

Cybele says

Hey, check out all the fab new things I've found this month!



SKINTIMATE MOISTURIZING EXFOLIATING SHAVE CREAM (\$2.49/9oz at drugstore.com) is the best bang for your buck when it comes to shaving creams. It's formulated with "microbeads" that gently lift away dead skin cells, so gently that it can be used every day. I've never thought about exfoliating my armpits; glad they did.

ORLY, the king of nail care, has come out with a cure for that age-old scourge every nail-polish wearing female has experienced - yellow nails: **NAIL BLANCHE PACKETS** (sold in packs of 12 for \$13.50 at orlyproducts.com or 800-275-1111). It uses an effervescent bleach that whitens yellow nails. It's just a hint of bleach with soothing tea tree oil so it's not damaging to the nail bed.

I like to call **MAC's Sheer Shimmer Powder Blush** in Revenge goof-proof. It adds just a hint of reddish color without overdoing it. Apply with a firm also goof-proof brush like **CLUB MONACO's Contour brush** (\$30 at sephora.com) or **CARGO's Dome Blush Brush** (\$68 at sephora.com). They both provide a precise and flawless finish.



"It's not the size of the pencil, it's how you use it."
BOBBI BROWN COLOROPTIONS Artstick (\$25/big fat stick at bobbibrowncosmetics.com). This chunky stick is great as a lip liner, lipstick and even blush. The Black Currant is berry-licious. **TOMMY HILFIGER's All Talk Lip Crayon** (\$10 stick at Tommy stores) in Speed Dial is the perfect crimson red for any occasion.

I have always been into face masques and **CRABTREE & EVELYN's La Source Deep Cleansing China Clay Masque** (\$20/3.5oz tub at their nationwide stores) is at the top of my list. This is one of the few masques I've tried that does not dry or crack on the skin. Very worth the price.



From **MURAD's** très chic land of skincare comes **Hydrating Toner** (\$14.50/6oz 888-365-7727). The scent conjures memories of a pie in a scratch-and-sniff book I had as a kid. Instead of the usual pouring-out-of-the-bottle toner, this one has a spray attachment; a convenient alternative. It's alcohol free and uses chamomile, cucumber and peach extracts to balance and hydrate the skin. Read: no stinging around the eyes! These people know skincare.

LIVE NUDE NUDES

Nude nail polish is coming back in a big way and why not? It goes with everything and adds ultra-sophistication to any look. Some of my favorites are: **LORAC's** (\$12 at sephora.com) in Moonbeam; **BOURJOIS** in Perle (\$8.50 at sephora.com) - both have a hint of iridescence; **OPI's New York City** line in Cupp-a-Cawfee (darker nude) (\$6 at beauty supply stores); **ESTEE LAUDER HIGH LAQUER FOR NAILS** in Buff (\$10 at Estee Lauder counters); **TOMMY HILFIGER Front Row Nail Color** in Linen with a hint of shimmer (\$5 at Tommy stores); and **DELUX BEAUTY** in TNT (\$11 at beauty.com) is a brilliant beige!



DECLEOR's line of aroma therapy skincare is heaven-scent. For over 20 years Decleor has been using 100% natural oils as toners, antiseptics, softeners and healers in their products. The **Aromessence Neroli** (\$58 at Sephora) is used before face cream and helps the cream really do its job. The **Body Contouring Oil** (\$59 at Sephora) depletes cellulite, firming that aging skin and leaving the scent and sheen that only an oil can. I have had so many comments on the fragrance alone! Oils in place of creams already dominate Europe as people's favorite way to moisturize. It's only a matter of time before it reigns here. The price is a little steep but think of it as double-duty perfume.

LANCOME's Adhering Base Coat (\$12/bottle at lancome.com) will soon become the cult classic that **Nailtiques** has. Apply two coats to nails before nail color and say buh-bye to chipping and peeling nail polish for the coming week. I've never used anything like it!

NO PH.D REQUIRED

To buy a basic face cream these days I feel like you have to have a masters degree in skincare. "Alpha-hydrox" this and "Retinol" that - I just want the basics! And for the best you can spend a lot or a little - it all depends on your taste and the size of your wallet. Here are my pics on the whole payola scale:

Daytime



Don't forget SPF before you go out in the sun if the cream you use doesn't have it!

NIVEA VISAGE Triple Protection Lotion with SPF 15 (\$8.99/3oz at drugstore.com)

BOBBI BROWN ESSENTIALS Face Lotion with SPF 15 (\$38 /1.7 oz at bobbibrowncosmetics.com)

MURAD Perfecting Day Cream with SPF 15 (\$29/2.25oz at sephora.com)

B. KAMINS CHEMIST Bio-Maple Day lotion with SPF 8 (\$29.50/1.7oz at 888-BKAMINS)

CLINIQUE Weather Everything Cream with SPF 15 (\$37.50/1.7oz at clinique.com)

Night Cream



PETER THOMAS ROTH Ceremide Ultra Rich Night Renewal (\$52/2oz at sephora.com)
DERMALOGICA Skin Smoothing Cream (\$31/1.75oz at 800-831-5150)
CRABTREE & EVELYN Enriched Night Cream (\$22/1.6oz at crabtree-evelyn.com)
ELIZABETH ARDEN Ceramide Herbal Supplements

for the Face (\$35/30 capsules at elizabetharden.com)
BIO THERM Aquasource (1.7oz at \$29 at biotherm.com)
CHRISTIAN DIOR Hydra-Star Moisture Cream (\$46/1.7oz at sephora.com)
CLARINS Gentle Night Cream (\$55/1.7oz at nationwide department stores)
NEUTROGENA Light Night Cream (\$8.99/2.25oz at drugstore.com)

Day or Night



PHILOSOPHY Hope in a Jar (\$35/2oz at beautyjungle.com)
ANNA CARERA Hydrocreme (\$47/1.7oz at ibeauty.com and whosthefairest.com)
KORRES Wild Rose 24 Hour Cream (\$16.50/1.4oz. at beautyjungle.com)

MAC Strobe Cream (\$32 /1.7oz at MAC counters)
OSMOTICS Creme De L'Extreme (\$85/2oz at indulge.com) - touted, by the way, as the new Creme de la Mer.
ORIGINS Urgent Moisture (\$25/1.7oz at origins.com)
CREME DE LA MER Moisturizing Lotion (\$135/1.7oz at Saks or Neiman Marcus)

DR. DENNIS GROSS's Alpha Beta Peel Home Facial System (\$60 for 1 month supply at beautyjungle.com) is created by an actual medical doctor, so he must know what he's doing. From the way my skin looks and the compliments I've received, this seems to be true. The Alpha Beta Peel, for at-home use, employs the same ingredients as those in his office, only the kit stretches the treatment over a longer period of time. I think it's safer that way. You know what they say, "two ready to use pads a day keeps the wrinkles and facialists away."



Products from **UMBERTO GIANNINI Hair Cosmetics** are not only affordable but worth every dime. I love their **Sleek & Chic** line. The **Straightening Gloss Serum** (\$9.99/1.69oz at 888-660-1212) smoothes dry frizzy hair before you blow, and the **Sleek and Chic Miracle Worker** (\$9.99/3oz) adds texture for a smooth finish after the dryer.

Whew, ya think that's enough for one month? I'm exhausted! Yes, well, someone's gotta do it.

--Cybele Parsignault

All photos by Chris Mendoza

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