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BEAUTY ROUTINE: FAITH XUE, EDITORIAL DIRECTOR OF BYRDIE

FAITH XUE | OCTOBER 24, 2016



This week is Beauty Week at HBFIT and we are SO excited to be content-swapping with the babes over at Byrdie Beauty for #HBFITxByrdie. Byrdie, part of the uber chic posse that brought you Who What Wear and My Domaine, is one of our favorite resources for all things beauty. The Byrdie team will be sharing beauty tips and tricks, how you can elevate your fall pumpkin obsession even more, and giving us inside access to their own editorial team's go-tos all week. We can't wait to show you what they have to say...

To kick things off, Byrdie's Editorial Director, Faith Xue, shares her beauty routine with us. Recently transplanted from California, Faith has moved to NYC to join us over on the best coast. Kidding, we love our West Coast #HBFITgirls! See how she is transitioning and get all of her beauty secrets below.

I recently moved from L.A. to New York, and though it was a smooth transition in a lot of ways (as in: I came here with basically nothing), there's one part of me that's having a hard time adjusting: my skin. Aye, she is a fickle beast. My forehead and nose have always been of the oil-slick variety, but the other day I peered in the mirror and noticed my nose was actually *peeling*. The only time that ever happens is 1.) when I'm sunburned or 2.) when I've attempted skiing (which has only happened twice in my life, and should probably never happen again). NY has been comfortably in the 70s, *maybe* 60s, since I've moved and my bruise-less rear end is proof I haven't been hitting the slopes, so I can only chalk it up to the climate change. Thus, my current fall beauty routine is a bit of an ongoing experiment rather a set regimen. Mostly, I've been loading up on moisture and treating my formerly-oily face like a dry piece of toast to be slathered heavily with jam/hydration.

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At night, I've been massaging Charlotte Tilbury's Multi-Miracle Glow on dry skin to melt all my makeup off. Then, I follow with a gentle cleanser—I'm obsessed with Renee Rouleau's Moisture Protecting Cleanser. It's sulfate-free (a must, because sulfates dry out your skin, kids!) but it still lathers nicely and smells just vaguely of cucumber melon. Plus, it never leaves my skin feeling dry or tight afterwards. Then, I load on the moisture. I pat La Prairie's Skin Caviar Essence in Lotion into my skin before it dries completely, then follow with Pestle & Mortar's Pure Hyaluronic Acid Serum. It's super hydrating and the vitamin e in it gives it a slight grip, so it sinks in immediately and makes your skin super-smooth—I also use it in the morning sometimes as a makeup primer. Then, depending on the day, I'll either use a hydrating overnight mask (Tula's Overnight Skin Rescue Treatment smells like yogurt and tingles slightly when you apply, but helps you wake up with the skin of a newborn), a face oil (Vintner's Daughter Active Botanical Serum is pricey, but I swear by it), or a simple moisturizer (honestly, Olay Regenerist is really good and you can buy it at the drugstore). I'm lazy and usually forget to apply eye cream, but when I do, it's Charlotte Tilbury's Magic Eye Rescue; RoC also makes a good one with retinol.



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My morning skincare routine is simpler. I just dab a cotton pad into Simple's Micellar Water and sweep it across my face—it's soothing, and cleanses your skin with very little effort. Then, it's my Skinceuticals CE Ferulic (it's made with antioxidants that protect your skin from free radicals), and light, oil-free moisturizer; Caudalie's Vinosource Mattifying Moisturizer (\$31) is great. To finish things off, I use Tatcha's Pore-Perfecting Sunscreen, which magically soaks up any excess oil and makes my pores disappear, then dab AmorePacific's Cushion Compact all over my face in lieu of foundation. Laneige makes a more affordable one that you can buy at Target and it's great too. A cushion compact creates this really natural, lit-from-within look and you can layer it for more coverage. My biggest failure in life was not being born in Korea and becoming a K-pop star, but channeling a K-pop star's dewy skin is the next best thing.

Confession: one of the biggest changes I've had to get used to when moving to NYC is not the food, or the weather, or the people (all of which have more than impressed me). Nay, it's the fact that I now can no longer do my makeup in the car while driving to work. I know this sounds extremely hazardous (and it probably was) but I had it down to a *science*. And I treasured those extra 10 minutes of sleep like you wouldn't imagine. I haven't gotten to the point where I feel comfortable doing my makeup on the subway (and probably never will), so I've compromised by basically whittling my makeup down to a 3-minute routine. I pencil in my brows with Tonya Crooks' Skinny Eyebrow Pencil—it's the perfect amount of waxy, and I've found no other brow product that compares—curl my lashes (because every girl knows that if you curl after liner then it takes half of my eyeliner off) then trace a black liquid liner along my lid. Here's where things get slightly complicated though. You know how when you apply black eyeliner, it can still look like there's a gap between your lashes and the liner, no matter how closely you trace against your lash line? Beyonce's makeup artist Sir John taught me this trick where you can take a creamy black eye pencil (I like Rimmel's Magnifeyes), lift your eyelid up, then use that to trace it along your waterline, *connecting it with the black line you just drew on your lid*. It has *changed my life*. It makes your eyes look way bigger and more defined in just 30 seconds. I will swear by this trick until the day I die.



Next, I finish off with Maybelline's Spider Lash mascara (it builds volume in my stubby lashes in just three strokes, *and* holds curl like none other—you are literally sculpting your lashes with the weird spider-like brush and I love it), dab some cream blush on, then finish with a swipe of highlighter (everyone on team Byrdie is obsessed with Maybelline's Strobing Stick). I have commitment issues when it comes to lip products, but lately I've been using Oribe's new lip balm and digging the new matte shades from **Nudestix** (they're creamy and matte, but magically not drying).

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Lastly, my hair routine has been the same for the past few years: I shampoo and condition with Reverie Nude, because it's sulfate-free and uses natural fragrance oils to soak up the oils on your scalp instead. Just make sure to *shampoo twice*—very important if you still want your hair to feel clean when using a non-sulfate shampoo. Then, I let my hair air-dry 75% of the way, put it in a loose, low braid for a few minutes, then shake it out (sh-sh-shake it out). If I'm going out, I'll spritz some texturizing spray to add some body and I'm done. There—a beauty editor's routine isn't *that* different from your own, right? (You can be honest with me here.)

<http://hbfit.com/faith-xue-byrdie/>