

The Unraveling of A Fashion Era

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Prologue

The Unraveling of Fashion Era showcases my most memorable fashion archives. This book not only focuses on my greatest garments but symbolizes a specific time in my life and exactly what I was feeling and what I endured during that period. I curated this body of work to express my love of fashion and how broadly it can be defined. Fashion is beyond an article of clothing, but a mood, a creative process, a moment in time, and most importantly an opportunity to expose one's true and authentic self. I hope my book shares some insight into my favorite wardrobe pieces and how I styled them. My ultimate goal is to inspire creatives to utilize happy and painful experiences to compose something great that can be expressed outwardly, such as fashion.

Foreword

My sister Shelby has always been the fashionista of the family. Since childhood, she's been trendy and unique. From designing her own garments to personal styling for friends, she has always had an eye for fashion. Oftentimes she assists me in choosing the perfect look for the right occasion, and I couldn't be more grateful. Everyday I am excited to see what outfit she comes up with, as it is always modern and chic. This book paints an accurate picture of her style progression throughout the years, and individuality!

Yours Sincerely,

Shaylan Simon

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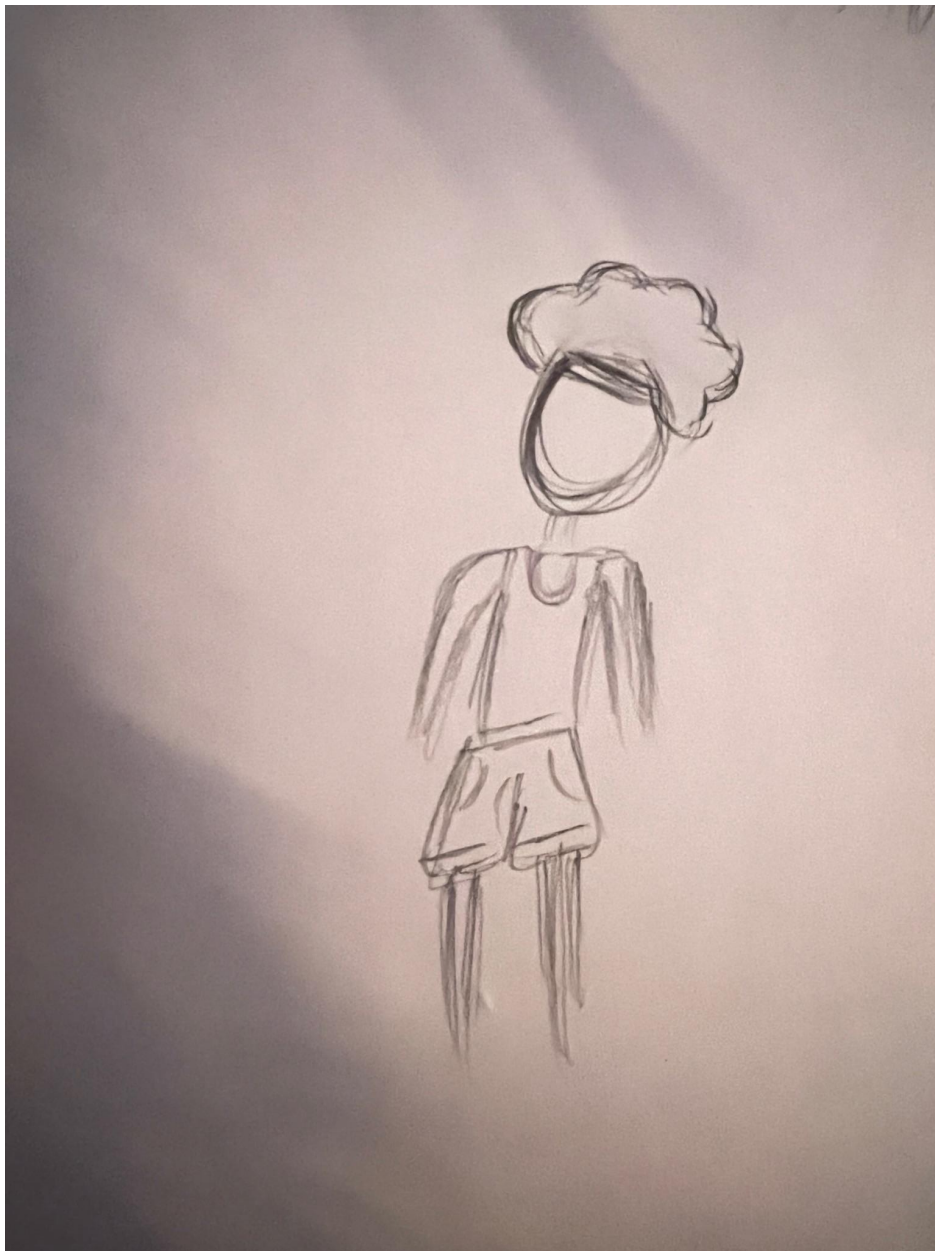
The Fashionista turns old years old!

My mother was a known fashionista who definitely expressed her passion through the way she dressed me. One of our favorite photographs when I was younger were my first birthday pictures. I wore an all white cotton two piece set and an oversized chef-like hat from a local children's boutique; White Forest. She recalls being anxious about the photoshoot because she did not know how I would react to the cameras and lighting. My grandmother tagged along to assist my mother in ensuring the pictures turned out fabulous. To their surprise, I smiled with glee the entire time sporting the special white outfit she selected for me. The pictures were taken by Gayletta's Photography at 3105 Spurlock Rd, Nederland, Tx who were extremely popular throughout our small southern town. My mother still recalls the strong aroma of musk as we entered through the wooden door to meet the owner and photographer, Lucy. The building had a very rugged look from the outside but the inside was lit from the natural light peaking through the floor to ceiling windows.

For my first birthday pictures, my attire consisted of a pure white co-ord set. The top was a thick cut cotton tank top that flared towards the bottom of the garment with simple stitching around the neckline. The bottoms were cotton bloomers that hugged my tiny legs with an elastic band. To accessorize, I wore a white oversized hat that resembled a chef hat. The hat was so large that it draped the right side of my chubby cheeks. Small diamond earrings shined through my baby pierced ears as it was apparent my mom used supplements to enhance my appearance. Several body modifications were made before arriving at Gayletta's Photography Studio. My mother washed my sandy brown hair and applied her homemade moisturizing concoction. This mixture was created with organic coconut and jojoba oil which was used to tame my frizzy

curls. I was bathed in the infamous Johnson and Johnson baby soap and lathered in vaseline so my skin would appear supple under the bold lighting. It was very important to my mother that I always looked presentable and neat as she believed her children were a representation of her own Identity.

While growing older, I realized the simple white ensemble signified more than just a birthday celebration but a sense of innocence and joy as I was my mothers first baby girl. The garments were very memorable because they represented such a pure stage turning one years old. My first birthday was directly linked with the immense love and gratitude of motherhood my mom experienced watching her first born grow. My family saved the white garments in hopes of one day to pass them down to future generations. This outfit indeed marked a significant period of my life.



Rockstar Birthday Party!

I was super hyped to be hosting a Rockstar themed birthday party for my 9th birthday. My mother rented a local event hall on West Port Arthur Road in the center of our small texan city to kickoff my birthday bash. The entire building was decked out in colorful rock decor and the entrance was occupied by a huge pink, yellow, and black balloon garland arch. Strobe lights intensified the theme as my guests and I rocked the night away! The attendees consisted of my immediate family, cousins, classmates and 2 of my favorite teachers. My mom hired a dj which kept everyone on their toes throughout the night and served amazing southern delicacies. The party was a success as we danced the night away in our rock attire!

I wore a hot pink and bright yellow tank top with a matching mini tutu skirt that was handcrafted from tulle. The colors were extremely loud and the layered tank tops were slim fitting while the tutu was very puffy and full. The difference in the shape and fit of the garments created a nice silhouette. To coordinate this vibrant look, I rocked pink and yellow high top Nike dunks and heavy beaded pink necklaces from Claire's. I also added white "stunna shades", similar to the sunglasses the famous rapper Soulja Boy sported in 2010. The details of the outfit were designed to portray a retro and rock vibe.

I vividly remember the morning of the party getting my hair professionally done for the excitement that laid ahead. My hair transformed from a boring low ponytail to a fun mohawk in the matter of minutes. Stitched braids lined both sides of my head while the middle of my hair was spiral curled and teased. The hair stylist sprinkled neon pink glitter on top of the mohawk to really enhance the rock aesthetic. I brushed well with colgate toothpaste, once in the morning and again right before the party to eliminate bad breath. I knew I would be in an intimate setting

and wanted to assure my scented breath was fresh during the entire party. These body modifications were made to assure I looked and felt my best at my birthday celebration. Being heavily influenced by the new profound sound of combined hip-hop and rock during that era, I decided to express that love through dress. This outfit resonated with me because I was able to fully display my individuality on my birthday. I was starting to form my own identity and interests in fashion, music, pop-culture, etc. The rockstar themed costume represented me coming into a sense of self. My mother supported that and allowed the freedom of expression through elements I was most interested in.



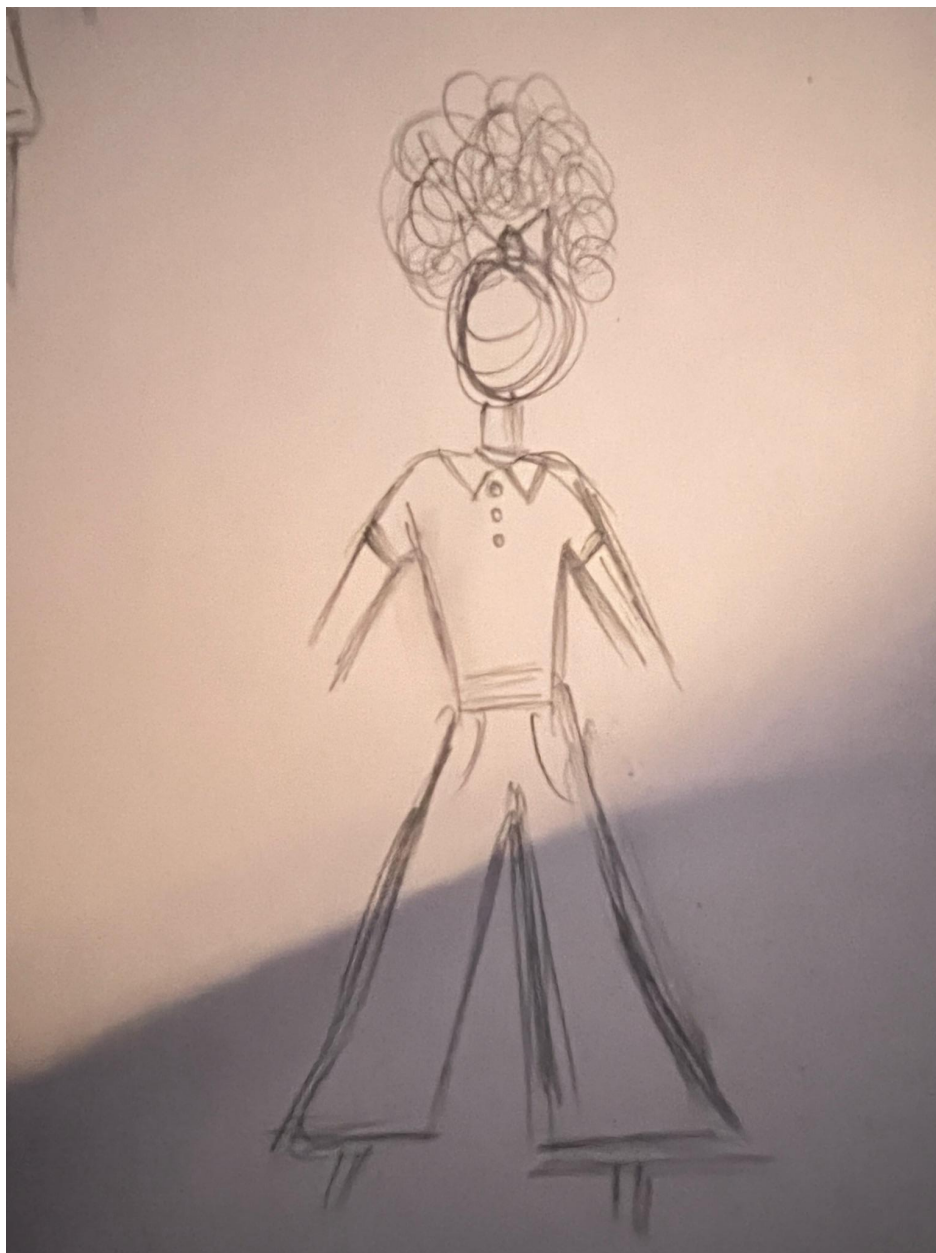
First Job as a teen

I was eager to get a job as soon as I turned sixteen. I always admired the idea of having my own money which I could spend exactly how I wanted. I was so anxious about the entire hiring process that I took the very first offer I received; Chuck E. Cheese. The facility was located at 3141 Silverlake Village Drive in Pearland, Texas. Here, my job description was a party host. I was in charge of assisting families with absolutely anything they needed to ensure the party went smoothly. The environment was very family-oriented and filled with tons of kids on a daily basis. I worked with a hosting team of 6 women and was managed by Mr. Lincoln insisted we went above and beyond to make every kid's birthday memorable.

I wore the standard uniform, khaki bootleg/ black pants or denim jeans and the collared red shirt. My khaki pants were hip hugging and bootleg cut while the black and denim were slim fit skinny leg jeans. The collared shirt was apple red and the Chuck E. Cheese logo was plastered across the right side of the shirt. I wore silver hoop earrings and a James Avery charm bracelet everyday as supplements to accessorize the boring uniform. Mr. Lincoln also gave me a black sweater that mimicked the original collared shirts to wear on top to protect the staff from cold weather conditions. The sweater was very lightweight and fitted very snug on the body due to the spandex material.

Each day before my shift I prioritized a hot shower and my signature vanilla scented fragrance because good hygiene was essential, especially in close proximity with the families. I made sure to slick my hair back into a sleek low bun and smoothed my edges down with hair gel. This hairstyle made me appear more professional and mature despite my young age. I also wore a bath and body works lotion scented in Japanese cherry blossoms, which made my skin soft

when having to shake hands with new guests. These modifications were critical to my confidence when working my first job. Because I worked at the only Pearland location, the building was guaranteed to be busy every weekend. I wanted to look my best so I dry cleaned my uniform every two weeks. The outfit was very simple but important to me because it represented a taste of the adulting. I was finally getting my own paychecks and held a lot of responsibility within the company. The uniform symbolized adolescence and a small glimpse into womanhood as Chuck E. Cheese was my first job. I'll never forget the long hours and fun times wearing that uniform!



Tenth Grade Prom!

Tenth grade prom was one of most memorable occasions throughout my highschool experience. I remember the day vividly, as prom was the most popular conversation for months amongst my peers. My friend Jasmine and I anticipated the glitz and glamor of it all, as we decided to get dolled up together for the big day. Our parents invited both immediate families to attend our “pre prom party” celebration at my home to bask in the special moment. There were various finger foods and treats for guests to indulge in while waiting to see the dress reveal! Some of my favorites were the crab rangoons, buffalo chicken dip, and red velvet cupcakes. My cousin; Cam, kept the hip-hop tunes bumping as the delectable snacks were being devoured. Soon after, Jasmine and I walked down the staircase as mouths dropped in awe at how beautiful we looked. The light peeked through the window, while the sun gleamed onto my exposed skin. My mother began to capture pictures of me to take advantage of the breathtaking natural lighting.

The photographs were outstanding and really emphasized my ball gown silhouette and color. The bodycon shape draped across my figure perfectly and the vibrant shade of red lit the entire room. The dress was held together by two thick cut straps, a sharp v-cut neckline, and a mermaid cut towards the bottom. Sequins covered the entire gown, which made me sparkle the whole night. The bright red dress was accessorized with diamond stud earrings that were inserted through my pierced ears and a diamond tennis necklace that was gifted to me from my grandma. To complete the look, I wore a bold red matte lip. I also added a simple silver sandal heel, attached by thin straps and a six inch heel to compliment the stunning gown.

In preparation for the prom dance, I took several body modifications. Three days before the prom, I got the most amazing pedicure and red stiletto shaped acrylic nails. These supplements contributed to the glam factor in the final look. My hairdresser; Denise, scrubbed my hair with Tresemme shampoo and conditioner to cleanse my hair of debris and dirt. She then styled each curl individually with Eco-style gel which resulted in extremely defined and voluminous hair. On the night of May thirty-first, I showered with steamy hot water and bathed with Dove body wash to eliminate body odor. Shortly after, I shaved my underarms to remove all unnecessary hair and exfoliated my skin with Tree-Hut pina colada sugar scrub to get rid of dead skin. Quickly before the prom, dewy makeup was added as an enhancement to my natural state which made my features pop. I sported the infamous; Ruby Woo lipstick by MAC along with a strong black cat eye liner. These modifications were very important being that I wanted to look and feel my absolute best for prom.

The ball was a blast because I wore one of my most memorable gowns. This was such a significant fashion moment in my life because of the way it made me feel. I felt very princess-like and radiant in my red sequined ball gown. In highschool, I remember constantly being my worst critic as it is common for young women to endure those growing puberty pains. Yet, this red dress acted as a wake up call for me. Slipping on that dress and spraying my vanilla scented perfume reminded me of the power I held within. It reminded me of my true beauty and my perfect imperfections. My grandma was kind enough to purchase the dress for me which made it ten times more special. The red gown gently swayed as I walked into the school dance while my choir teacher yelled “Shelby, I hardly recognized you.” He saw the newness in my eyes and the confidence that red gown had given me.



Senior Prom!

During the end of my senior year I was asked to attend Memorial High School's prom by a family friend; Chase. We often discussed the colors we would wear and the game plan for the actual day. Navy blue and black were the final choices and the search for the perfect dress began. Although I went to prom previous years, something about my senior year was special. With this mindset, I decided to get the gown custom made instead of purchasing from a standard dress retailer. I worked alongside the talented artist to make my dress dreams a reality for many months before the dance. Prom day approached quickly and it was finally time to get dolled up and enjoy my last bittersweet minutes of high school. My mother, sister, grandparents, aunt, uncle, and Chase's parents gathered at Tyrrell Park located at 6088 Babe Zaharias Dr in Beaumont, Texas to participate in a "prom send-off". This small Texas town was known for its extravagant and over the top prom antics where students rented out luxury vehicles, rocked designer gowns and suits, and thousands of dollars were spent to compete for the best dressed king and queen.

Although this was not my school's dance, my mother insisted that I looked jaw dropping as this was my last prom ever. The designer created a black deep v-neck dress with midnight blue embellishments. The dress included a halter top that was held with a shiny black clasp and a deep leg slit in the front. The initial layer of the gown was crafted from silk materials and the second layer was composed of laced navy blue jeweled decoration. A tiny blue lace choker created from the same material adhered to the center of my neck to accessorize. I wore black pointed toe platforms to emphasize the dark and sultry aesthetic. My goal was to curate a timeless look,

something unique that wouldn't be easily accessible in local dress shops, something fun and most importantly, something me.

To assure I felt as beautiful as I looked visually, I practiced multiple body modifications. I soaked in a warm epsom salt bath and lathered my body in lavender scented body wash. The combination of the salt and soap created a relaxing and calm environment while I pondered on the thought of myself attending my very last dance. I flossed and brushed my teeth with Colgate toothpaste to eliminate bacteria and cleanse the mouth and the outcome was scented breath of mint. I washed my hair with Pantene products to cleanse my hair, which resulted in a more silkier texture when heat is applied. My hair was professionally straightened with the Chi titanium iron that made my hair sleek and polished. I waxed my legs to remove all stubble, in order to have smooth, hairless, and glowing skin. I sprayed Delina Exclusif perfume on my soft skin to grace the room with warm floral and vanilla notes which altered my natural body chemistry. My nail beds were modified and transformed with gel-x nail extensions that were designed with a classic white french tip as a supplement.

This midnight, dark glamor aesthetic symbolized the ending of one journey and the beginning of the next chapter. The gown represented me growing into womanhood and entering a new era with new lessons. The dark and alluring look was expressed visually in direct correlation with my inner feelings. I felt a sense of re-birth as I was closing the book to my highschool years and stepping into the real world. This was such a pivotal moment during my life as I could physically feel I was experiencing alignment with new opportunities



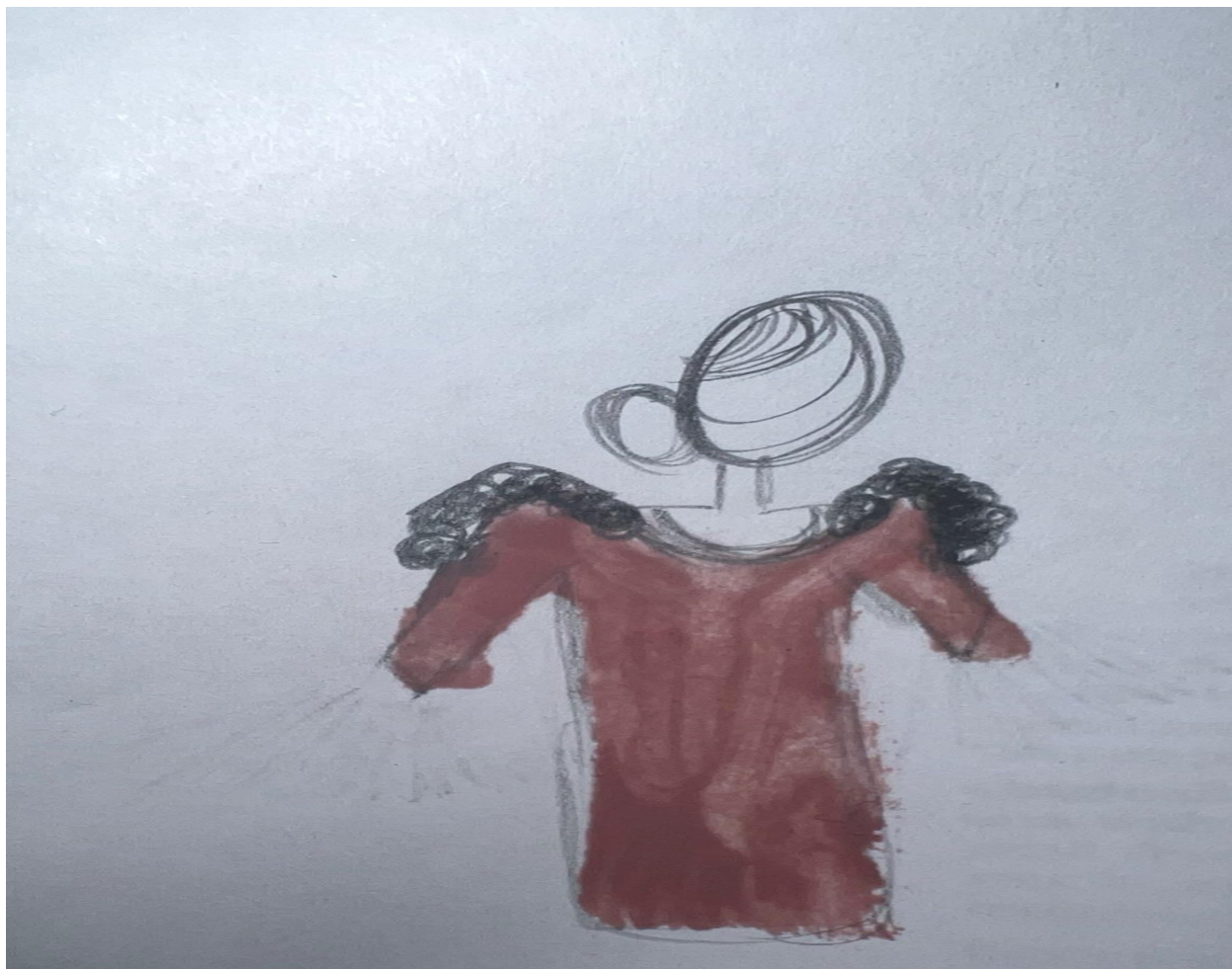
Dads Funeral :(

In twenty-nineteen I dealt with the absolute unexpected. My father passed and suddenly my world was completely shaken. My sister and I lived in Nyc alone, while my family remained in Texas. He passed around midterms which made it difficult to focus on studying while mourning the death of a parent, alone. Eventually, my sister and I traveled back home to Texas to attend the funeral and soak up some love from the people we cared about the most. I never imagined in a million years that I'd lose a parent, especially so soon. Yet, reality struck and I was forced to learn to cope in healthy ways. Although this was the toughest hardship in my life, the outfit I wore to his funeral truly reminded me of his amazing character. Hundreds of family members, coworkers and childhood friends, church staff, business owners etc. attended Gabriel Funeral Home at 3800 Memorial Blvd in Port Arthur Texas, grieving his youthful spirit. My father was known for his goofy personality, if he was in the room I'm sure many laughs filled the space. He was well respected because of his kind yet playful demeanor. Because of this reason, his aunts and uncles advised attendees to wear pink. I purchased a dusty rose pink mid length silk dress from PrettyLittleThing.

The dress was a beautiful hue of pink, with a muted tint. The dress was midi length with quarter length sleeves. I entered the pre-shaped holes through the peplum structured sleeves and slid on the form fitting dress. The material was constructed from a stretchy bandage fabric and hugged the silhouette slightly. This dress had a scoop neckline and no designs, which were not needed because the color and design was such a statement on its own. For shoes, I wore a nude patent leather pointed toe pump. The light brown color contrasted with the pink very well, and produced a nice balance.

The funeral took place on a rainy Saturday morning so I brushed my untamed hair into a smoothed bun by utilizing edge control. I also applied coconut oil to eliminate dryness which added moisture to my hair. I showered with Caress hydrating jasmine body wash to cleanse the bacteria from my body. I used my Tom Ford body shimmer to modify the skin to create a healthy glowy appearance. To intensify my organic scent, I lathered myself in Japanese Cherry Blossom perfume. My tongue was cleaned with a tongue scraper and my teeth were brushed with crest toothpaste to eliminate germs and freshen breath. Lastly, I wore Fenty lip gloss to plump and tint the lips.

The color of the dress was such a gorgeous shade of pink and represented his gleefulness. He was always smiling and joking constantly, basically goofing off! The color was so fun and playful just as he was, especially in his role as a father. My dad's approach to parenting was always so gentle and understanding. He built a safe place for my sister and I to confide in and kept us laughing while doing so. The rose pink garment symbolizes how cheerful he was and the positive impact he made amongst his community. I am so glad to be in a healthier headspace than when the incident occurred and I kept the pink dress in my closet to remind me of how wonderful he truly was.



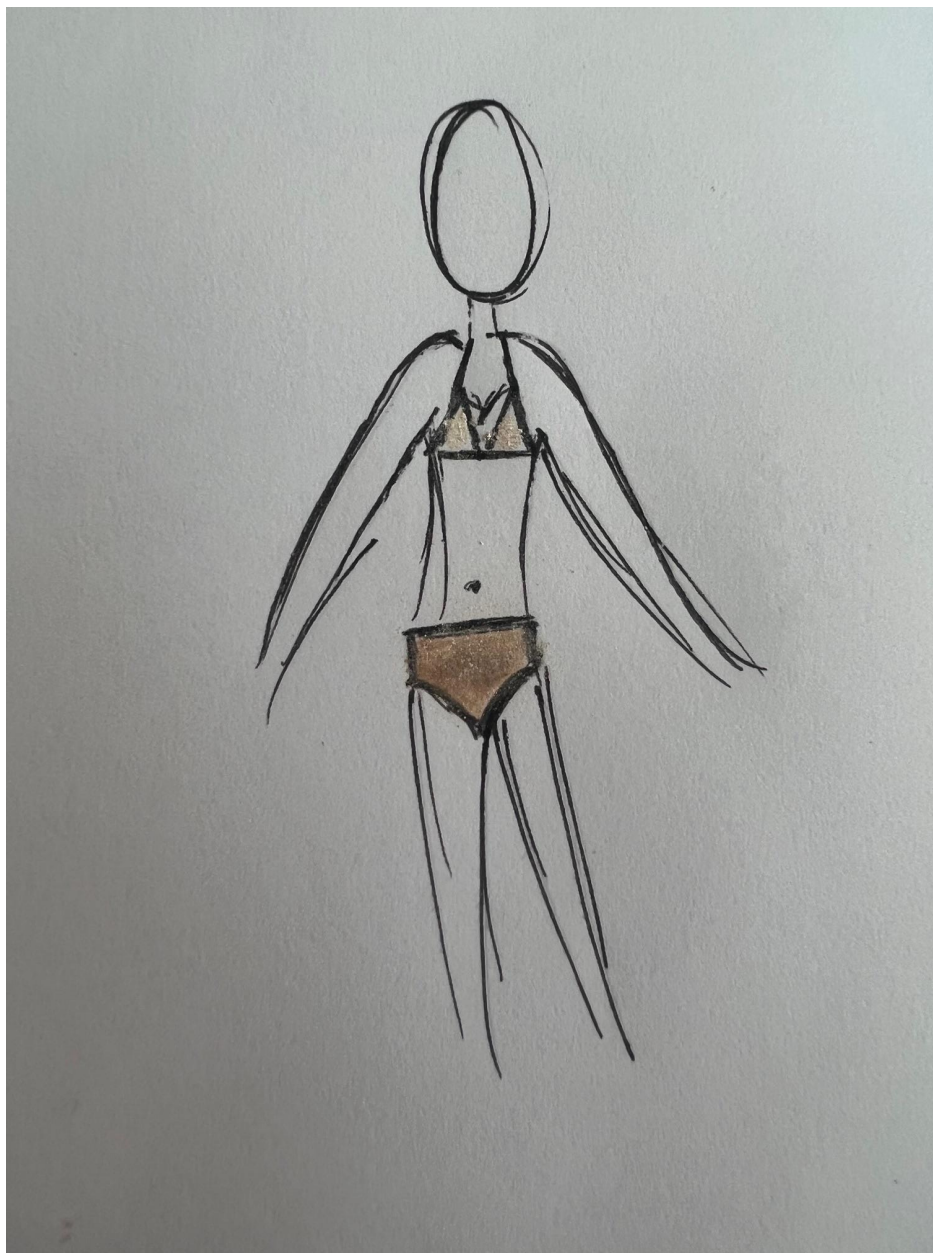
Girls Trip: Cancun Edition!

Mid October during twenty-twenty one, I attended an all girls vacation for my best friend Dejah's birthday. The girls' getaway consisted of five women total. Dejah, Drea, Christi, Toni, and I departed from Houston, Texas and arrived in tropical paradise in about two hours and thirty minutes. We stayed a total of four nights at the Royalton Resort where we had a blast! During these four days, there was a pool party held on a gorgeous rooftop where the view of the turquoise waters were impeccable! The Dj played Spanish bops as we danced in the blazing sun. My all time favorite song Vivir Mi Vida by Marc Anthony sounded in the room while the go-go dancers performed. In celebration of Dejah, all of the ladies decided to pitch in and get bottle service to make her birthday the most memorable. Bottle girls crowded the pool area with sparklers and tequila as the group sang happy birthday.

My skin was sunkissed and tanned from days prior so I made sure to wear my metallic gold bikini to the event. The tropical location definitely inspired the metallic gold swimsuit because it reminded me of the light rays from the beaming sun. The swimsuit was a two-piece string bikini that was purchased from Shein. Although it was very simple with little details, the material was gorgeous. The bikini was composed of a spandex and polyester blended fabric with a stunning shiny gold finish. To compliment the golden tones, I wore chocolate brown Birkenstock sandals and a Marni tote bag that held all of my summer essentials. In preparation for the rooftop party, I took a hot shower and exfoliated with Tree Hut green apple scrub to eliminate dead skin. I then shaved my legs and underarms with a venus razor to remove all hair. Taking these necessary steps in the shower created a smooth base for my

lotion and tanning oil to adhere to. I flossed, brushed my teeth, and gargled with mouthwash in order to have super fresh breath for the event. I also refreshed my hair with lukewarm water and mousse which resulted in defined and voluminous curls. The last step was adding Laneige Lip Glow Balm which slightly tinted my lips with a hot pink color.

There was definitely an emotional connection to the metallic gold string bikini. Being that Cancun was my first girls getaway while legally being an adult, I wanted to express that through my wardrobe. The younger Shelby always wore swimsuits that were very simple, sometimes boring. This trip awarded me the opportunity to step outside of my comfort zone and try something daring! The metallic gold was very bold which was quite unusual for me when wearing swimsuits. Because I was older and more assured of myself entering womanhood, I sported the bikini with confidence! I remember receiving several compliments on the bikini, excited to wear it again this summer!



New Job!

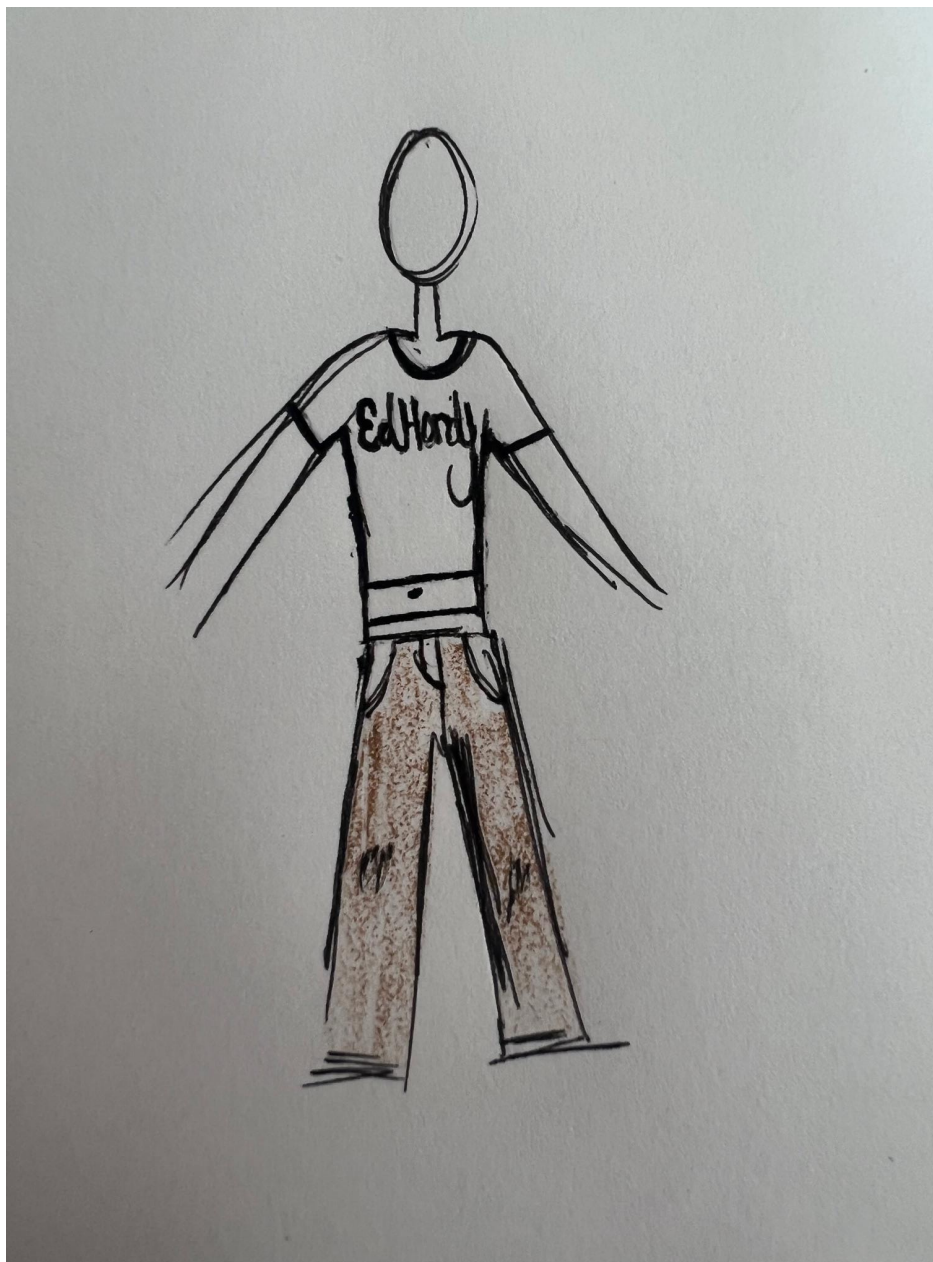
Last year, I started a new job as a sales associate for Ray-Ban. I was stoked about this job because I was finally able to work in a fashion oriented environment. Before I got the position, I was on a job hunt for a couple of months in search of something that would fulfill me until becoming an actual buyer. During the interview, Rob, who's currently my manager, seemed very genuine and level-headed. I remember being very sure that Ray-Ban was a team I'd like to be a part of. Later on the same day, I received a call from the Regional manager letting me know I was hired and could start immediately. This was the beginning of a new chapter. I promised myself I would come to work dressed well and put in the effort to look presentable everyday.

My first day outfit is still an all time favorite in my fashion archive. I inserted my legs into preshaped low rise blue jeans, and a black v-neck Ed Hardy t-shirt. The jeans were light-washed vintage Levi's and the shirt was bedazzled on the front. To accessorize, I threw on gold aviator frames and black pointed toe boots. This outfit was thrifted from Goodwill and although it was under fifty dollars, I looked like I spent way more! The look was heavily inspired by the early two thousands and set the tone on how I presented myself at my new place of work.

Once I received the good news about the job opportunity, the transformation of my nails and hair began. Medium length, almond shaped, french tip gel-x extensions adhered to the top of my actual nail. I got my hair silk-pressed, which resulted in straight and bouncy hair and made it easier to manage during the work week. I showered with Natrium body wash and followed with Delina perfume which altered my natural scent to a light beautiful vanilla smell. I brushed my teeth and scraped my tongue to freshen the breath and eliminate bacteria. Lastly, supplements

were added to the body with nars concealer to cover blemishes, elf cream blush to appear more youthful, mascara to lengthen my lashes, and tarte lip plumper to enhance the shape and color of my lips.

The vintage look I wore on the first day to work will always be extremely special to me. The job position represented a fresh start into a field that I was surely interested in. Working at Ray-Ban gave me the opportunity to experience working in a fashion dominant space. Through gratitude and realization, it was apparent that I wanted to perform my best and look my best while doing it. I was grateful to be entered into a space that would mark the beginning of my fashion career and wanted every outfit I wore to symbolize that. My outfit portrayed my sense of personal style and made me feel more confident when interacting with customers.



Gym Days!

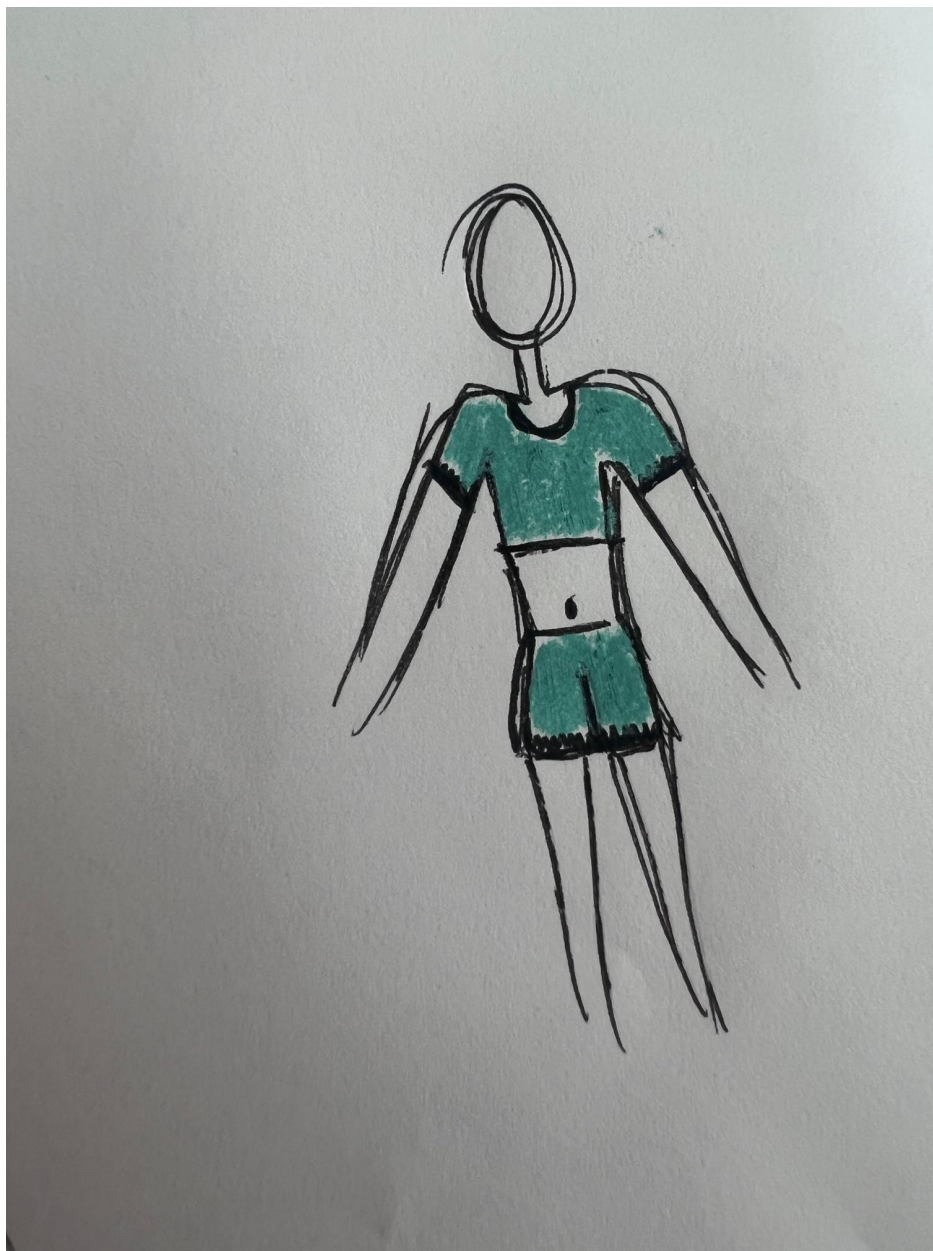
There became a point in my life where I wanted to really prioritize my health and make fitness a core part of my life. In twenty-twenty one, I signed up for Planet Fitness which was walking distance from my nyc Williamsburg apartment. I finally got tired of making excuses for my poor health choices and wanted to make a change. My sister Shaylan and I began our journey together, hoping that exercising together would make each of us more motivated. Bringing a partner to the gym would hold me accountable for the days when I felt depleted of energy and unmotivated. I told myself It would be easier to stay committed to my gym routine if I was sporting cute workout clothes.

I didn't have much money at the time so I purchased my first workout on sale from Fashion Nova for twenty five dollars. The spandex two piece set consisted of a turquoise sports bra and knee length biker shorts. The sports bra suspended onto my shoulders as I put my legs into the *preshaped* holes of the shorts. The texture of the clothing was very soft and super stretchy. There was a small detailing of a zigzag line that was stitched onto the seam of the bra and shorts. The two piece set hugged my body beautifully, which made it very easy to wear.

Many body modifications were taken before my first day at the gym. I shaved my underarms and legs to remove all exposed hair. I then washed my hair with TreSemme shampoo and conditioner to cleanse my hair. After, I gently combed through every part of my hair to detangle my curls. I used Eco styling gel on my edges and brushed my hair into a low bun which resulted in smooth tangle free hair. Degree deodorant was placed onto my arm pits which altered my natural scent in order to keep me smelling fresh throughout my workout. Finally, I applied

Burt's Bees cherry chapstick to ensure my lips were moisturized during my exercise.

This fashion nova workout gear was the start to a new outlook on life. One that solely focused on getting stronger, building endurance, and feeling/looking great physically and mentally! The turquoise workout set was very memorable for me because it signified me taking on a new challenge. A challenge that consisted of me taking ownership of my life and baby steps towards a healthier version of myself. The workout gear made me feel confident and influenced me to give myself the health I knew I deserved. Every time I look at the set I am reminded of the tremendous impact it made and how it transformed my life.



Halloween 2022 :)

My sister Shaylan and I decided to go for a night out on October thirty first last year to celebrate Halloween. I always loved the idea of dressing up in a costume but I usually worked on the day so I never got the opportunity to celebrate. To my surprise, I was off on Halloween so I knew without a doubt I had to join the festivities! Shaylan and I traveled to several stores throughout the city, seeking the perfect costumes. Quite often, we found something we liked but our sizes were not available since we started our costume shopping only three days before Halloween. Walking out of the store frustrated, we lost hope of finding the perfect costumes and decided to grab a bite to eat to give ourselves a break. While walking up to the Red Rooster, we stumbled upon a small halloween store to the right of the restaurant. There, we both found exactly what we dreamed and the garments were available in my size!

I was a “groovy girl” and embodied the average seventies woman through my attire. I rocked a hot pink sparkly jumpsuit with a v-neck line around the chest and flared bottoms. The jumpsuit had puffy shoulder pads which created volume on the top of the garment. I also had on the matching belt that clipped onto my waist. As well as a pink glitter neck choker along with a platinum blonde bang wig that adhered to my head. The fabric was very breathable and had tons of stretch. Iridescent sparkles shimmered beautifully on the hot pink fabric. The texture of the fabric felt very smooth. I paired the outfit with white disco boots to enhance the groovy element.

Before getting dressed, I showered with Dove cucumber soap to cleanse my body. I followed with EOS vanilla cashmere lotion and layered it with Ariana Grande’s Cloud perfume which made me smell very sweet. I braided my hair into cornrows which laid my natural hair flat

onto my head. After I applied the blonde wig on top of my hair and straightened the bang for a more sleek look. I inserted diamond stud earrings into my pierced ears. Next, I added nars foundation to conceal blemishes, elf concealer to brighten the under eye, elf blush to add color back onto the skin, mac bronzer to warm and sculpt my cheekbones, and matte red lipstick to the lips. The last step was applying setting spray which resulted in my makeup lasting the entire Night.

This look was iconic because I actually mimicked women from the seventies perfectly. I was emotionally invested into the hot pink sparkly jumpsuit due to my admiration of the seventies era. I always loved the chunky boots, bobbed and afro wigs, bell bottom pants and glitter makeup. The disco/groovy period was very authentic and represented the hippie style. This era definitely emphasized metallic fabric, flared clothing, and vibrant colors. The seventies style represented a political upheaval which ended in a disco craze. Wearing this halloween costume provided me the opportunity to show my deep love for the seventies fashion period.



Brunch in Malibu!

Summer of twenty-twenty two, my mother Shelly as well as my sister Shaylan and I took a trip to Los Angeles to explore the City of Angels. We are all foodies, so it was a must to find the most delectable brunch in the area. During this trip, we stopped at Geoffry's in Malibu to indulge in a delicious and lavish brunch. Although Malibu was about forty five minutes from our hotel, it was well worth the drive! We started our brunch with an array of seasonal fruit which was all very fresh and succulent. I ordered the chicken and waffles for my entree and this dish did not disappoint. The waffle was perfectly crisped on the outside and soft on the inside. On top of the waffle, there was honey infused butter which complimented the maple syrup perfectly. The chicken was seasoned to perfection as I could taste the garlic, salt, and pepper with each bite. I also finished my moms eggs benedict as it was my first time trying the dish. To wash everything down, I had a mango mimosa that was mixed beautifully, good thing they were unlimited!

While stuffing myself with an award-winning eggs benedict and mimosas, I wore a flowy silked pastel blue dress from Zara. The dress was the perfect thing to wear in the sunny yet humid weather and draped my body with grace. The hue of blue was similar to the color of the sky as thin straps suspended onto my shoulders and held the garment together. The neckline ruffled slightly and the silk flowed freely through the wind. There was a small slit in the dress on the left leg and ended just below the knee. The texture of the dress felt silky and soft. The garment hugged my silhouette slightly, yet it still allowed room for movement.

I knew we would be outside so I took every opportunity I could to tan. Before slipping on the silk dress, I covered myself in tanning oil which resulted in a warm glowy appearance. I

brushed my hair into a messy bun with water and left small curls around the perimeter out in order to achieve an effortless look. I brushed my teeth with crest toothpaste to freshen the breath and eliminate bacteria. Brown lip liner and baby pink gloss coated my lips to enhance the shape and color which altered my natural lips. A few dabs of egyptian musk were absorbed into the skin which resulted in a light clean aroma.

The dress symbolized a happy moment in time where I experienced a new city and an amazing restaurant. The blue waters of Malibu gave me all the inspiration I needed to wear the gown to brunch. I was very grateful to see the bright blue ocean and eat great dishes with the people I love the most. I believe sometimes we take small things for granted, when in actuality trying new things is a luxury. The silky sky blue dress expressed my gratitude in the moment and the joy I felt inside.



Dinner at STK!

About two weeks ago I tried the michelin star steakhouse; STK with my coworker Marie. The waitress started us off with white bread butter and ice water. I ordered a glass of Cabernet Sauvignon and Marie had a spicy margarita. For appetizers, I indulged in a simple caesar salad which was the only thing that was good. To my surprise, the rest of my meal lacked flavor and attention to detail but this did not stop me from dressing up and enjoying the night as I planned to create content for my social media that day. After dinner, we took pictures in the restaurant to capture the alluring ambiance. The restaurant was decorated beautifully with large flower arrangements along the side of the suede booth's. The Dj played the top forty hits and we made the best of our time despite the underwhelming food selections.

I wore a denim jumpsuit that was purchased from Aritzia. I inserted my legs through the preshaped denim jumpsuit which was light washed and wrapped my body tightly. The garment was stitched with a brown line along the seam and two pockets on both sides of the chest area. To compliment the denim, I wore a baby pink vintage dior clutch that I thrifted years back and a fully furred brown knee boot. The texture of the boots were wooly while the denim felt very thick and quality made.

Several body modifications were made before going out to dinner at STK. I showered with warm water and Naturium soap to cleanse my body. Trader Joe's coconut body butter was applied to the skin which modified my natural scent. I sprayed Zara's famous Tuberose perfume that made me smell very floral and flirty. I flossed to get rid of all bacteria and brushed my teeth thoroughly to eliminate bad breath and freshen the mouth area. I knew I would be taking

pictures, so I did a very special makeup look. I applied a gold shimmered shadow to my tear ducts and wispy false eyelashes which lengthened my natural lashes. I contoured the high points of my face in order to look more sculpted and chiseled. Nars concealer was lightly padded to brighten the under eye and eliminate puffiness. Coral blush added color to the cheeks and lip plumper to enhance the size of my lips.

My goal was to mix new and old pieces to create a timeless look and I achieved that. This outfit was very memorable because it combined all of my favorite elements of fashion. I have always loved vintage designers since my childhood years which was influenced by experimenting in my mothers closet. Denim is a staple piece in every wardrobe and can be dressed casually or formally, which makes me adore the material even more. Versatility in fashion is something I take pride in and this look represented just that. The outfit was comfortable yet chic, modern, and unique!



About the Author

Hi, I'm Shelby Simon, a 24 year old senior at City Tech! Originally from Texas, I decided to pursue my career in New York, the fashion capital. I have a passion for fashion because it allows me to authentically express myself. My style inspiration is a melting pot of Southern culture with a contemporary flare. I absolutely adore being able to convey my personality with each outfit I wear. In the future I look forward to helping others explore their style through my career in fashion.