaphor for pulchritudinous yet treacherous art and love. I hope this 29th volume teaches you a valuable lesson: may you be careful what you become enamored with for it might bring upon your end.

Welcome to the issue.

Nora Kobrenik
Editor-in-Chief and Founder

ANNAFORA

schimmel.

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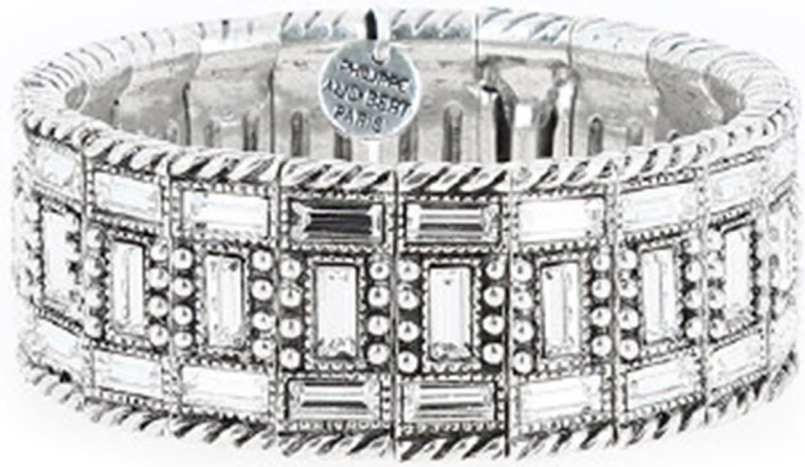
PA



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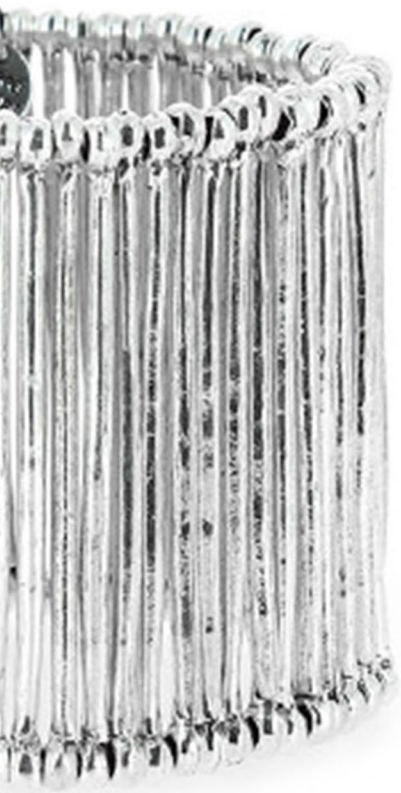
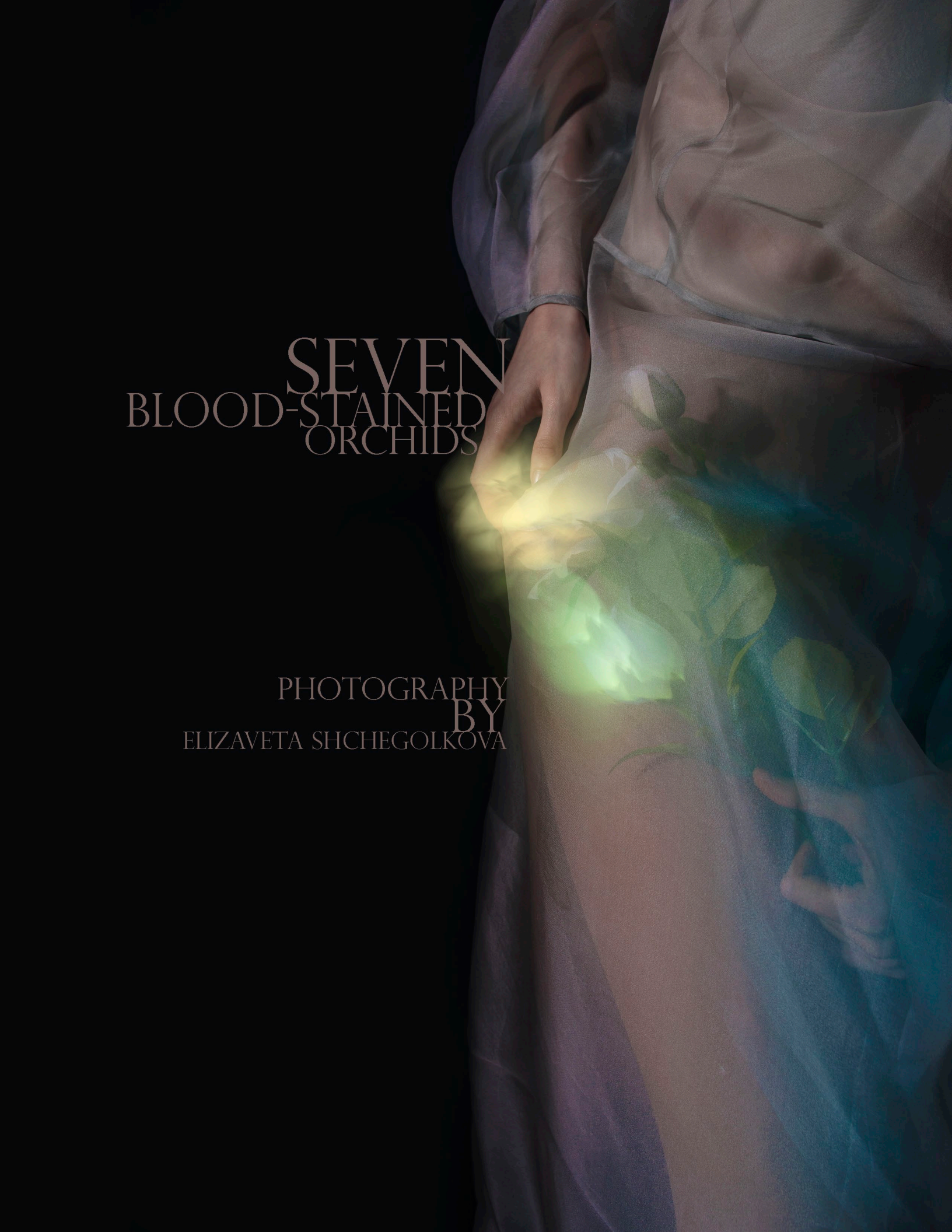
RIS

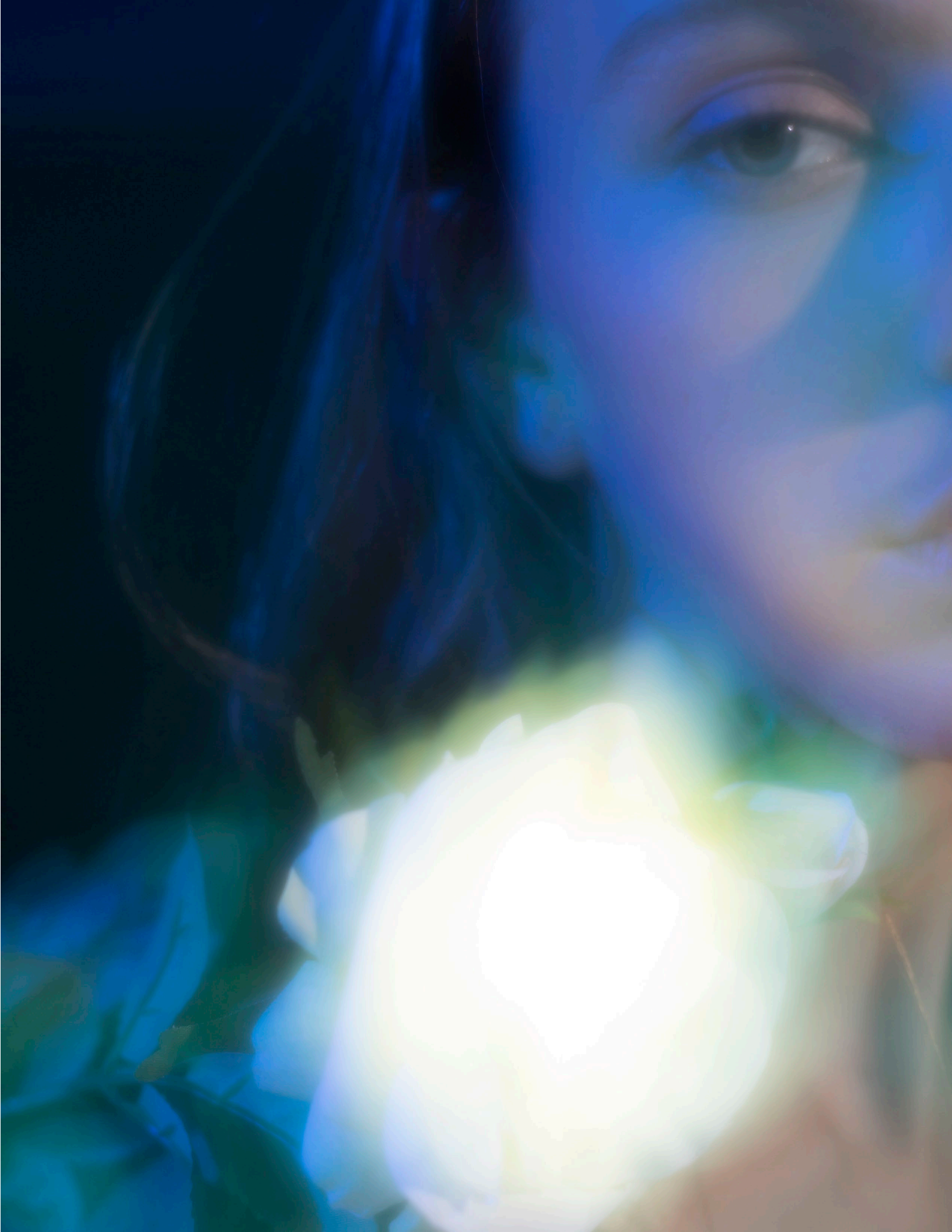


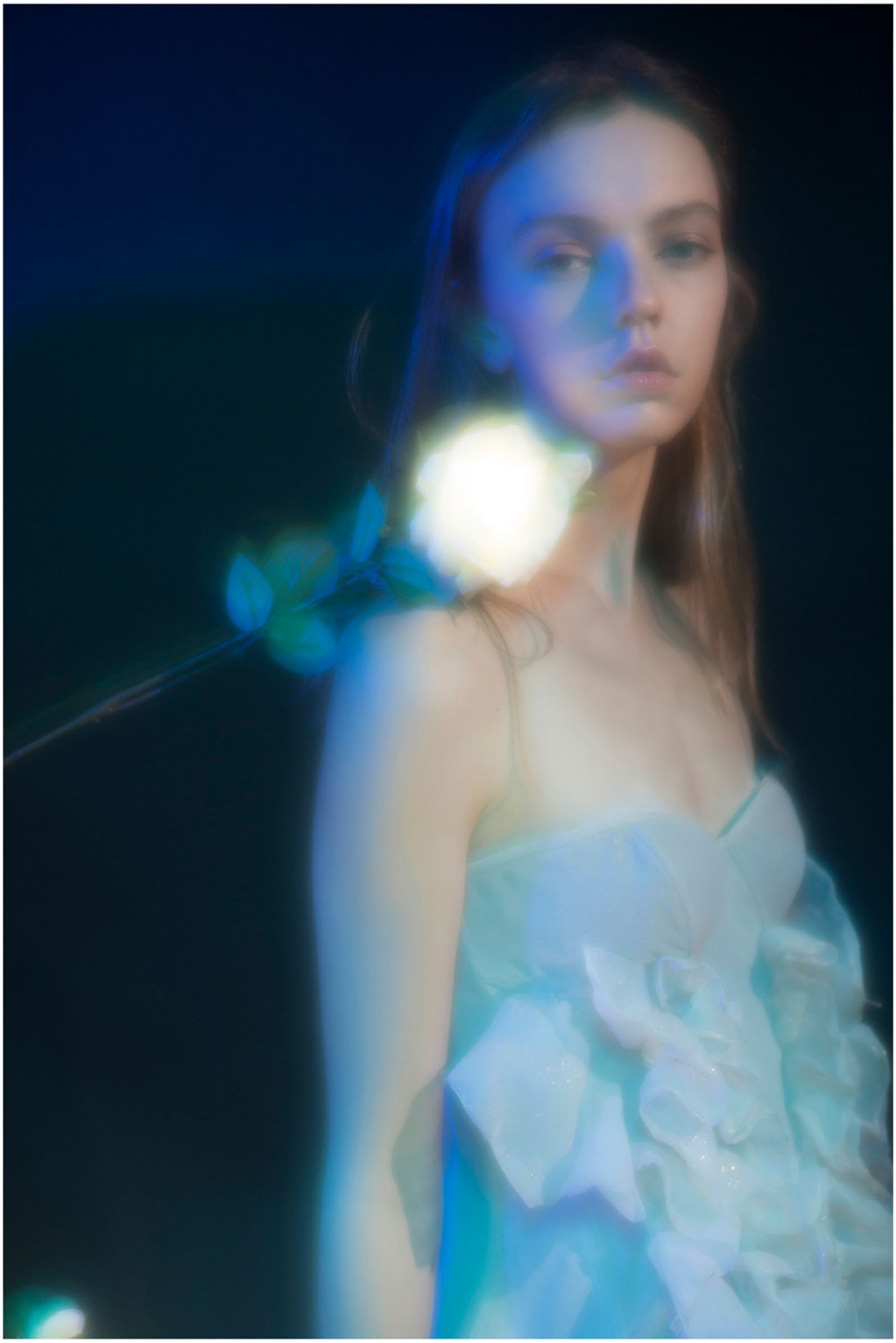


SEVEN BLOOD-STAINED ORCHIDS

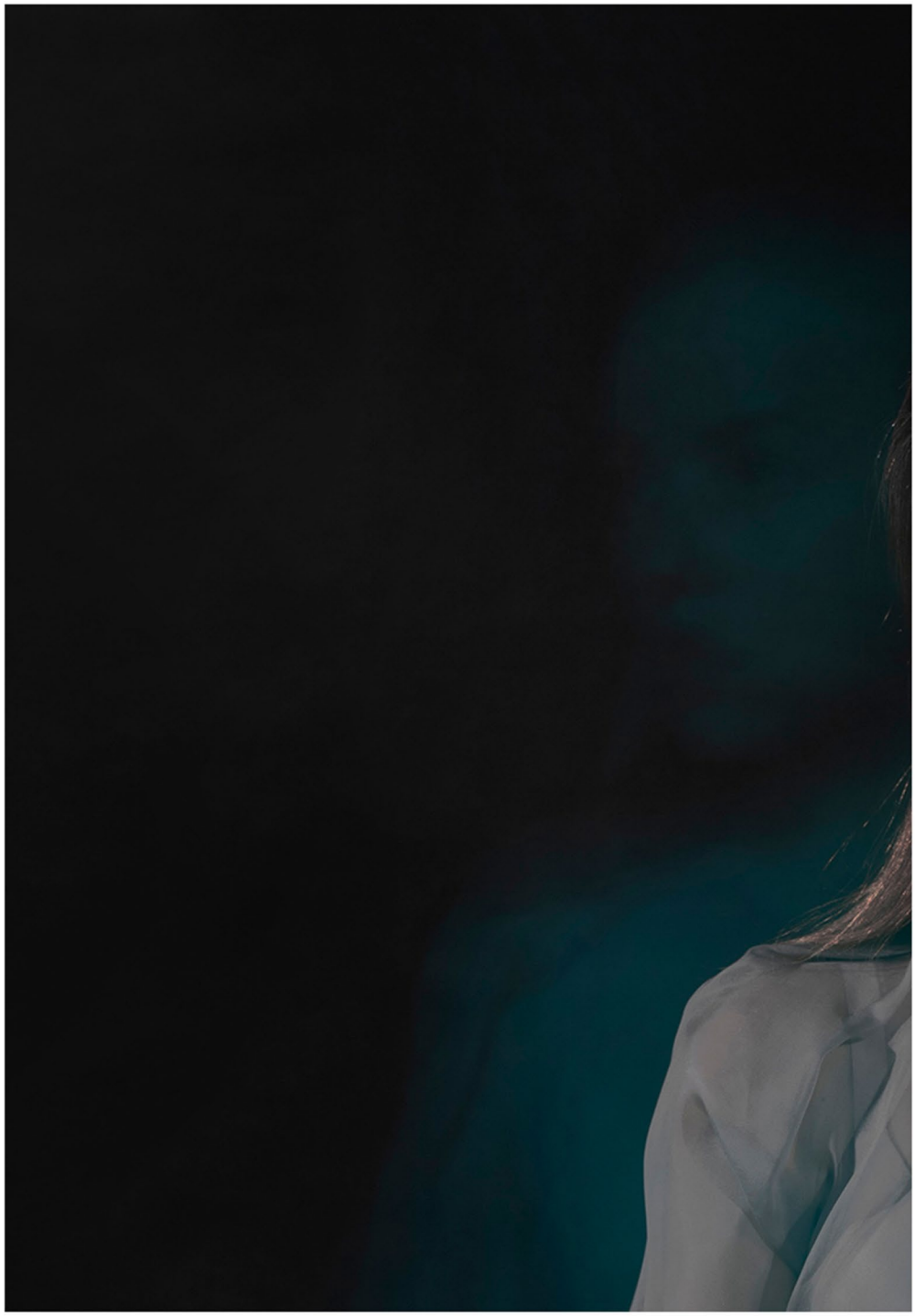
PHOTOGRAPHY BY

ELIZAVETA SHCHEGOLKOVA





Designer: Sonya Tikhonova
Stylist: Elizaveta Shchegolkova
Make-up Artist: Marina Shkvarova
Model: Olya Konstantinova
Lighting Director: Pavel Yasinskiy
Assistant: Polina Khorolets



Lady of the Camelias
Photographed by Ksenia Alizabal

Creative Direction by Ksenia Alizabal
Models: Maria and Anna Starodubtseva
Make Up by Anna Solana
Assistanted by Egor

Hortus Venenum

Photography by Maria Sumina
Poison Gardens by Gabriella Forema

The jardin à la française evolved from the French Renaissance garden, a style that was inspired by the Italian Renaissance garden at the beginning of the 16th century. The Italian Renaissance garden, typified by the Boboli Gardens in Florence and the Villa Medici in Fiesole, was characterized by planting beds, or parterres, created in geometric shapes, and laid out symmetrical patterns. The English landscape garden, also called English landscape park or simply the English garden is a style of "landscape" garden which emerged in England in the early 18th century, and spread across Europe, replacing the more formal, symmetrical French formal garden. The English garden presented an idealized view of nature. Created and pioneered by William Kent and others, the “informal” garden style originated as a revolt against the architectural garden and drew inspiration from paintings of landscapes by Salvator Rosa, Claude Lorrain, and Nicolas Poussin. This little bit of history directly brings me to the topic at hand: Alnwick Garden. The gardens have a long history under the dukes of Northumberland, but fell into disrepair until revived at the turn of the 21st century. A garden featuring intoxicating and poisonous plants was added in February 2005. The garden was thought of by Jane Percy, Duchess of Northumberland, who wanted the garden to have something that was different from other gardens. Species of the Poison Garden include Strychnos nux-vomica (source of strychnine), hemlock, Ricinus communis (source of harmless castor oil but also deadly ricin), foxglove, Atropa belladonna (commonly called Deadly Nightshade), Brugmansia and Laburnum. The mission of the Poison Garden also includes drug education, with featured plantings of cannabis, coca and the opium poppy Papaver somniferum. The poison garden is now one of the main reasons that people visit the gardens. A visit to the Poison Garden requires expert supervision. After following a tour guide past the black Iron Gate adorned with skulls and crossbones, guests can admire the plants inside—as long as they keep a safe distance. An accidental brush with giant hogweed can cause serious burns and extreme sun sensitivity for up to seven years. Eating a few berries from the belladonna plant is enough to kill a child. Ingesting henbane triggers hallucinations, and inhaling its putrid scent causes lightheadedness. Visitors are forbidden from smelling the plants, but 20 to 30 people still pass out in the garden each year. “I think it’s one of the only poison gardens in the world. To me, that doesn’t make sense,” Duchess of Northumberland told Mental Floss in 2021. “If you’re trying to educate, which we are, you grab children’s attention with how a plant kills, and how gruesome the death is, and how painful it is, and whether you vomit before you die. You know, the whole process.” And if you think this type of a garden is rare, think again. Currently there are roughly 10 poison gardens around the world and those are that we know of. Next time you go frolicking in the garden consider yourself warned. ●

| Model - Anastasia Alkhovik | Styled by Dilmurat Sultanov |

YANA KHANKHATOVA'S

LEGEND OF MANDRAGORA

Models: Lida and Sofia Nee
via Models Agency
Wardrobe by Alexander Arze
Make Up by Eliz Milar
Hair by Balgima B

hlys

Most of us are acquainted with the foremost Olympian Gods and Goddesses of Greek mythology. Many of the allegories center around these major deities, but there is a lot more to the Greek mythologies than that. Achlys is an example of a goddess that few know about, but she does have a place in legends. She is considered to be primordial goddess and is known to represent both misery and sadness. In addition to being the spirit of desolation and sorrow, Achlys may have been the goddess of deadly poisons. Nonnus, recounts how Hera the Olympian Queen of the Gods went to Achlys for poisonous flowers that turned the nurses of Dionysus into horned centaurs. As mentioned above, Achlys was not an Olympic god but a primordial spirit – a daimona, who existed before the Titans and the Olympians warred for control of the world. There are two possibilities for her origin. According to some of the oldest cosmogonies, she was the Eternal Night that existed even before Chaos, from whom all other primordial beings descended. This origin story would make her the most ancient of the gods.

Alternatively, Achlys was the daughter of Nyx, the primordial goddess of the night. Nyx birthed a number of dark spirits, including the three Fates, the Hesperides, and the Keres. Achlys appears in two key sources: Hesiod's The Shield of Heracles and Nonnus's Dionysiaca. Achlys is an unpleasant figure in all descriptions, which is unsurprising for a goddess known to represent wretchedness and poison. According to Hesiod, she was pictured on the shield of Heracles in chilling detail: "And beside the Keres and the Fates was standing Akhlys, dismal and dejected, green and pale, dirty-dry, fallen in on herself with hunger, knee-swollen, and the nails were grown long on her hands, and from her nostrils the drip kept running, and off her cheeks the blood dribbled to the ground, and she stood there, grinning forever, and the dust that had gathered and lay in heaps on her shoulders was muddy with tears." ●

| Photography by Maxim Gustarev | Story by Annika Sharber |

MIDSOMMAR
Photography by Natalie Ina
Travis Orta explores Poison Plants

Throughout human history, intentional application of poison has been used as a method of murder, pest-control, suicide, and execution. In Medieval Europe, it was common for monarchs to employ personal food tasters to thwart royal assassination, in the dawning age of the Apothecary. Many recipes for medicines included herbs, minerals, and pieces of animals (meats, fats, skins) that were ingested, made into paste for external use, or used as aromatherapy. Some of these are similar to natural remedies used today, including catnip, chamomile, fennel, mint, garlic, and witch hazel. Trial and error was the main source for finding successful remedies, as little was known about the chemistry of why certain treatments worked and certain treatments killed. Here are 10 most common plants that can kill:

1. Manchineel: These trees are known to cause harm even without contact with the body. Break a twig, and the dripping white sap can cause damage, including rashes, skin irritation, coughing, loss of voice, etc. The dripping sap from these plants can even damage car paint. These apple-like fruits, if ingested, can cause blisters in the mouth, swell the throat to shut it off, and even cause gastrointestinal problems.
2. Jimsonweed: The plant has been long related to spiritual and voodoo properties due to its hallucinogenic properties. Its alkaloids, which are responsible for the hallucinogenic and medicinal properties are fatally toxic and even a slightly higher dosage, can result in hospitalization and death. Even the nectar and petals of its beautiful white or lavender trumpet-shaped flowers are dangerous. They, like the rest of the plant, are tainted with the toxins atropine and scopolamine.
3. Aconite: Contact with the plant can cause tingling, numbness, and in many cases, heart problems. Consumption can lead to a burning sensation in the mouth followed by increased salivation, vomiting, diarrhea, a tingling sensation in the skin, changes in blood pressure, heartbeat irregularities, coma, and sometimes even death.
4. White Snakeroot: In humans, symptoms include bad breath, loss of appetite, listlessness, weakness, vague pains, muscle stiffness, vomiting, abdominal discomfort, severe constipation, coma, and possibly death.
5. English Yew: All parts except the bark are poisonous. Consumption of the leaves, and to a lesser extent the seeds, can lead to increasingly serious symptoms, including dizziness, dry mouth, dilation of the pupils, weakness, irregular heart rhythm, and possibly death.
6. The Castor Bean: Symptoms of castor poisoning include nausea, abdominal cramps, vomiting, internal bleeding, and kidney and circulation failure. Many people suffer from an allergic reaction to the dust from the seeds and may experience coughing, muscle aches, and difficulty breathing. Exposure to the dust is most common in areas where the beans are processed for commercial use.
7. Deadly Nightshade: The deadly poison attacks the nervous system, rendering the nerve endings in involuntary muscle paralysis. Symptoms include dilated pupils, sensitivity to light, blurred vision, headaches,

Convulsions. As few as two ingested berries can kill a child, and 10 to 20 berries would kill an adult.

8. The Rosary Pea: Symptoms of rosary pea inhalation poisoning are difficult breathing, fever, nausea, and fluid in the lungs. If ingested—and the seed coating is broken—rosary pea seeds cause severe nausea and vomiting, which eventually leads to dehydration and ends with the kidneys, liver, and spleen shutting down. Death usually follows within three to four days.

9. Water Hemlock: Water Hemlock causes violent and painful convulsions, nausea, vomiting, cramps, and muscle tremors. Those who survive the poisoning experience long-term health conditions, such as amnesia. No amount of water hemlock root is considered safe to ingest.

10. Oleander: Oleander is poisonous to most animals as well as humans. Ingestion of oleander leaves has caused deaths in human beings. Though the toxin remains deadly for approximately the first 24 hours after ingestion, the odds of survival increase dramatically if the patient survives for a few hours. For successful treatment, the patient is induced to vomit, their stomach may be pumped, or they may be fed activated charcoal to absorb as much of the poison as possible. ●

| Models - Nataliya Polevaya, Koi, Irina Miles, Margarita Jarvinen | Crown by - Decrowcraft |

Where the Wild Roses grow ...

Photographed by Armelle Gouyet

Laurie Silvey talks Dark Romance

There is a dark romance in danger. Or perhaps there's danger in the dark romance. Who's to say?
The term "Romanticism" originates from a Latin word called "romant", which means "in the Roman Manner." Not only has it become an iconic style of art, but also had an affect on literature, music and fashion. It was driven on emotions and imagination rather than science and rationality. The Romantic Movement began in Europe at the end of the 18th century and migrated to America to the early 19th century. Originating in the 18th century, mainly as a literary, artistic, and philosophical movement, dark romanticism characterized itself chiefly as a reaction against neoclassicism and emphasis on the sinful imagination and dark emotions of the people and society as sinful, dark, destructive, and mysterious. This world was created in the English Gothic novels of the late 18th century that fascinated the public with its penchant for the macabre. The movement looked into the dark side of the human psyche. It tends to be engaged with the idea of darkness in the human soul, relating it to obsession with Gothic nature. The focus is on the tragic; the belief in sin and evil, and attention is paid to the mysteries of life. The name of this trend summarizes it perfectly, as overall its inhabitants are romantic and dark. Lace, chiffon and rich velvet, matched with ultra-feminine silhouettes, create a theme that is gothic and brooding, whilst still managing to maintain an air of romantic wistfulness. The theme is characterized by its dull and sometimes morbid, edgy fashion and style of dress. The origins of contemporary Romantic style are thought to be found in the Victorian culture. Some fashions are ethereal and flowy, while others are bound and restrained with tight corsets and chokers. Inspirations for the Romantic styles are taken from the Medieval, Renaissance, and Victorian era. The style originated mainly from the Victorian mourning era and was characterized by dark color clothing such as ruffled high collars, open lacy sleeves, and stovepipe hats. During that era, dark romanticism style was known as the balance between horror and romance. The clothing was typically dark-colored and featured elements such as lace, leather, fishnet stockings, corsets and religious or occult-themed jewelry. This dull theme caught the eye of fashion designers from the late 1990s into the early 2000s. Such famed designers as Alexander McQueen, Jean-Paul Gaultier, Christian Lacroix, Rodarte and more recently Vampire's Wife began debuting Gothic looks in their runway shows. The models were described as "glamorous ghouls" who wore varied looks from flowing, lace gowns to more structured, and high-collared suits with black leather accents. ●

| Model - Salomé Lancolia | Styled by Etienne Jeanson |

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY VALERY LUHINA

JEN RUANE ON KILLER CLOTHING

Historically the quest for beauty has oftentimes led to pain and sometimes - even death. But one mustn't forget that beauty is indeed pain. In 1903, Mary Halliday's autopsy revealed that she had two pieces of corset whalebone in her heart. As strange as this may sound, she was not the only woman to fall victim to the extreme fashion trends that dominated eras of the past centuries.

The look of dilated eyes during the Renaissance era was considered beautiful and seductive and Belladonna eye drops worked like magic. Many achieved the desired seductive look by administering the toxic eye drops, but it was not without sacrifice. Belladonna is an extremely toxic herb that often led to skin irritations, heart problems, and potential blindness. During Elizabethan Era tan and pigmented skin was unfashionable and an indicator of low social standing so many women turned to lead face paint to achieve the pale look that was a clear indicator of nobility. Lead paint did have some unpleasant side effects that included hair loss, stomach pains, rotting teeth, headaches, and sometimes death but anything is better than a farmer's tan.

In Japan, the color black has always been considered beautiful. The practice of dyeing women's teeth black, which is also known as ohaguro, started as early as 250AD. Black teeth were considered a sign of beauty and as soon as a young lady got married, she would dye her teeth black. The teeth were dyed black by placing pieces of iron into a cup of tea. The piece of iron would be left to oxidize, turning the tea into a very dark black color. Women would then drink the tea as often as possible; the black tea would ultimately stain the teeth, often causing bad breath and enamel erosion.

Emerald dresses were the dresses to die for in the eighteen hundreds. Unfortunately, these dresses would literally cause death because although their bright green color known as Paris Green was beautiful, the color was achieved by dyeing the dresses using arsenic, a poisonous compound. The arsenic in the dye would be slowly released into the skin of the wearer. This would cause diarrhea, skin sores, headaches, and cancer, which would ultimately lead to death.

Fashion has clearly evolved over the years. Whether it is for the better is debatable because even in today's world we still have some strange fashion trends but at the very least there's a slim chance of them killing us. ●

Model - Maria Bakun	Assisted by Nastya Nerozina	Styled by Masha Rudyashko
Make Up by Maria Goncharova	Hair by Alina Mayskaya	Nails by Olga Saetgaraeva
Wardrobe by Alena Shmargurenko and Vera Steklova	Accesories by 47 Store

ANNIHI
PHOTOGRAPHY BY
CASSANDRA HARRIS TAI

LATION
NICK GAVRILOV
LKS DANGEROUS WOMEN

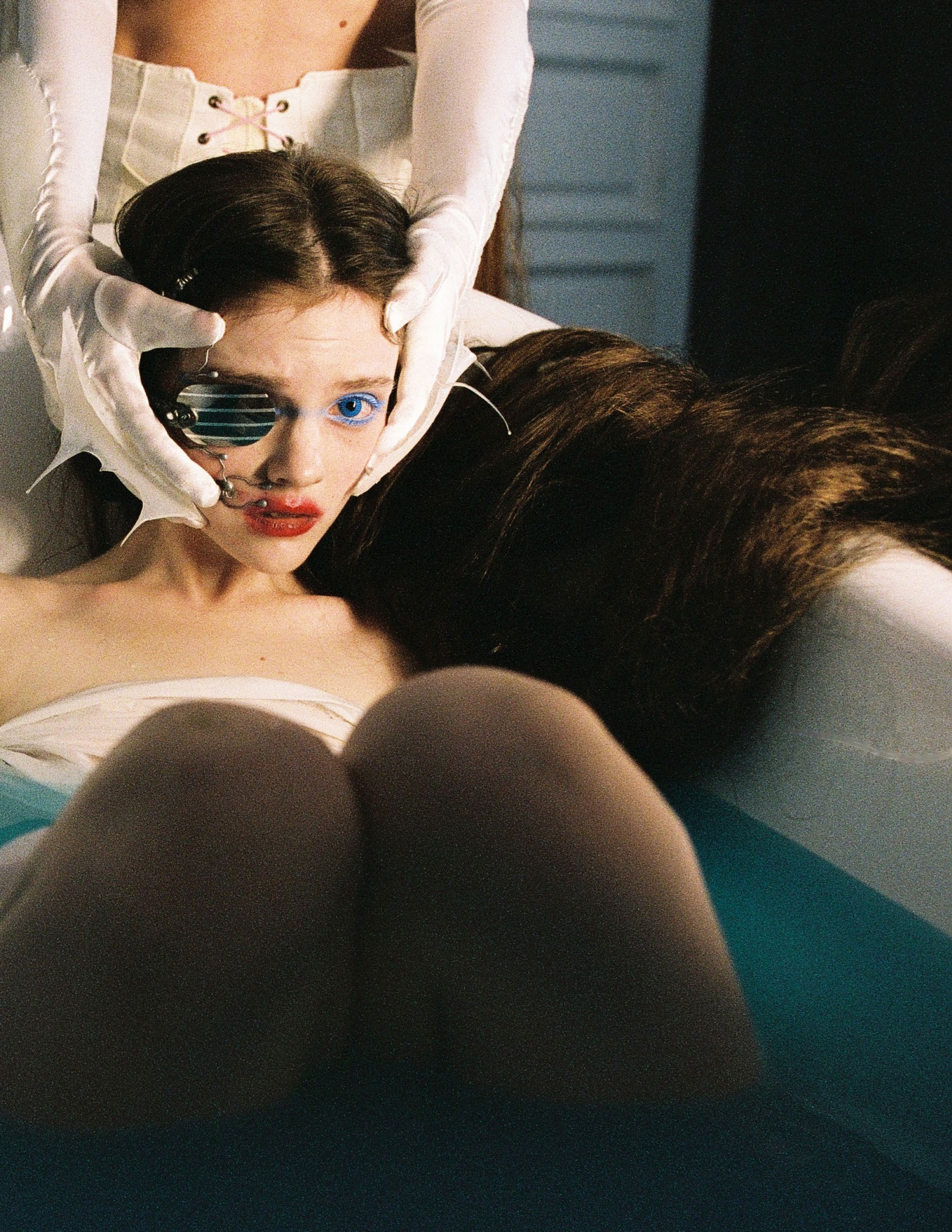
Like moths to a flame, men are drawn to the Dangerous Woman — no matter how badly the burn will hurt. She is raw and unruly, bound only by her whims. She's a closed book about her personal life, adding to her peculiar mystique. While she might be physically dangerous, the true power — and threat — of this woman is emotional. She embodies our society's fear of the woman who doesn't feel the way we expect women to or who plays with men's feelings. She is the counterpart to the Nice Girl — the innocent and passive non-threat to the status quo. The Whore to the Nice Girl's Madonna. And men fall prey to her every time.

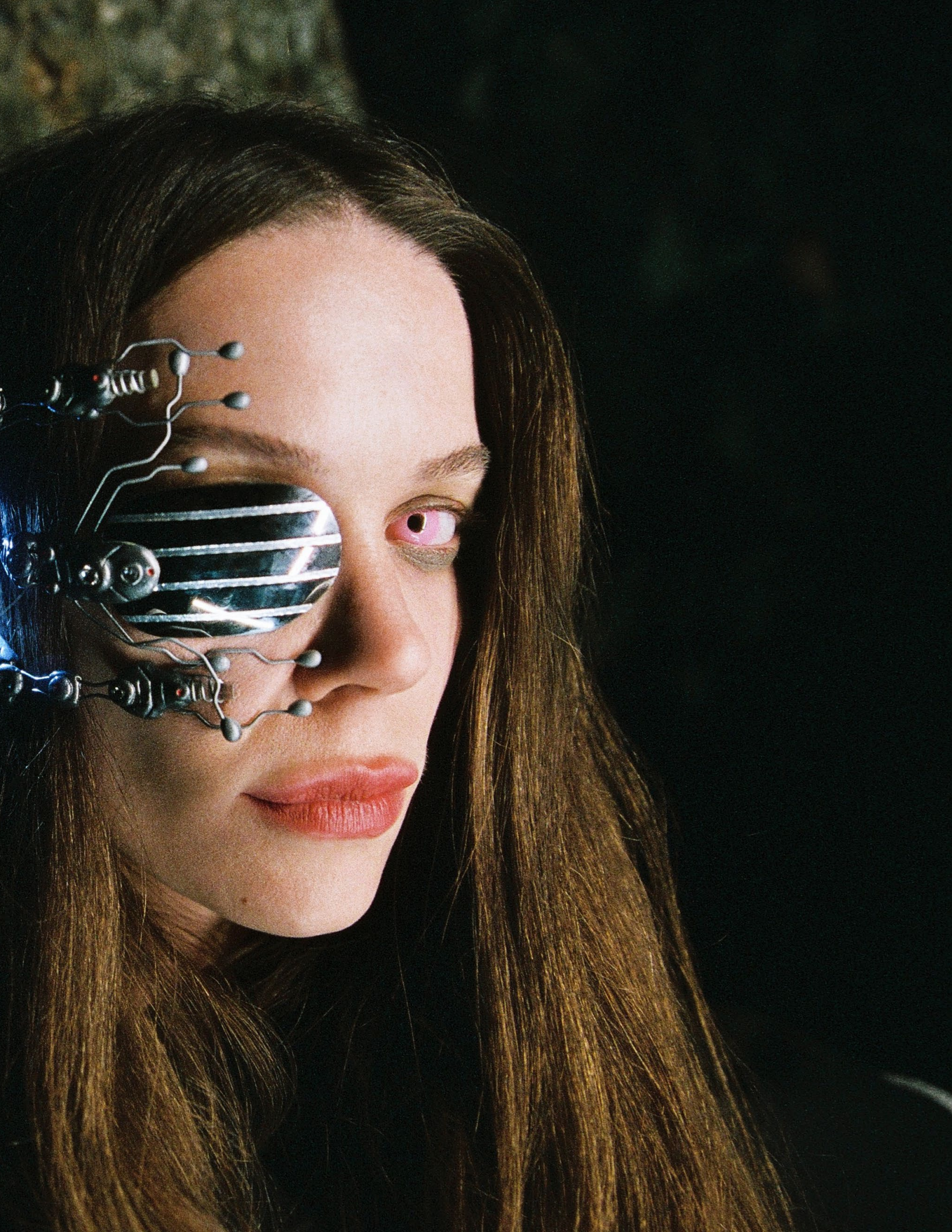
Research suggests that men seek 'subordinate' women as partners. But domesticating the dangerous woman and turning her into the Nice Girl holds so much appeal because it combines the drive to conquer threats with the condescending impulse to protect women from themselves.

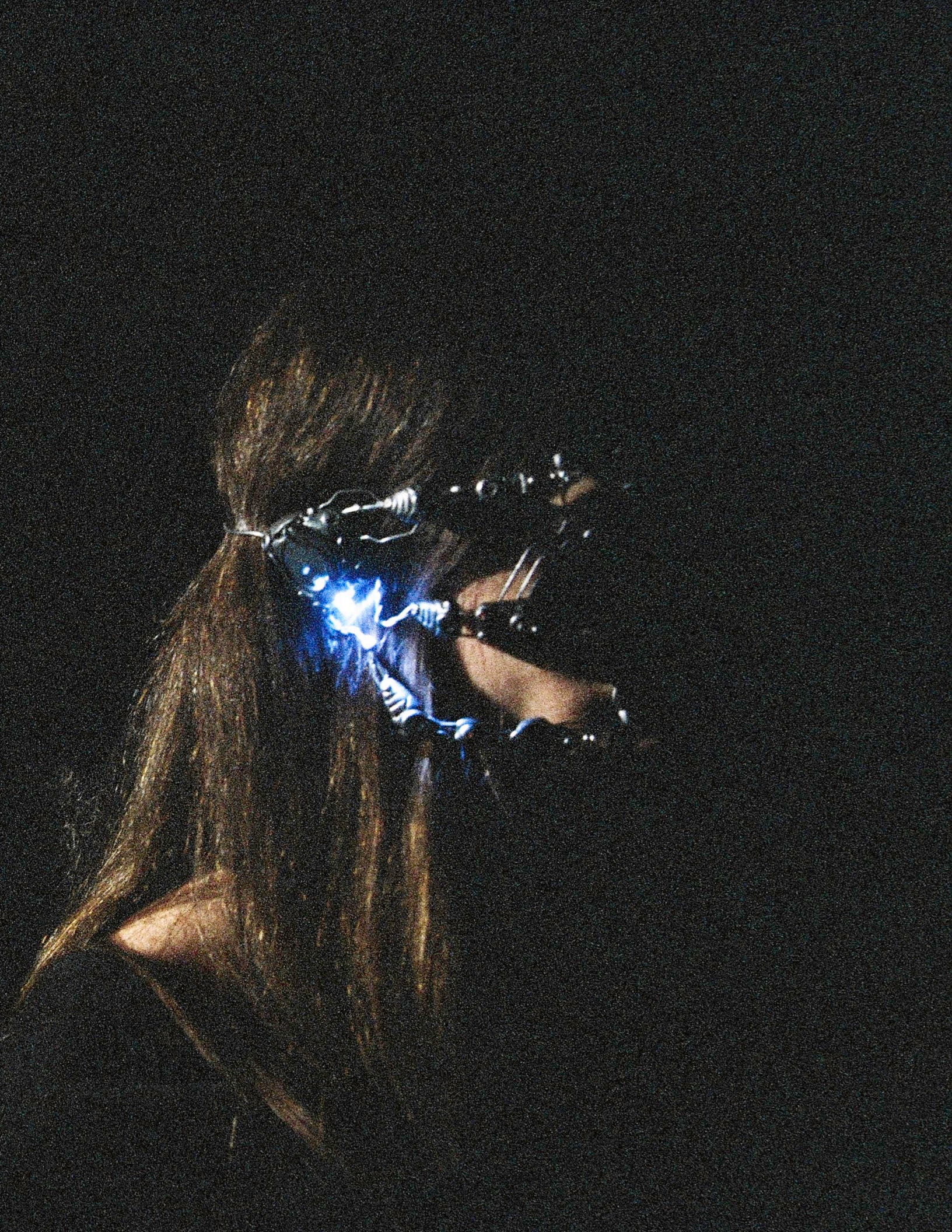
Dr. Herb Goldberg, a psychologist in Los Angeles, has written several books on male psychology, says, " Achievement-oriented, aggressive, dominant, success-driven males have a very low tolerance for boredom and passivity. The dangerous woman keeps them on their toes. Even a simple dinner becomes a game of conversational chess, without all the pieces. Normal women tell you about their day. The other woman spins fantastical tale or blurts out cryptic non sequiturs."

The dangerous woman's long been typecast as a sensual, semi-villainous diversion in someone else's less exciting life and that's exactly what she is – she's a fantasy. A fairy tale. A dream. But it takes a rare person who can accept the reality of a woman that dangerous and who can keep up with her and not turn to ash in the process. ●

| Pdocustion and Art Direction by Krista Llikova | Style by Philosofiya Production | Design by Julia Orlova | Production by Tosya | Lights by Andy and Fortuna Maxim | Assistant Production by Di Spit, Alina Pusher | Make Up by Vera Kovaleva, Masha Vorslav, Elena Smirnova, Julia Tunik | Hair by Fariza Rodriguez, Konstantin Borchininov, Vlada Tumbakova, Alxander Medyantsev, Nastya Tenderova, Lilia Shakirova, Sasha Davydova | Masks by Dominic Elvin | Shibari by Maksim Kalahari Cast- Maria Vaulina, Tanya Sasha Bulanova, Liilu, Alexandra Moskaleva | Retouching by Irina Muravyova | Assistants: Nik Bez, Oleg Ratnikov, Nastya Kor, Rita Vinograd, Denis Gasanov, Sherlok Homs, Alla Efremova, Rita, Malryny | Wardrobe by Fal-Ash Natasha Romano, LooksLikeParisHilton, Aretisyanch, Polyhedron Studio, Glum Kimberly, Alexandra Blank, Fatima Asanova |





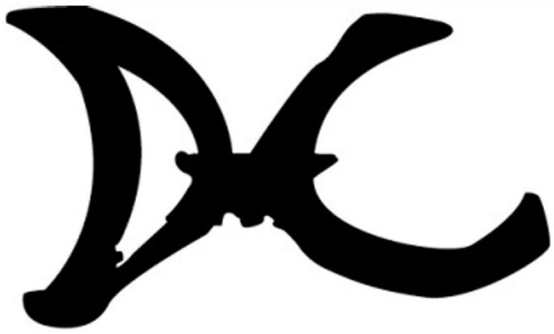


Under Milk Wood
Photography by Diana Zakharova

Model - Ann Kalashnikova
Make Up by Kamilla Zaripova

primrose path
louay nasser presents

Shot for Maram Borhan
Styled by Sahar Azab and Maissa Mohamed Azab
Models: Holy Sinner and Victoria Daniele
Make Up by Alaa El Kobaitary
Hair by Richard Boustany
Shot on location at Sanhok
Developed by The Darkroom Cairo



Delphine-Charlotte Parmentier

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Nora's *Deities*

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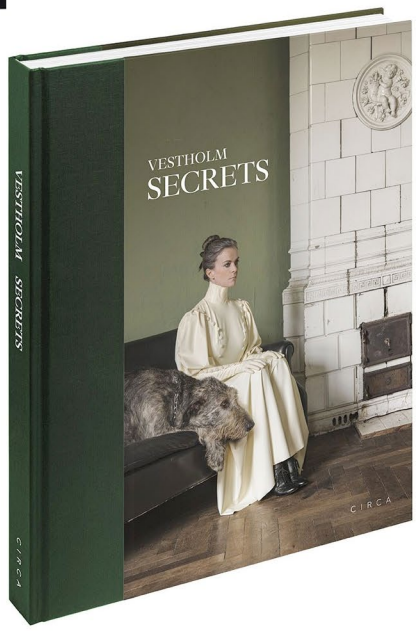
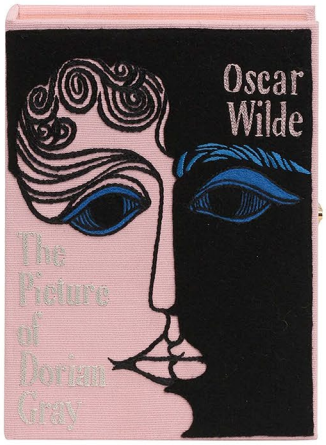


3.

1. Amsale satin dress
2. Roby Dwi Antono art
3. Secrets by Vestholm
4. Food for thought: MAINE Mayfair
5. Visit: London, UK
6. Cartier Juste un Clou necklace
7. Manolo Blahnik Tonoslac shoe
8. The Burnt City by Punchdrunk
9. Olympia Le-Tan book clutch

@eleanorkobrenik



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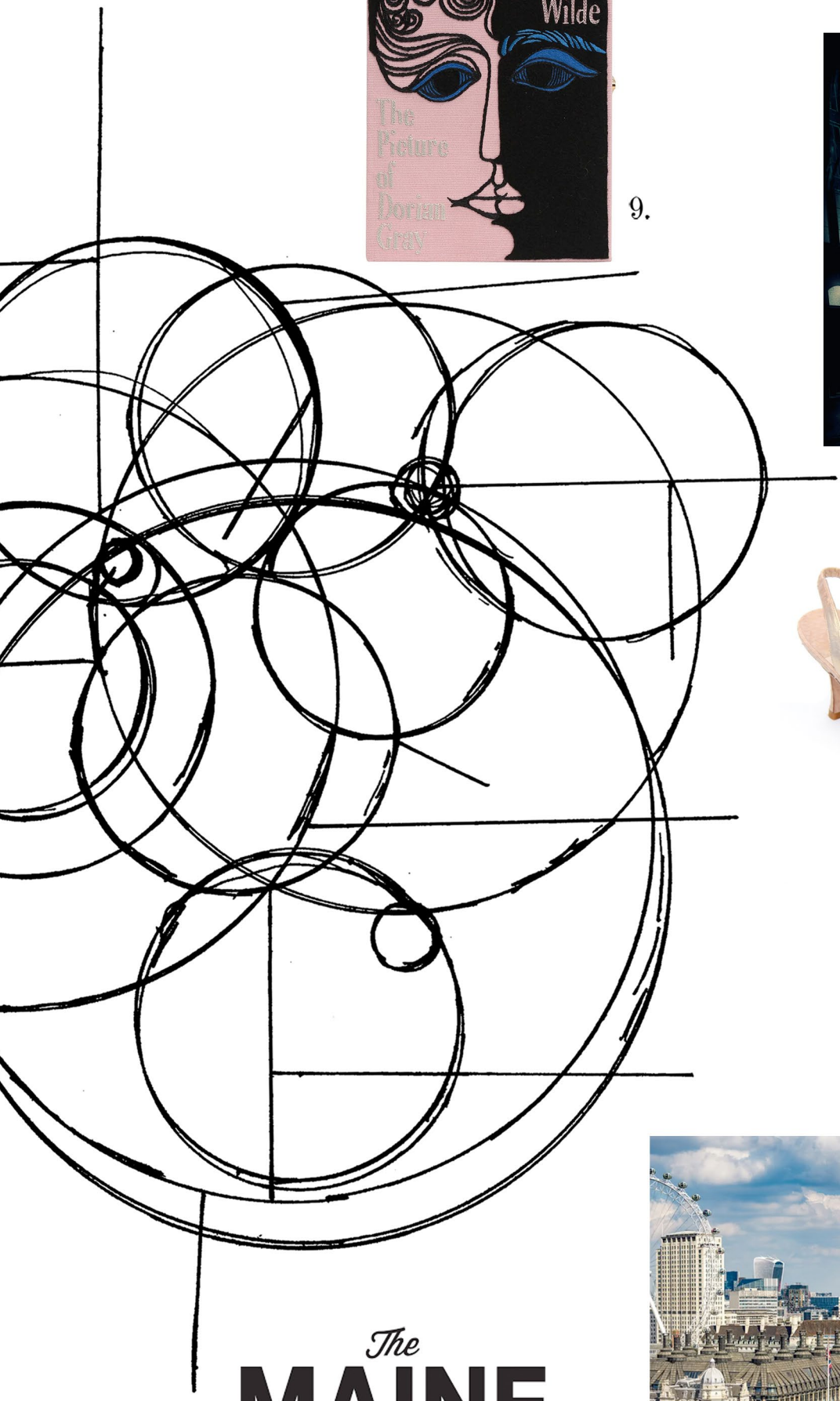

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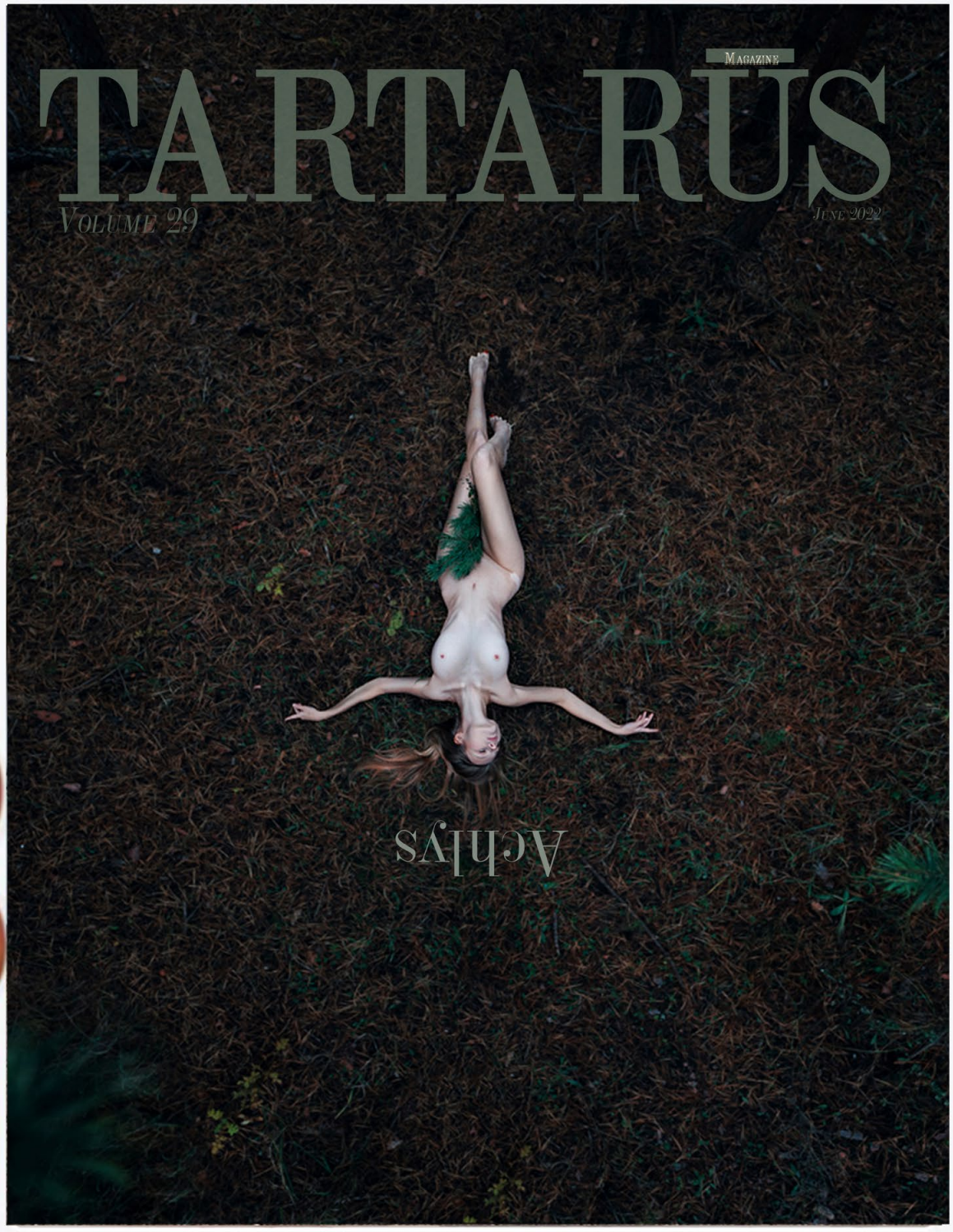

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