

FIRST PERSON I'M PROUD TO CALL MYSELF A SPINSTER

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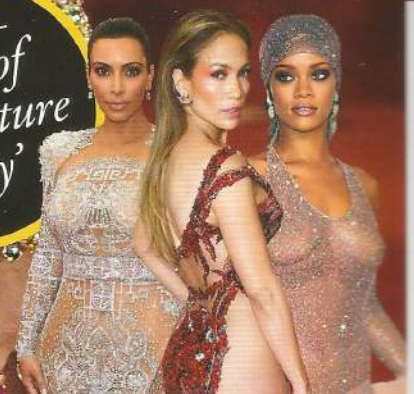
**4/7 MAXI WRAP**

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## BEYONCÉ HITS BACK

• ONE YEAR AFTER 'LIFTGATE'  
STAR GETS ULTIMATE REVENGE

**PLUS**  
*Rise of  
the 'couture  
body'*



## ■ EUROPEAN UNION

Boasting some of the world's best pharmacies and beauty boutiques, Europe is the hot spot for all things bright and, erm, beautiful. Even the toothpaste is ridiculously, ridiculously good-looking

**1** If there was an Oscars for skincare, then Biologique Recherche's Lotion P50, £52, deserves a lifetime achievement award. Beauty insiders have called on its exfoliating, skin-smoothing benefits for years.

**2** Mr Bruno Acampora began creating fragrances inspired by his jet-set lifestyle in 1974 (when he brushed shoulders with the likes of Gianni Versace and Andy Warhol). Those drawn to tuberose will no doubt love Blu, £100.

**3** Christophe Robin started his career aged 14 in a local salon in eastern France and now his namesake products are used worldwide. The Clarifying Shampoo with Camomile and Cornflower, £31, is a must for bleached blondes.

**4** Founded by a father and his sons, NAObay creates skincare that puts the environment first and foremost. Organic olive, rosehip and sweet

almond oils take centre stage in the Oxygenating Cream Moisturizing, £29.

**5** We count on Spain's Natura Bissé for their hardworking and super-luxe ingredients. Try the deliciously scented Damask Rose Body Oil; £52.

**6** Sweet floral notes meet an oriental undertone in the classic Santa Maria Novella Acqua Di Colonia Melograno, £85, which celebrates its 400th birthday this year.

**7** We've formed a fascination with Ligne Blanche Paris products, which include the most eye- and nose-pleasing Perfumed Candles such as Romance, £40, alongside artful confectionery and chic porcelain.

**8** Dr Alberto created Couto Pasta Dentifrica, £9, in 1932 and it's been a cult product among pearly white-owning Italians ever since. Have you ever seen such a sexy toothpaste?



## ■ THE SCANDI BAND

Our Scandi counterparts remain a constant source of beauty inspiration; we want their niche fragrance wardrobes, all-natural ingredients and seriously hardworking skincare. Given the option, we'd most likely take their genes too



**1** If niche fragrances get you terribly overexcited, acquaint yourself with Icelandic brand Andrea Maack. We love the otherworldly Craft, £85, a smoky concoction of cedar wood, patchouli and cold metal.

**2** The high levels of retinol used in Verso skincare are an impressive eight times more effective than other non-prescription products, making their range a hot ticket for those wanting to reduce wrinkles and discolouration. Try Super Facial Serum With Retinol 8, £95.

**3** Swedish fragrance house Byredo creates distinct, chic and impossibly cool eaux. Their Bal d'Afrique Bath Oil, £88, will almost certainly cause you to spend a disproportionate amount of time in the tub.

**4** Stockholm-born beauty brand Sachajuan combines pared-back

packaging, luxe ingredients and soft scents in this ever-so moreish Shiny Citrus Body Wash, £22.

**5** Eastern medicine meets Western biotechnology in the form of skincare from Sjal. Treat your skin to the highly reparative Saphir Concentrate Anti-Aging Face Oil, £130, come payday.

**6** & Other Stories regularly makes its way into our wardrobe and beauty cabinet. Strip off and scrub up with Belleville Bakery Body Scrub, £7 – your newly soft limbs will thank you.

**7** Danish-born, New-York-based make-up artist Kirsten Kjaer Weis created her own brand of all-organic products that are as kind to the environment as they are to the face, without compromising on colour or formulations. The Cream Blush in Blossoming, £38, is an A-list fave. ▶