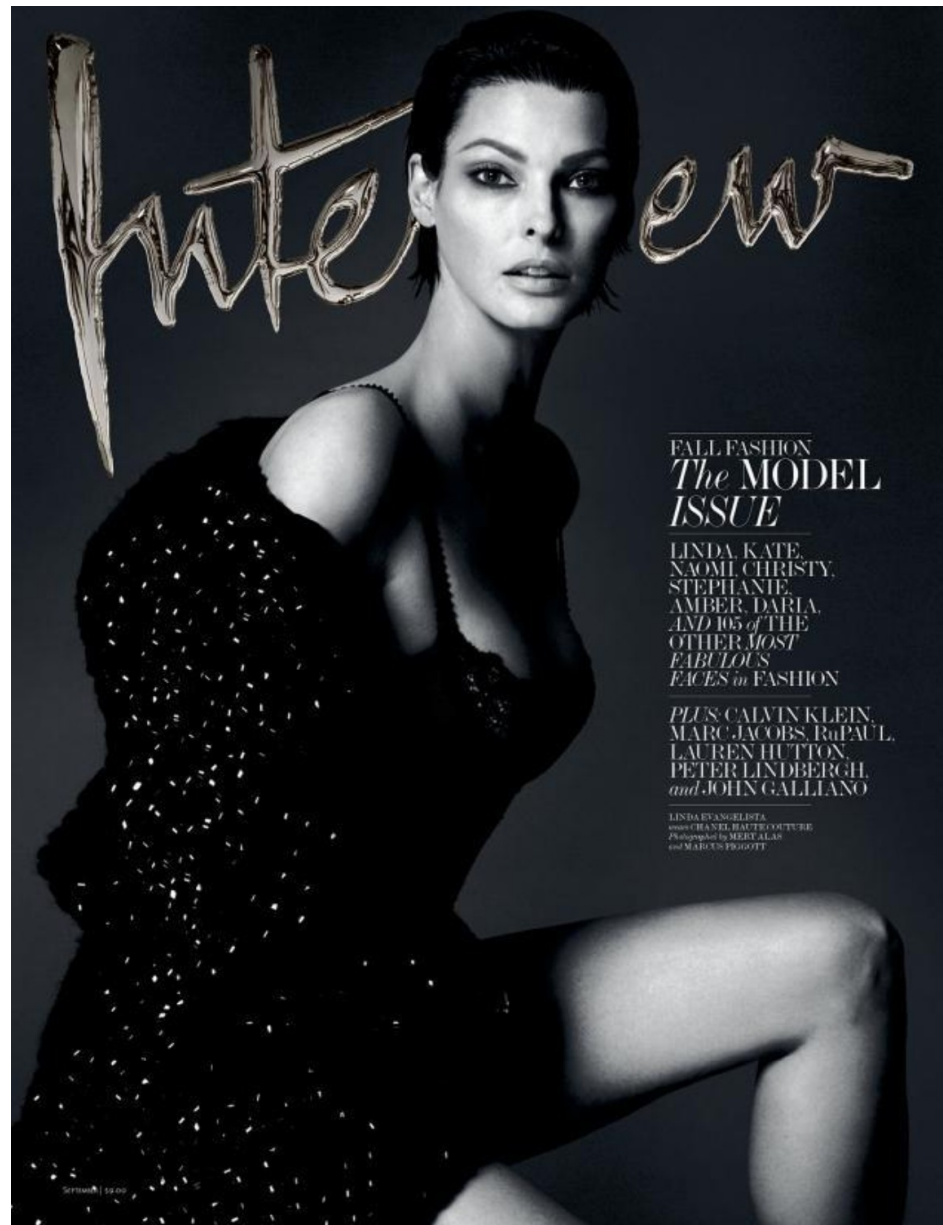


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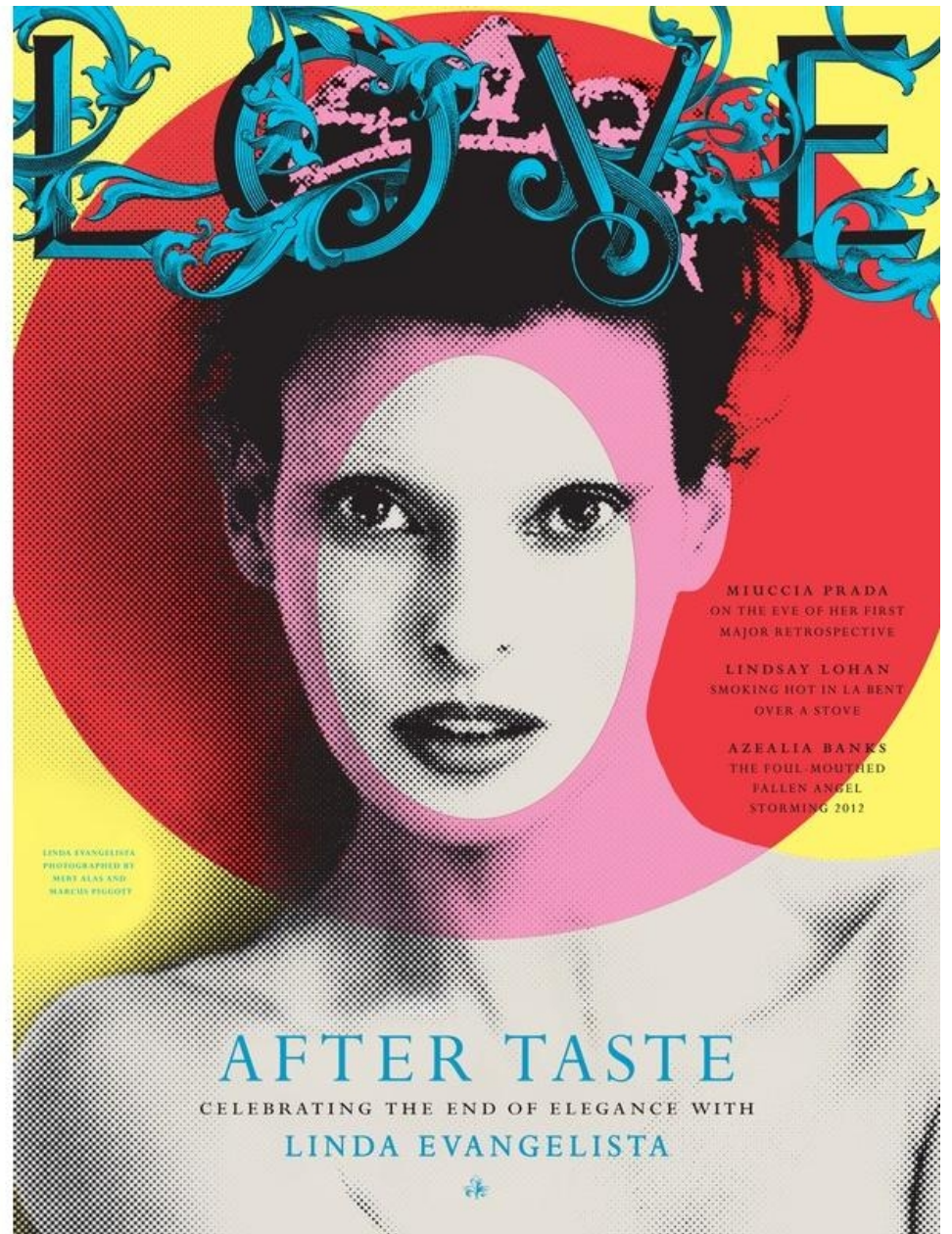
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*The  
Duchess  
Linda  
Evangelista*

PHOTOGRAPHED BY STEVEN MEISEL

Mantellina di chiffon a ruches, D&G, Pettinini Alexandre de Paris, orecchini Fred Leighton, anello Lorraine Schwartz.



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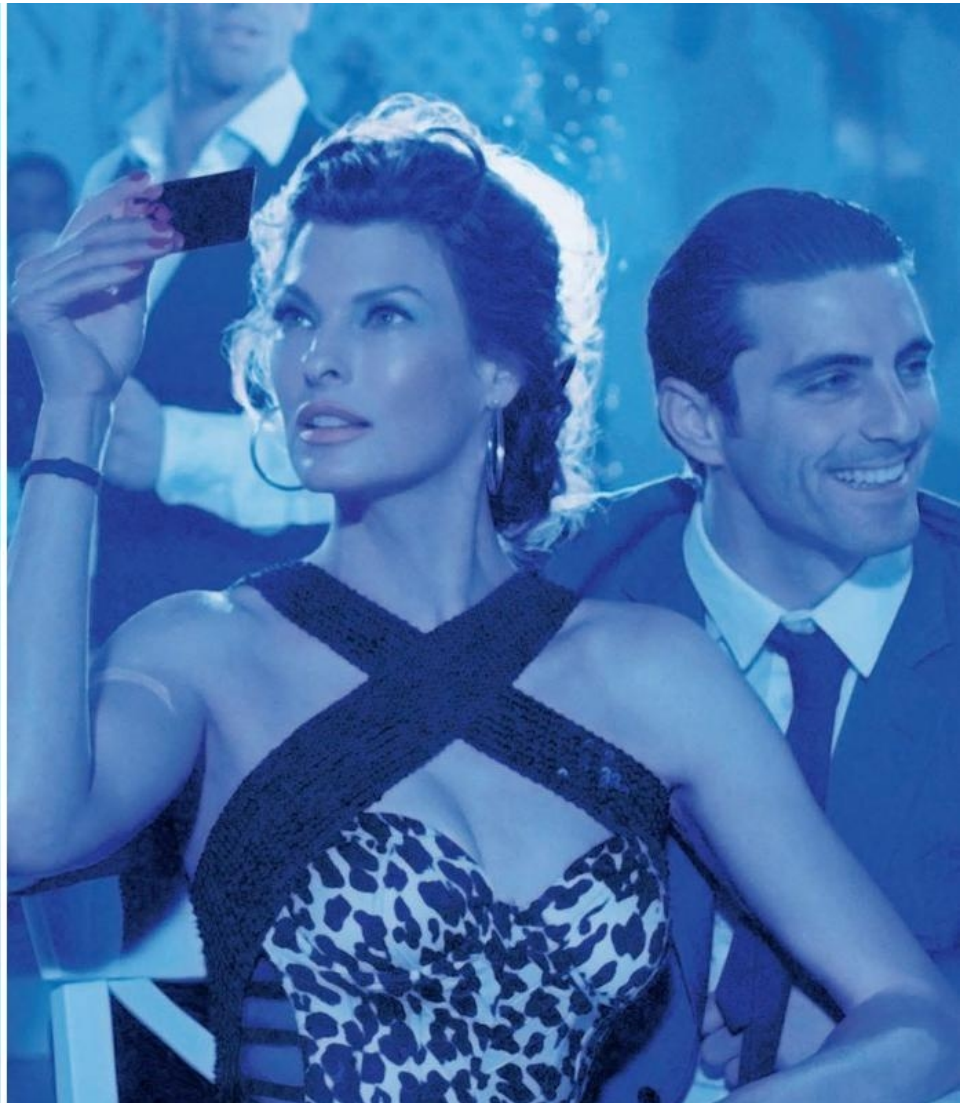


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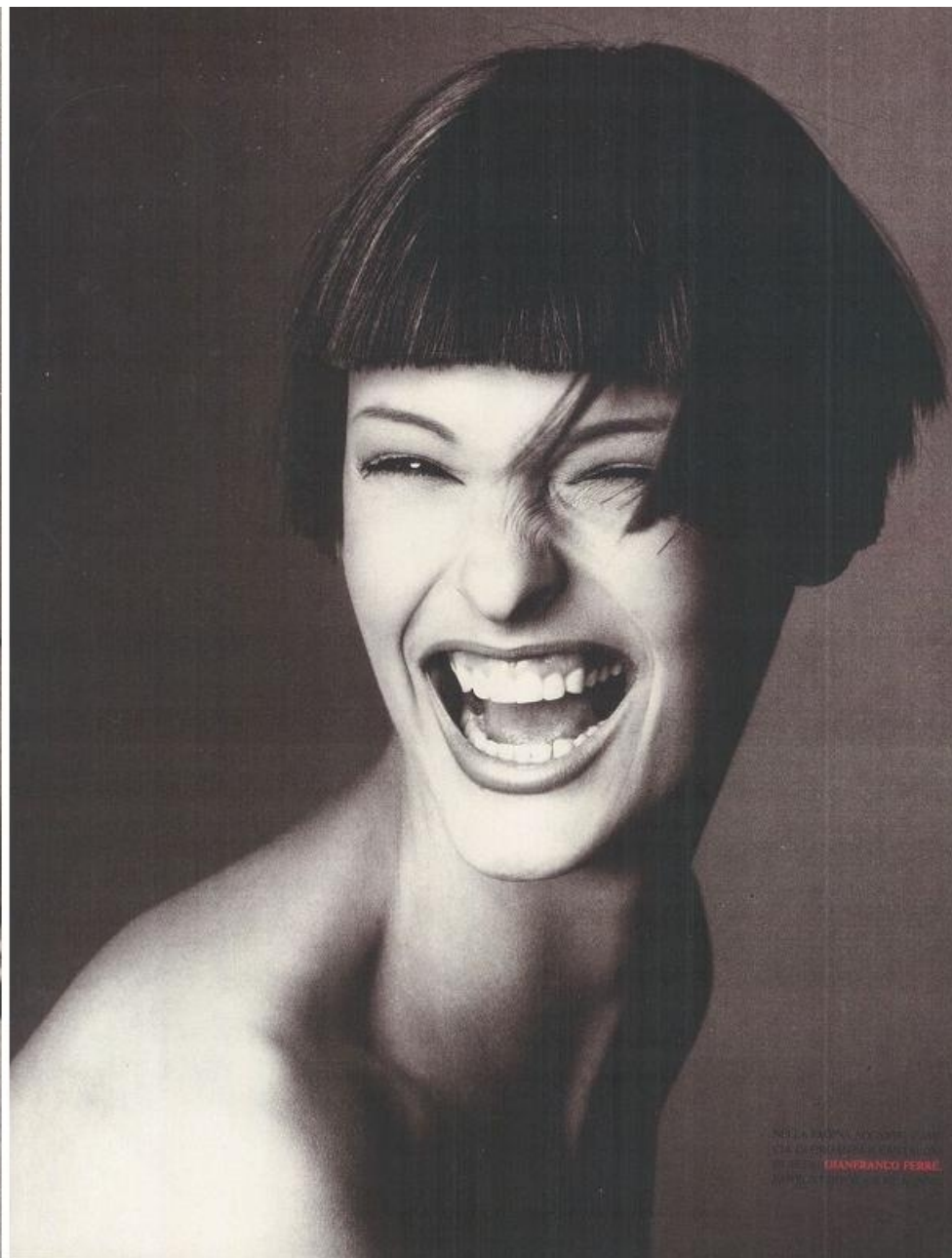
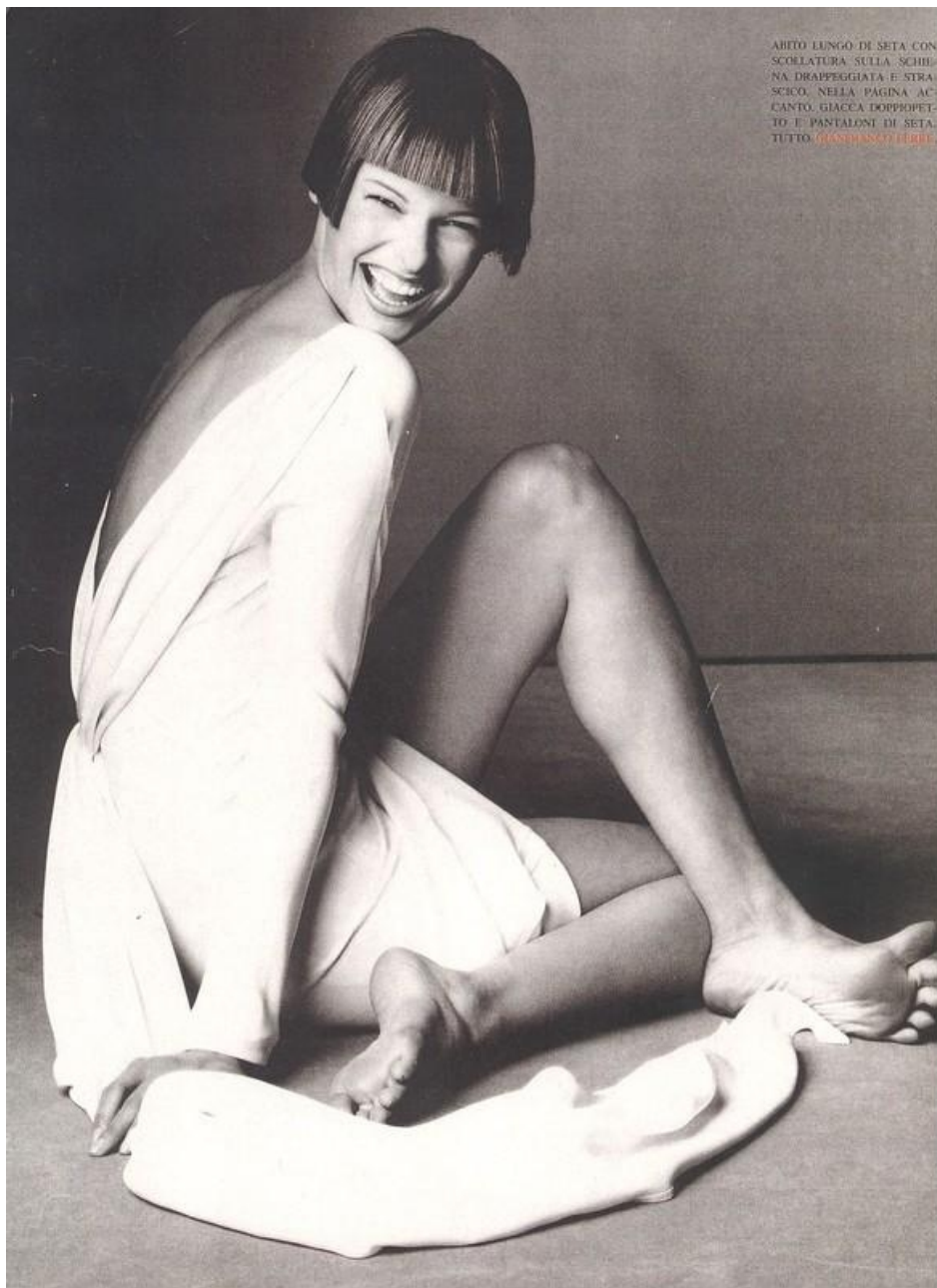




Top a fasce intrecciate di paillettes, Emporio Armani; bustier leopardo, Patricia Field.  
Orecchini Cartier; orologio Chanel Horlogerie. Per lui: suit Giorgio Armani.

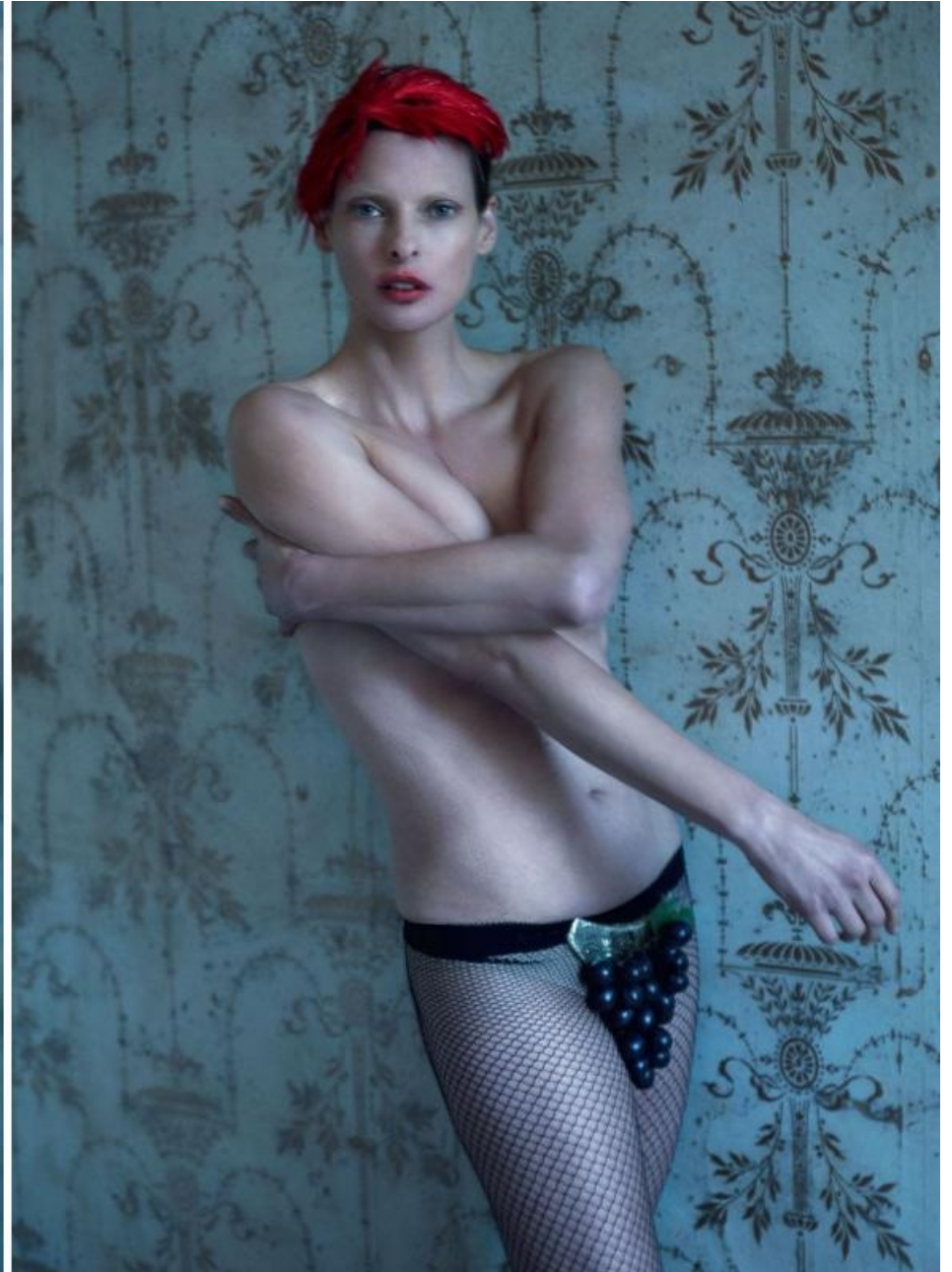


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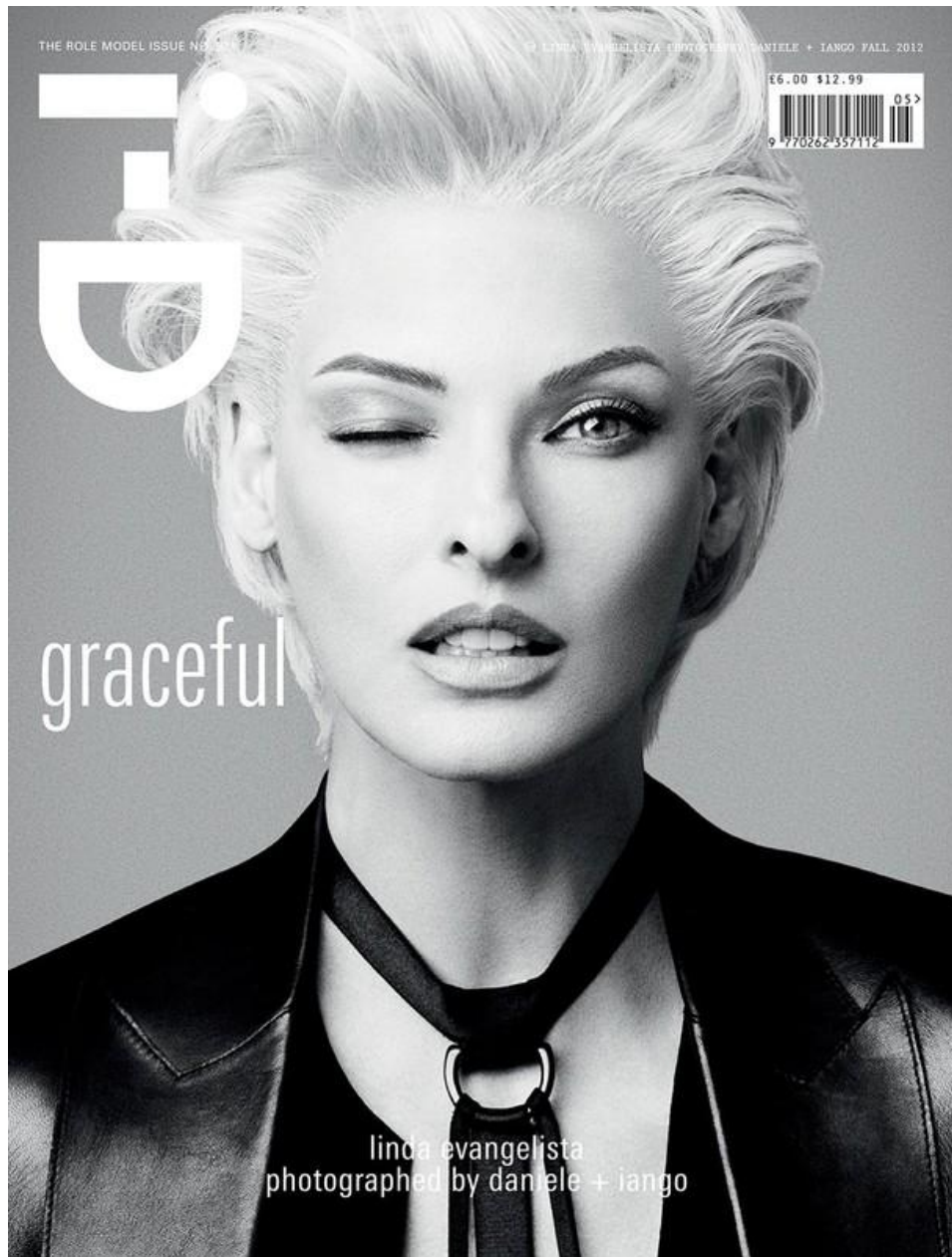


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With the clothes. I forgot all that. I forgot about shooting winter in the summer. I'm kind of relieved that it's over."

We get to the lobby of the building and discover a sign taped to the wall that reads, TAKE ELEVATOR AT YOUR OWN RISK! "You don't want to get trapped in an elevator with me," she says as we nervously push P for penthouse. Are you claustrophobic? "Yes. I totally lost it in the tunnel tonight coming back from New Jersey."

After a walk around the loft (big, but modestly so), she grabs a bottle of white wine out of the fridge and two plastic cups, and we head up to the roof. It's damp and dark and foggy—with an occasional flash of lightning way off in the distance. We sit down at a set of aluminum table and chairs—the only furniture inside or out of the apartment. The lightning has her on edge.

What's your worst fear?

"It's funny that you're asking me that," she says and then pauses for a long time. "Do you know that I have a fear of fear? I have panic attacks. And panic attacks are fear of fear. In the Lincoln Tunnel coming back tonight, we were just crawling, inch by inch, and I lost it. I'm afraid of flying. I'm afraid of heights. I'm afraid of water. I'm afraid of speed. I'm afraid of elevators. Anything that moves. I'm afraid of everything. I'm afraid of death. I'm afraid of loss. That's my biggest fear. Loss."

What's your biggest weakness?

"I'm not weak."

And there you have it. Linda Evangelista in a nutshell. Scared but not weak. Fragile yet steely. What did Karl Lagerfeld say? Tough and touching. It's a rare and winning combination. When Evangelista's life went into "FF," as she likes to say—fast-forward—she slipped into a kind of arrested development, suspended in a state of girlhood. Modeling, of course, encourages women to stay childlike. "I didn't even have the chance to look at and assess my life," she says. "All I did was work, and that's all I knew how to do. I didn't know what to do with my time off."

Suddenly Amber Valletta and Didier Fernandez appear on the roof to take Evangelista out to dinner. Valletta is in town for a couple of days; the night before, there was a mini-supermodel summit—Amber, Linda, Shalom, and Nadja—at the Mercer in SoHo. Evangelista pulls a couple of Polaroids out of her bag. "I had a blast," she says. "We were finally all in the same city on the same day. That just doesn't happen."

"This one reminds me of those outdoors

#### NOTE TO SELF

Work it after hours: "Post-it" minidress in lavender with zipper seams, Tom Ford for Gucci. Dress at Gucci boutiques; Saks Fifth Avenue. Details, see In This Issue.

#### BEAUTY NOTE

Business casual: Lips are naturally luscious with Estée Lauder's Sumptuous Lipstick in Juicy Fig.



"One of the reasons I wanted to come back is I got sick of seeing really ugly pictures of me in the tabloids"

## LINDA EVANGELISTA





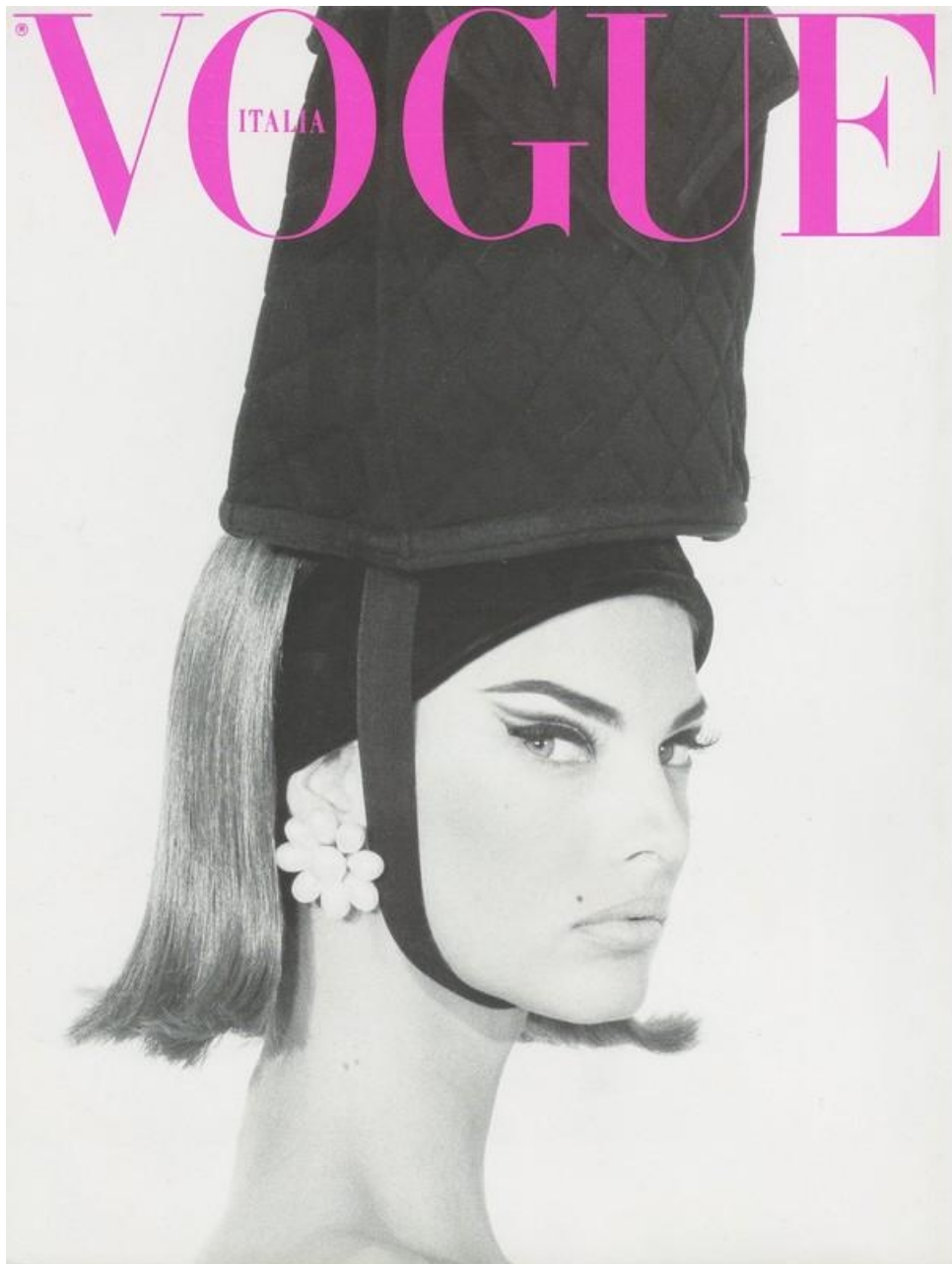
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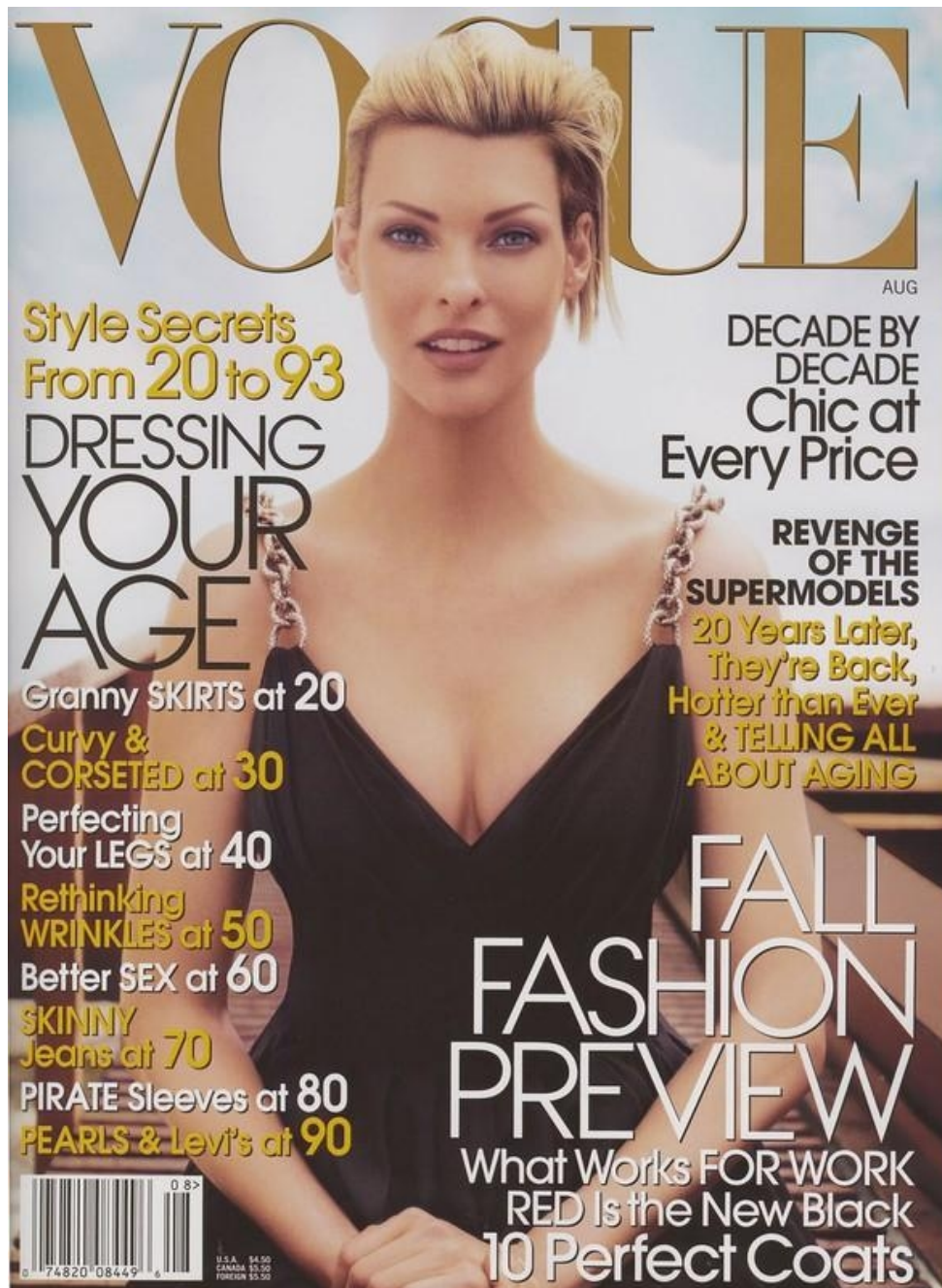
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# Harper's BAZAAR

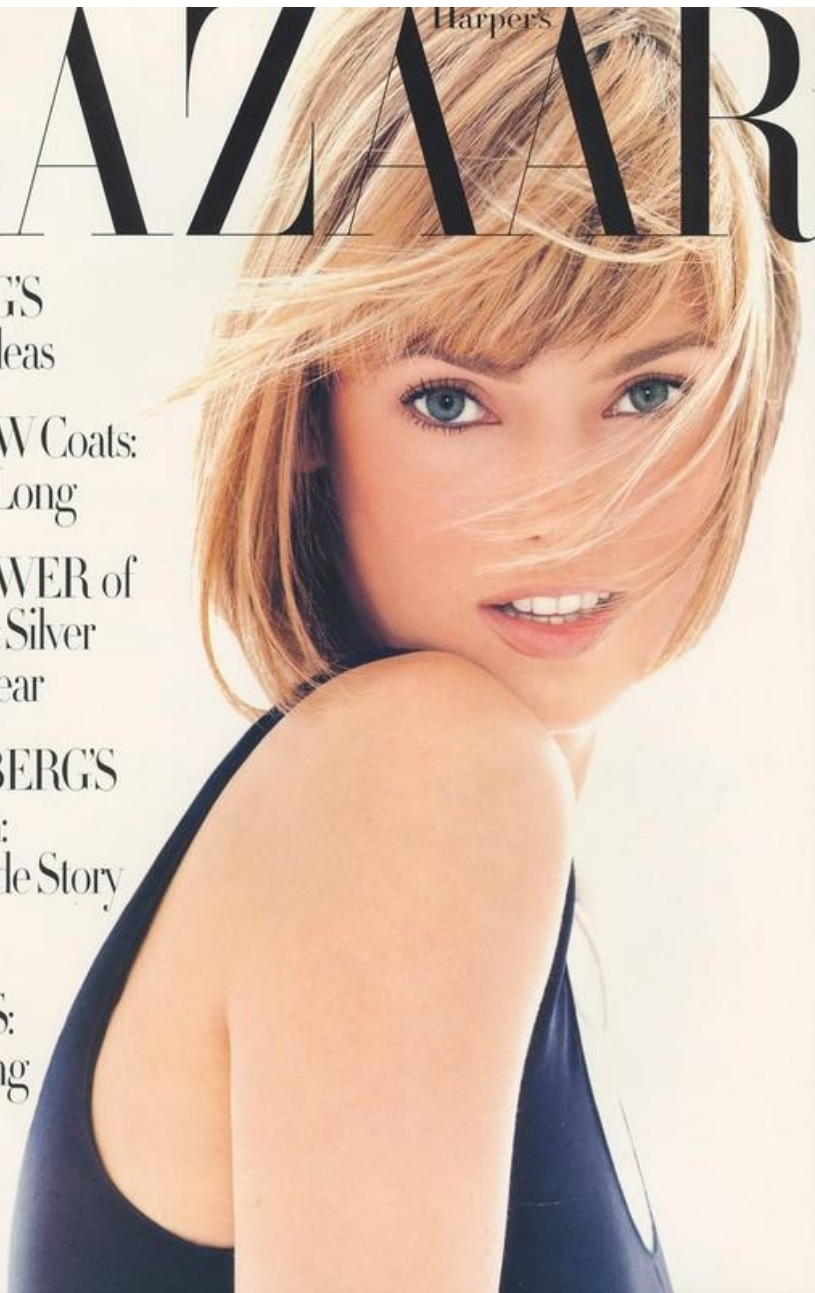
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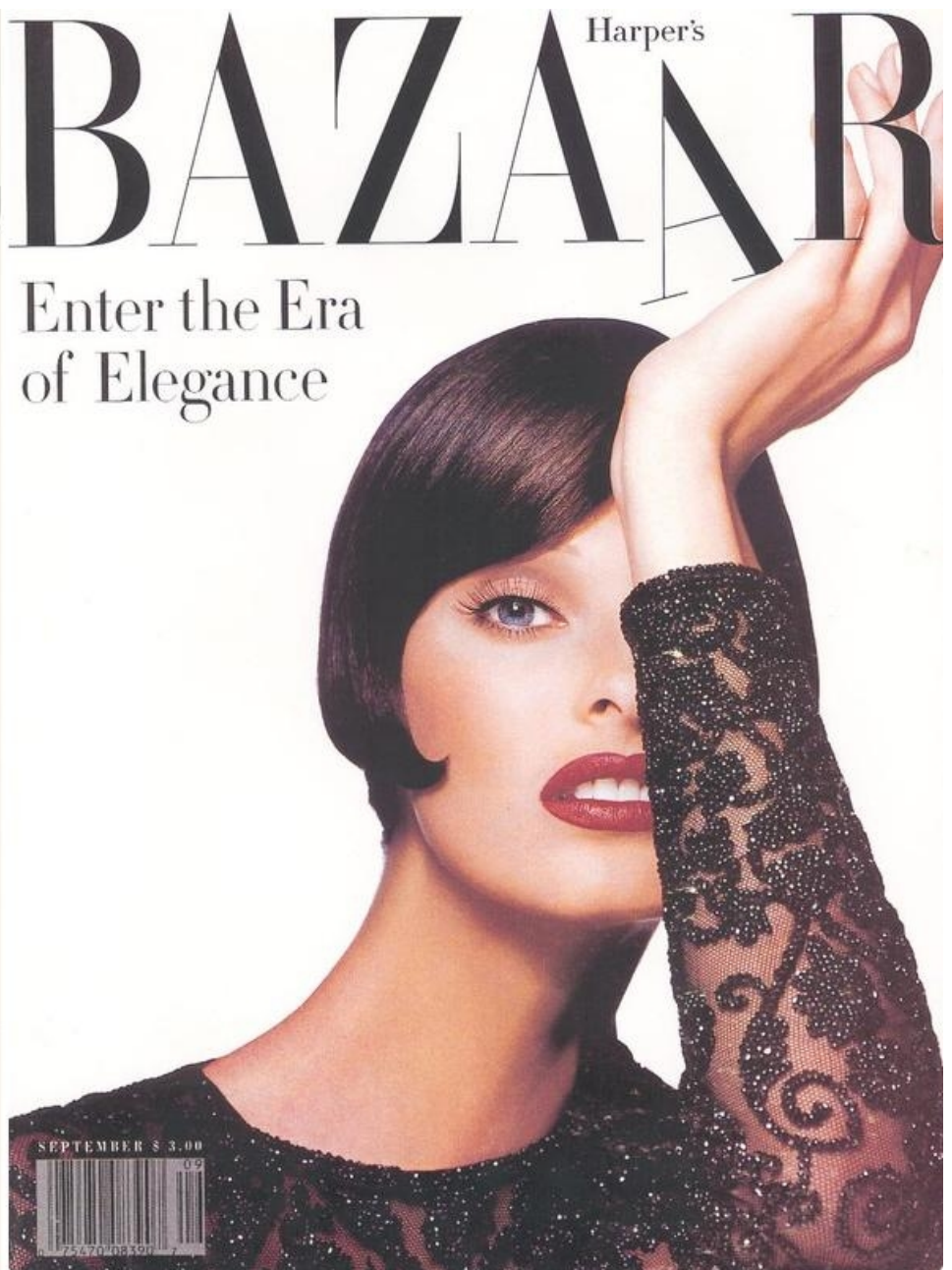
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# Harper's BAZAAR

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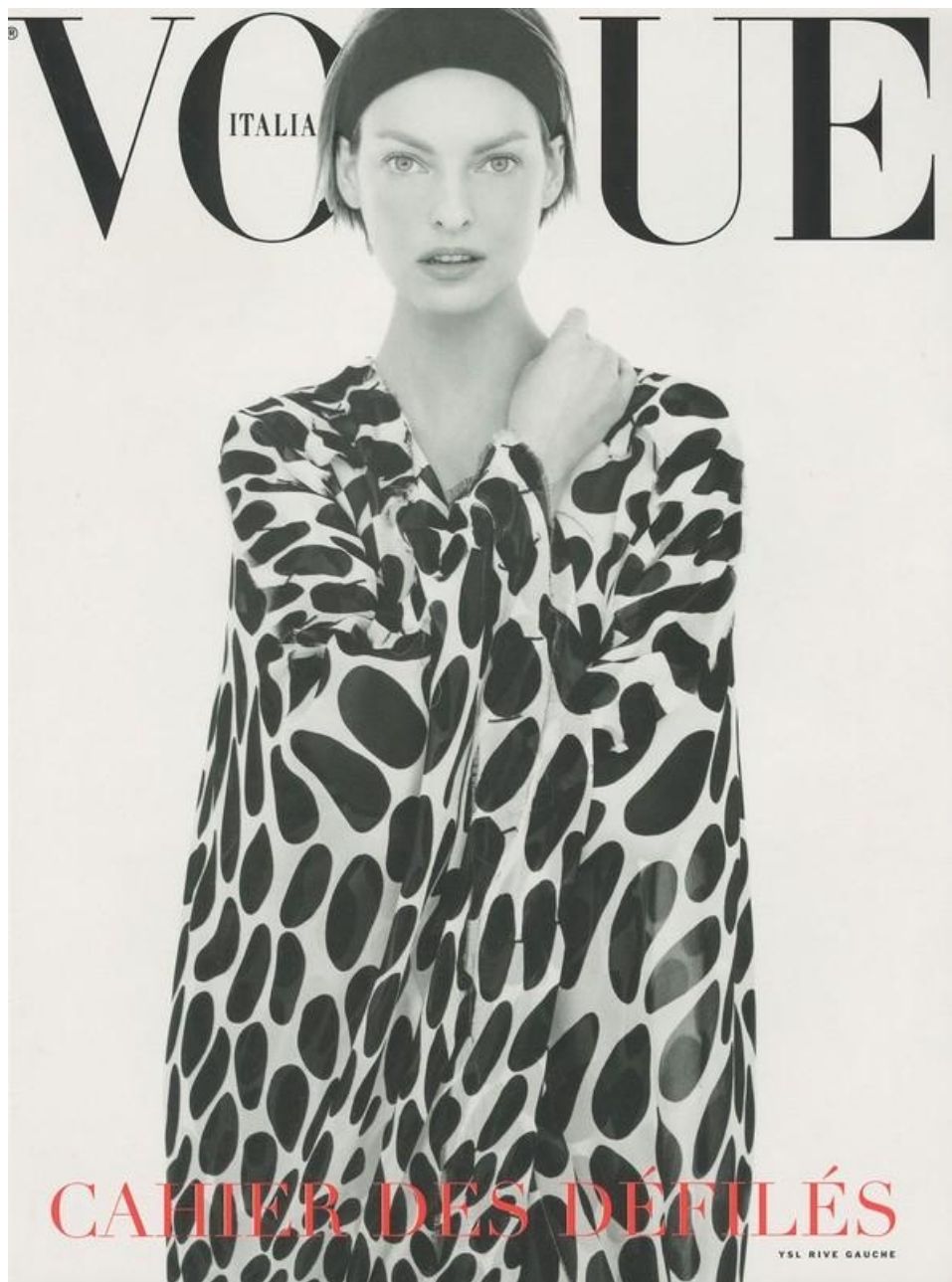


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