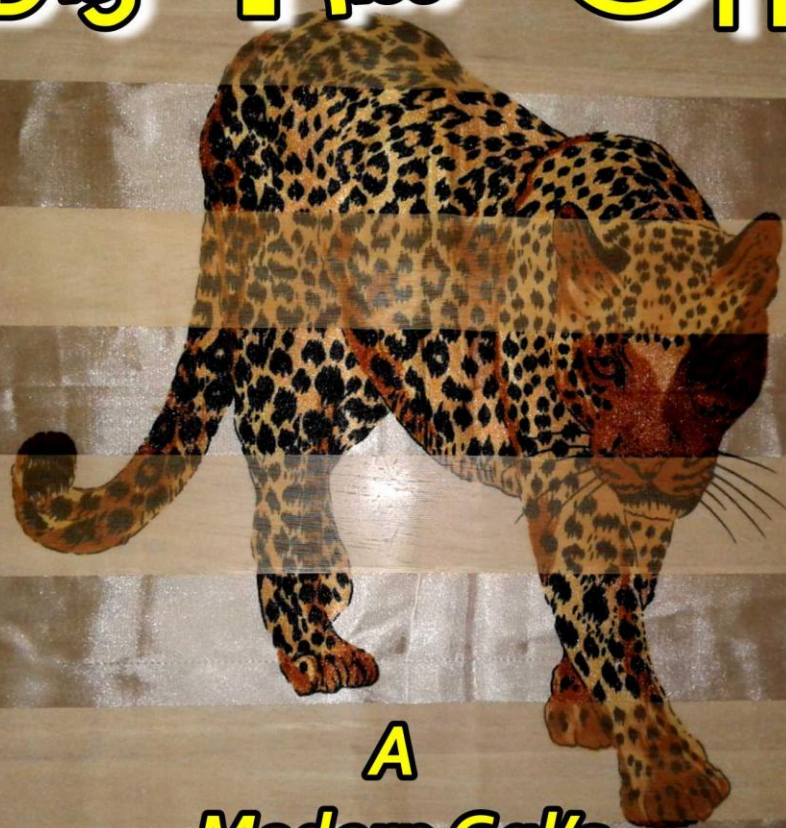


The Big Kiss Off



A
Modern Gal's
Guide to Navigating Glam in
the Age of Covid

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Navigating Glam
in the Age of Covid

by **A.H. Scott**



*Dedicated
To
Anyone Who Misses 2019*



Photos By A.H. Scott 2020

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By

A.H. Scott

Ladies, when was the last time you puckered up?

If you can't remember, then you can relate to me. Since the middle of March 2020, my tubes of lipstick have been orphaned and not have I once looked back to see if they miss me.

Yet, I do miss them. Their colors and tones of reds, pinks and coral make me sit here and give a sigh n' smile to think of them.

As the words flow across this screen, I gaze down at my fingers making quick contact with this keyboard and exhale, "Nails, ya' on your own".

No mani. No pedi. A shrug in knowing only a simple clear polish from one week or one month will do.

Some in that industry of splash and flash tout that sales of such goodies of glamour will not be on the downturn for long seem to be singing a hopeful hawker's song.

Lipstick is no more aroused by puckered lips, as mascara is no longer a lover of an eyelash.

Makeup is cast off, almost like that of constant regalia of a body-shaper or finely filled bra. Contemporary uniform of hustle and bustle has become tumbleweed in a ghost town that blows away in a rustle.

Cosmetic container I have isn't fancy or filled with much finery; only lipstick and mascara are my sisterhood of being presentable. Well, previously to right now that is.

As for daytime of the present, only a thin layer of sunscreen with moisturizer touches my face. My nighttime routine is a gentle wash of my face, which is followed by a light rub of Vaseline. Pampering myself with a nice massage of baby oil everywhere else locks in the moisturizer to get me through my dance into dreamland.

Maybe, as the seasons change from Spring to Summer and then Autumn into Winter, I guess I'll come around to getting used to this new phase of pretty.

I was never much into makeup as I grew up from teenager to young woman, and now a a-hem more mature lady. But, geez Covid has truly taken the color, spice and vividness of spirit out of me.

Glam was never me. But, damn those tubes of pretty shades and tiny applicator from mascara should not be banished to B.C.; but, reclaimed in a coming rebirth of A.C.

Before Covid vs. After Covid: How Have I Changed?

Before 2020, popping on a fresh coat of lipstick and letting a funky pair of hoop earrings dangle from our earlobes was as easy as taking a fresh breath when walking outside of our homes.

Yeah, just close your eyes and take a good deep breath to fill your lungs with life and all that it offers you when taking a step into the public square. Oh yes, I do mean breathing. Damn, even something as simple as that action of living could be seen now as some sort of callous thing to say or even write. I am far from trying to be insensitive at all. Yet, I write to anyone who is reading this; don't you wish everything could be pulled back to BC (Before Covid)?

Oh yes, I believe you who read this now are probably nodding your heads in agreement. Just a little bit of relaxing the heaviness that hangs over us all can bring our minds to a place of peacefulness; if only for a brief patch of time.

Of course, in the larger picture of living in this moment in time, thoughts of makeup are tossed into the back of our minds. Alas, to spruce up just a bit can put a smile on your face; even if you are the only person that sees you with lips glistening and lashes lit up with a certain glow of joy.

As I'm thinking about it; I haven't even gotten to how daily fashion has changed from blouse and skirt with a nice pair of heels, to tee/sweatshirt and jeans/sweats with a comfy pair of sneakers.

But, one thing is for certain in the present day is that we are all going back to basics, especially if you are navigating through public transportation.

Mask up! Sanitize up! Lather up! Soap up!

Around your ears, let the loops of fabric hold on, as your hands are getting doused with an alcohol-based tonic and lathered soap. Don't be flustered with this protocol, because it is the only way to cope.

Makeup down! Glam down!

Naked is how I am. Bare face without makeup's trace is the way to be upon this day. At least until a vaccine comes along.

Stay Safe! Stay Healthy! Stay Sane! Stay Strong!

This is the way it is for now and I'm a modern gal who's taking her bow.

Fingers crossed & lipstick tube tossed,
A.H. Scott
August 2020



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Cover Design by A.H. Scott 2020
Photos by A.H. Scott, 2020

Thanks For Reading
