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Lauren Summer as photographed by Ashlee Krutzfeldt throughout the snowy mountains of Mammoth Lakes, California

19 INTERVIEWING ASHLEE KRUTZFELDT

Getting to know the woman behind many of the internet's favorite and most iconic photos

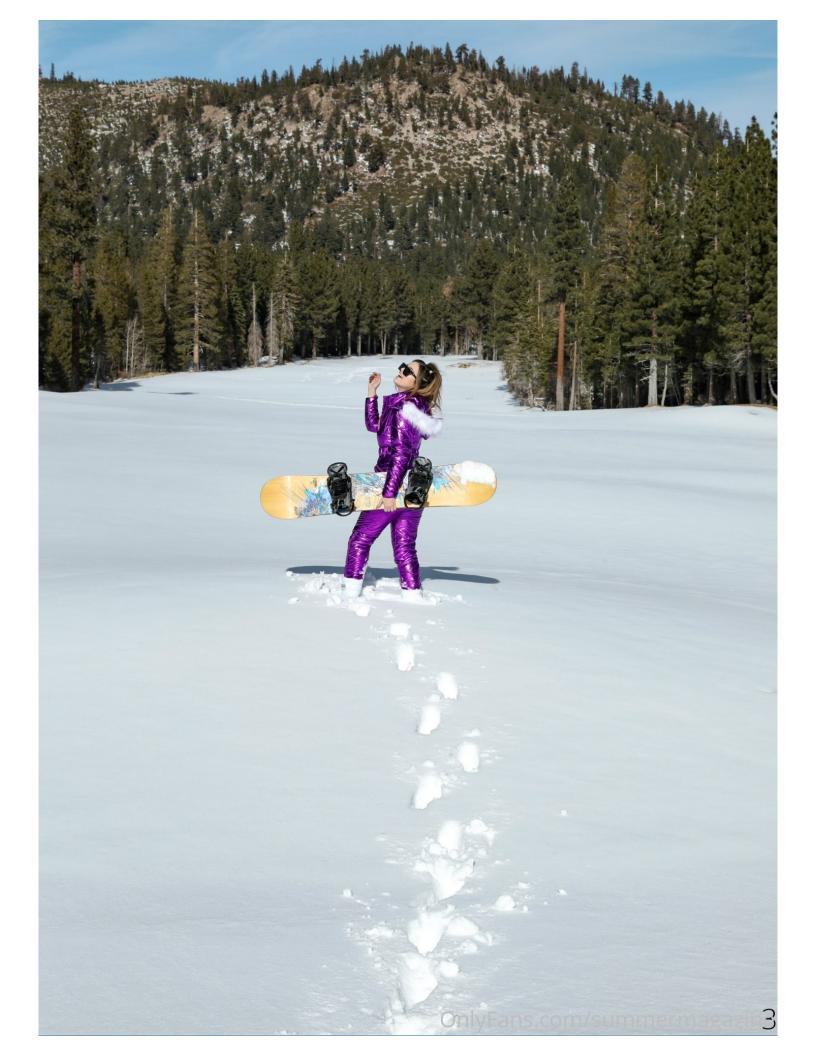
ASK ME ANYTHING

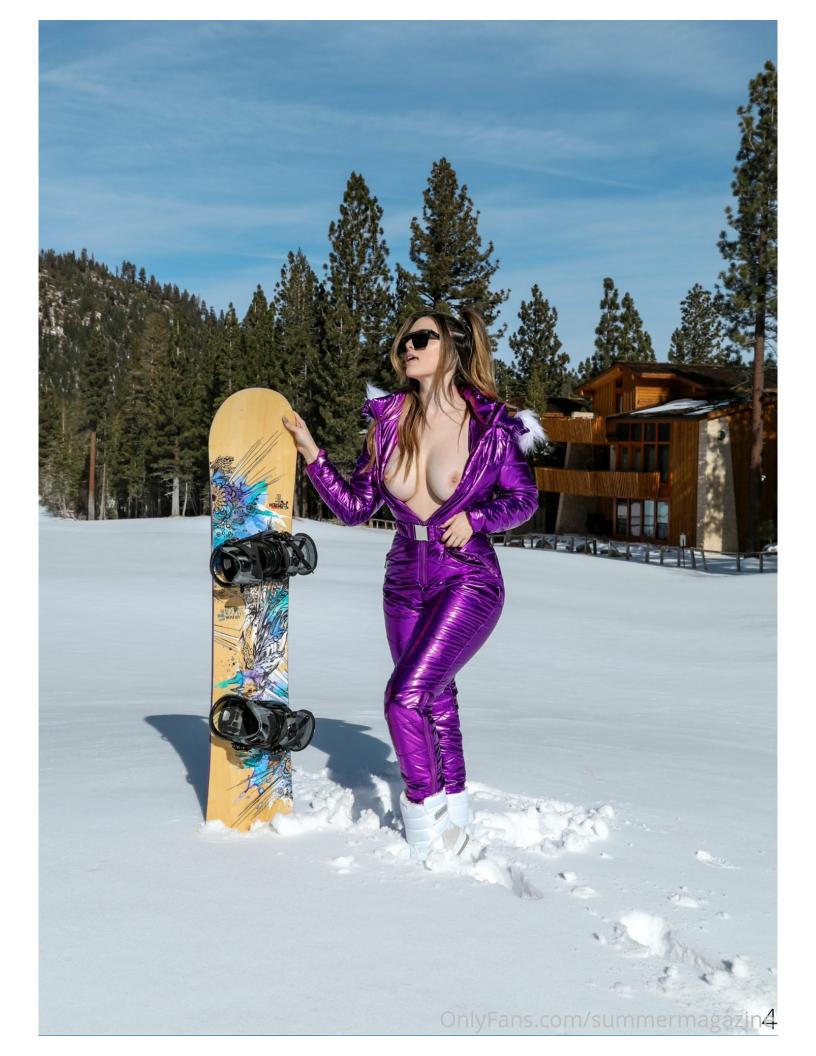
Get to know me! Answering your deepest questions yet

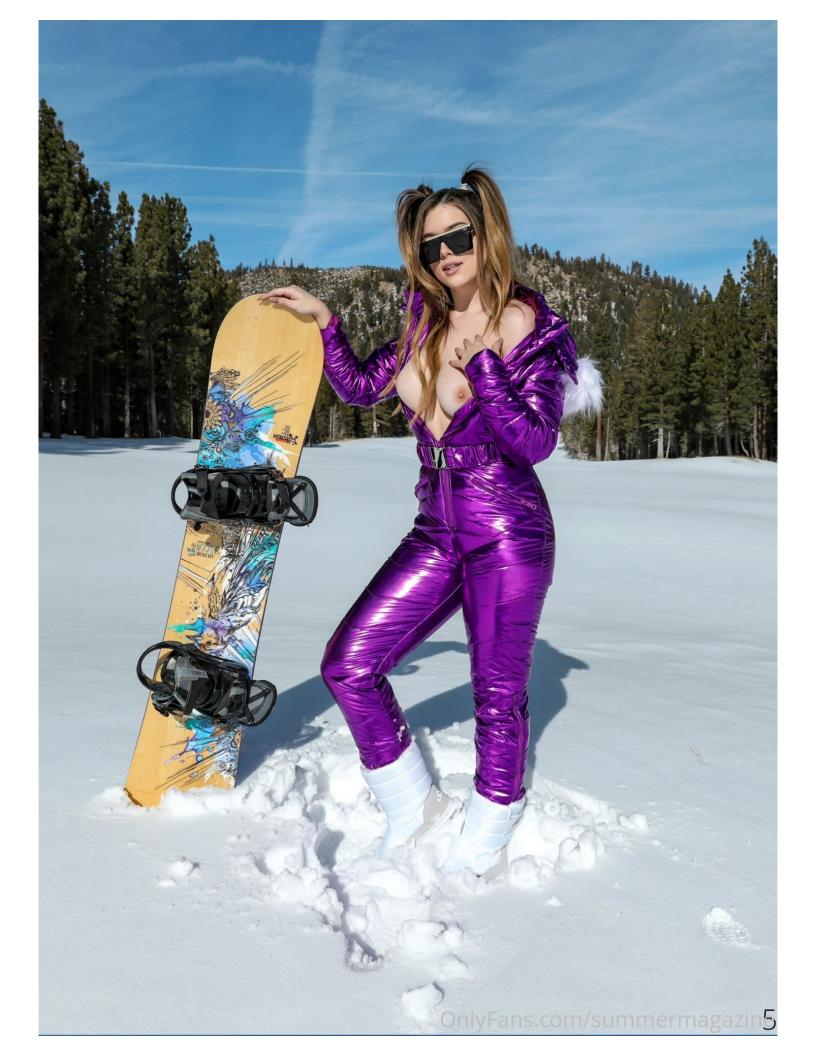
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MENTAL HEALTH GOING INTO 2021

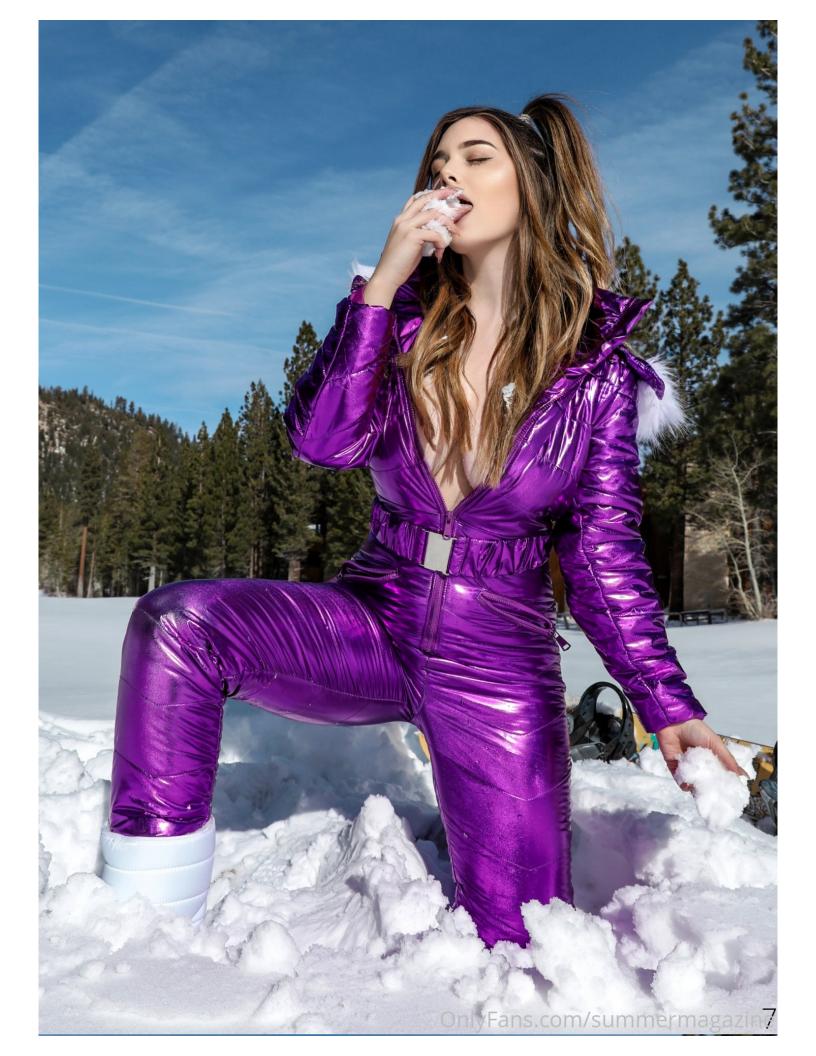
After a year full of unforeseen challenges, how do we move on from 2020?

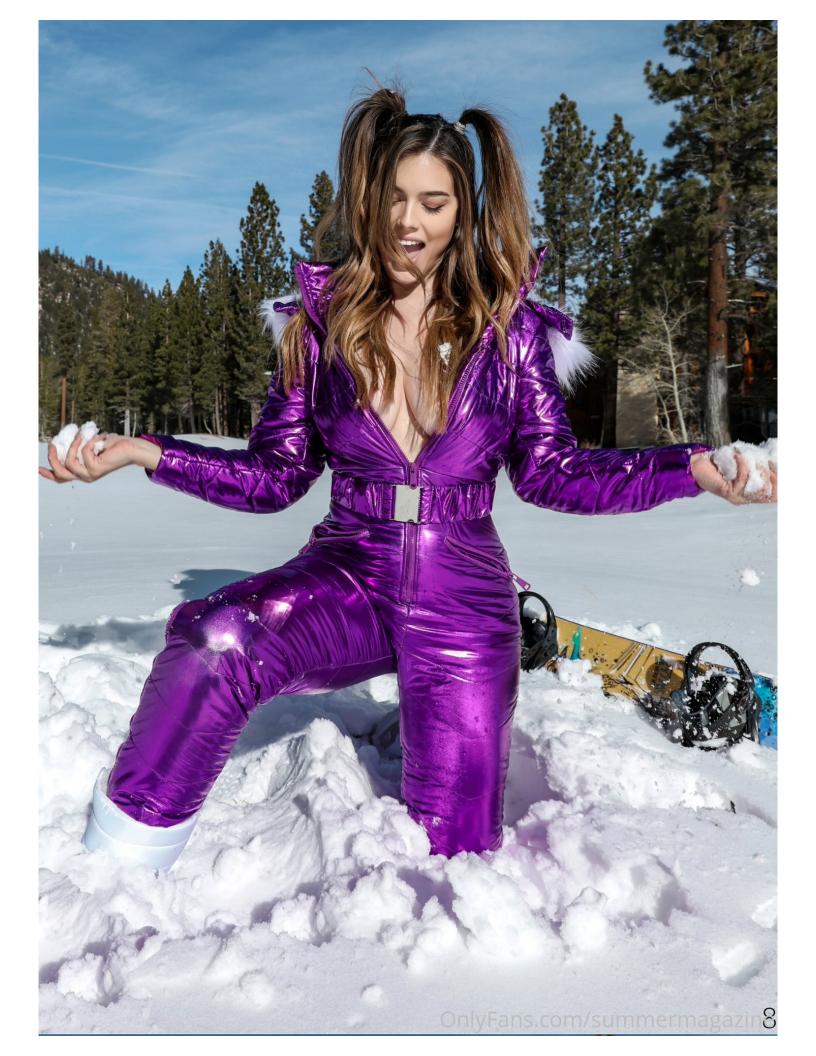








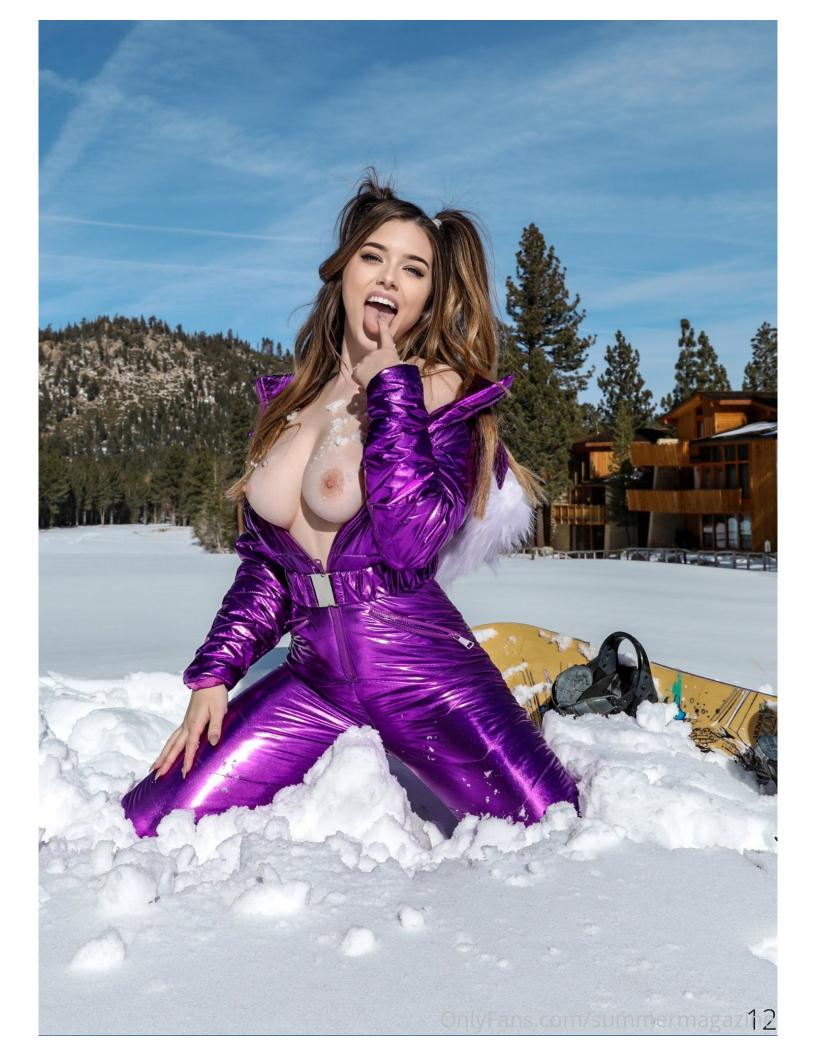










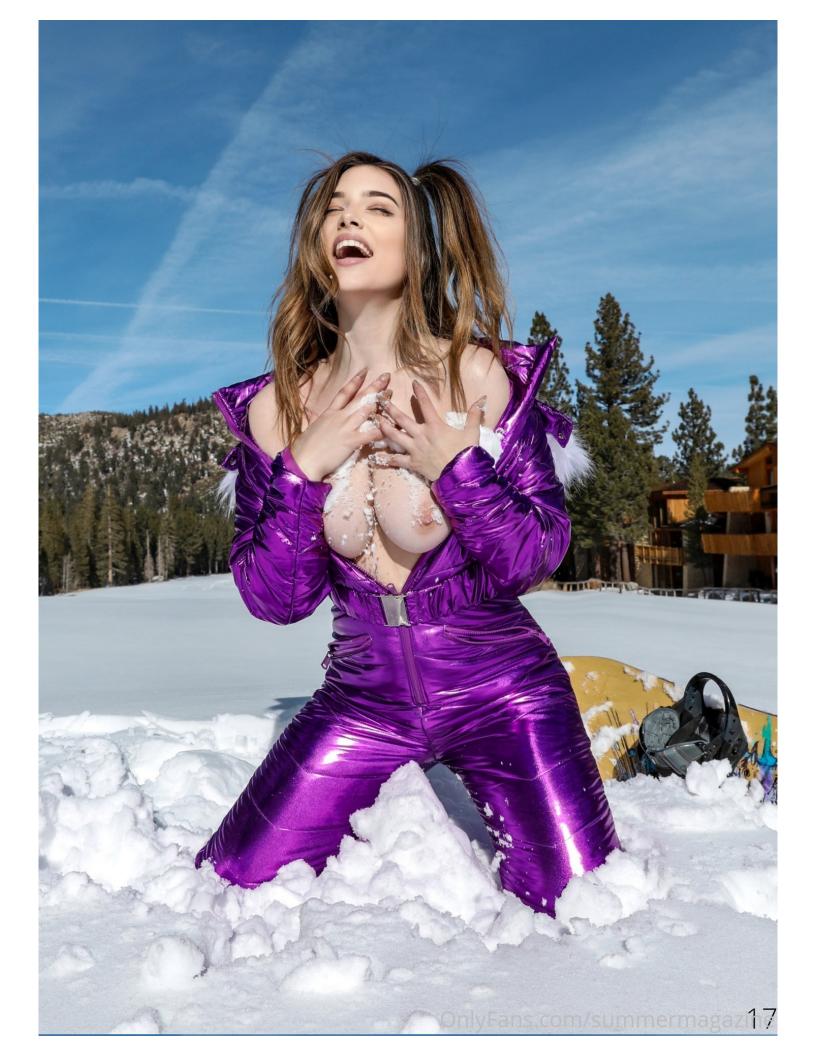


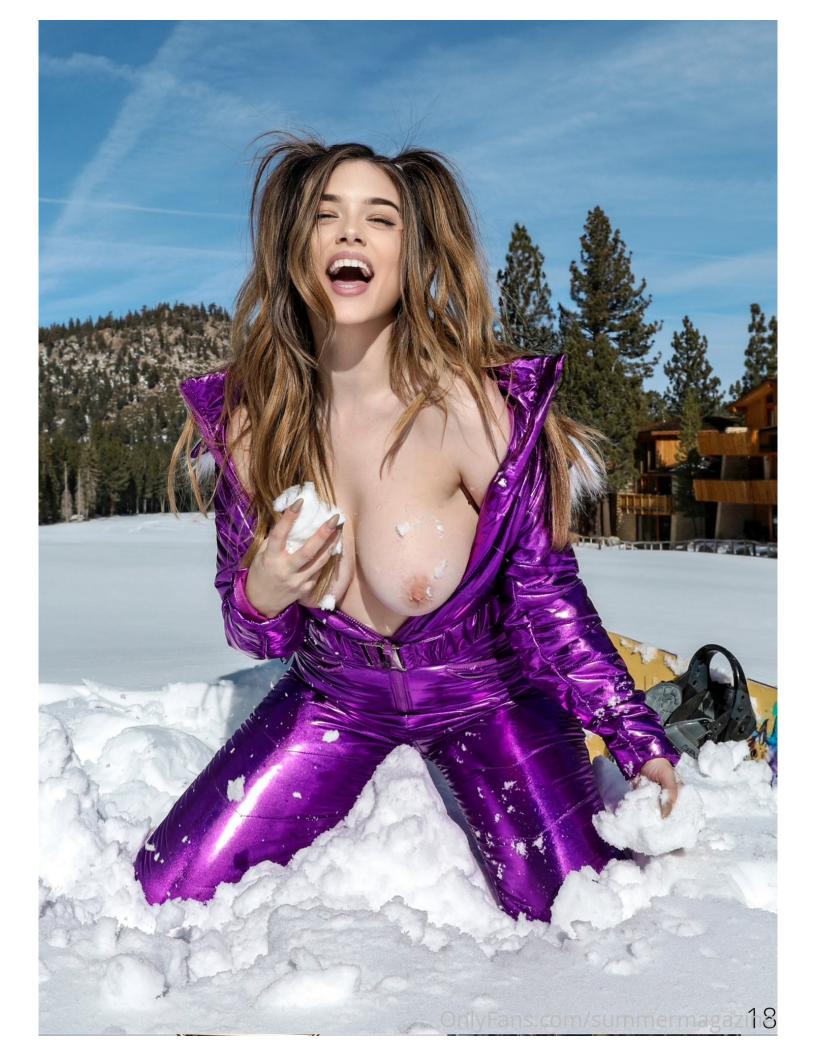














How did you first get started taking photos?

My girlfriend wanted to save money on a wedding and she didn't want to pay a wedding photographer so she bought a whizzy professional camera and asked me if I would take some photos. I told her I would give it a try, but I had never taken photos before, only in high school and I failed the class so no guarantees they will be any good. So I shot her wedding and fell in loveeee with photography. After that I shot her and did a few boudoir sessions and that's when I fell in love with capturing women and their beauty. I started working with all different people from fitness models to the every day stay at home moms who wanted to feel sexy.

After years of hard work I moved on to working with influencers, celebrities, magazines and started traveling all over the world

Your photos are known for being so well composed. How do you know how to set up a shot and pose the model so well? I always try and make the model the focal point, I want her to really "pop" so I try not to blend her in with the background. Contrasting colors, vibrant clothes, having them stand out. I feel like they should be the center of attention and when someone looks at the photo that's the first thing that they see is them and get that WOWWWWW factor.

You were recently featured on the popular Instagram

@influencersinthewild doing a photo shoot at a car wash in Hollywood! What was it like going viral and has it affected you since?

It would've been even better if the site had credited us. Nobody knew who we were because the girl who submitted the video was the one who got credit. And even after the fact and talked with the guy he still said no he wasn't going to credit me even though I told him that it was me and prove to him that it was us in the video. But I definitely learned from it, it gave me the idea to put my logo on a hoodie while I'm out shooting in public places. I do that a ton so at least next time when I am videotaped my Instagram will be visible for everyone to see. I am coming out with my own merchandise with my

Only Fans.images photoshirts and popules for a self-ine

-in the new year which I am supeeeer excited about. I've never done anything like this but I think that they will be a huge hit.

Do you have a favorite photoshoot experience? Where was it and why?

Some of my favorite moments are the girls who cry, probably the most emotional ones are the best ones for me. When you can show someone truly how beautiful they are, that is the most amazing feeling, the most unforgettable. I know Ive done my job to the fullest when I can show someone themselves in a completely different light and show them their gorgeous it's the most gratifying feeling ever.

What achievement are you most proud of?

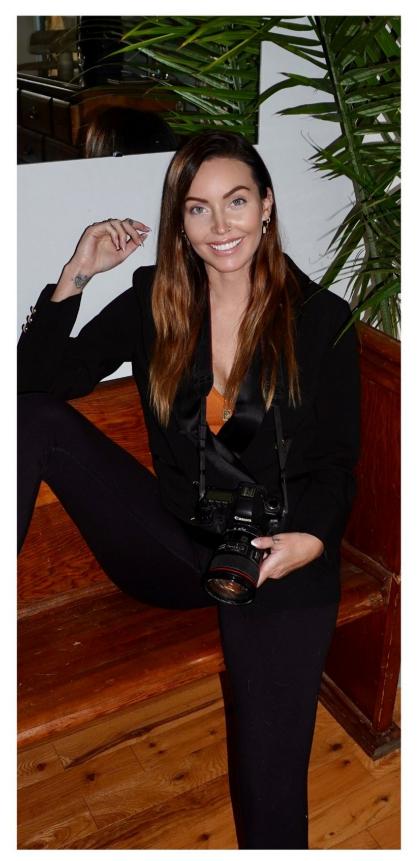
My work visa, I worked damn hard for that thing. I put a lot of time, blood sweat and tears into that thing as well as money hahaha! Also me moving to LA from Canada, that was a huge step for me, one that I never thought would ever be possible, but I took the giant leap and now I know that it was the best thing that I ever could have done for my career.

What is it like being a female photographer in such a male dominated industry?

Its absolutely fucking amazing. I really feel like I can help in the industry and the girls in it. I create a safe place for women to be sexy, be sultry, create the content that they've always wanted to and with someone who is completely non-judgemental and wants nothing from them except to create. Shooting with a woman is completely different than a man. I am looking at their hands at their foot placements at their hair, is the necklace backwards? I am looking at completely different details than a man would. And that's what I feel like my advantage is, I know what men want and I also know what women want.

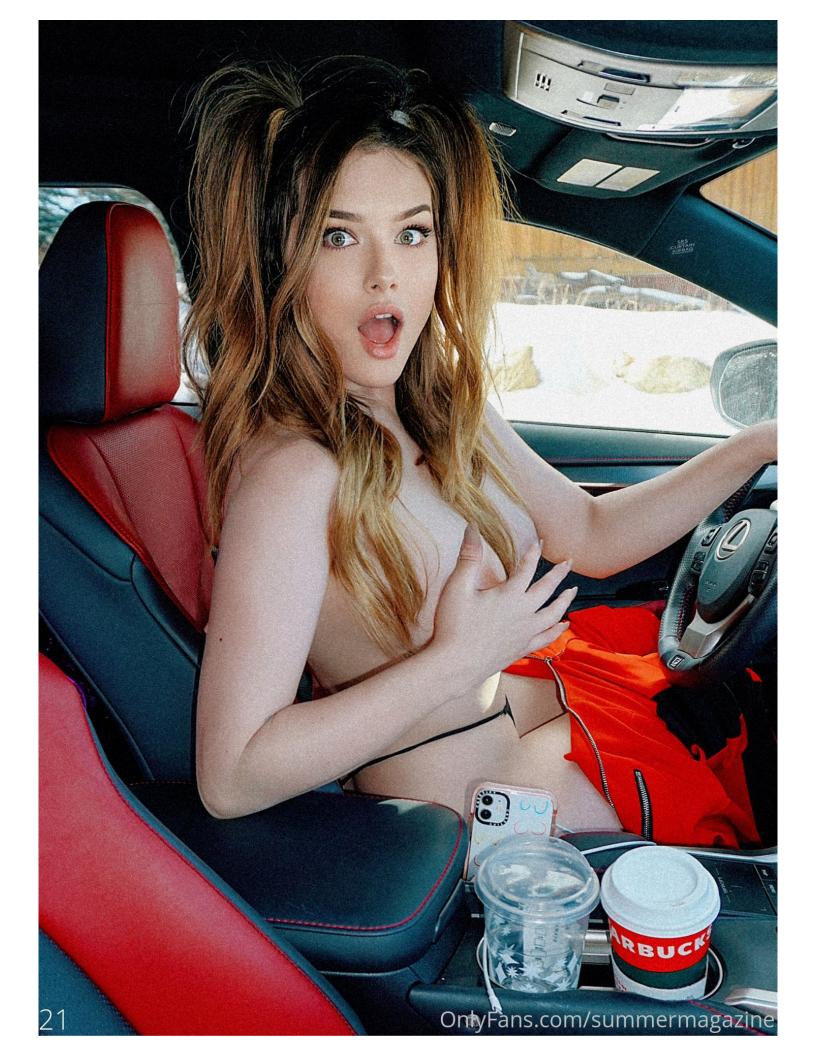
I hear you're starting an OnlyFans! What can subscribers expect from your page?

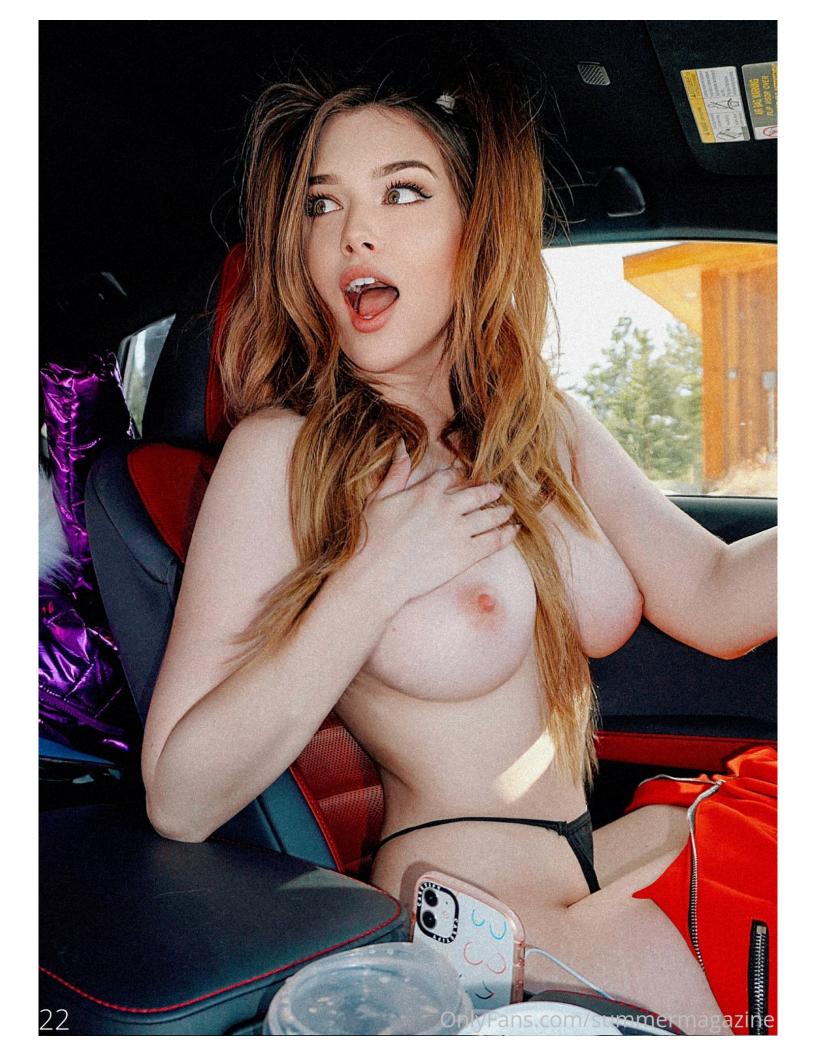
I will be posting my behind the scenes of my shoots, unreleased images and exclusives from my sets. I really want my viewers to know more of what happens on my shoots, to be there, how it goes down and see what I do to create the images.

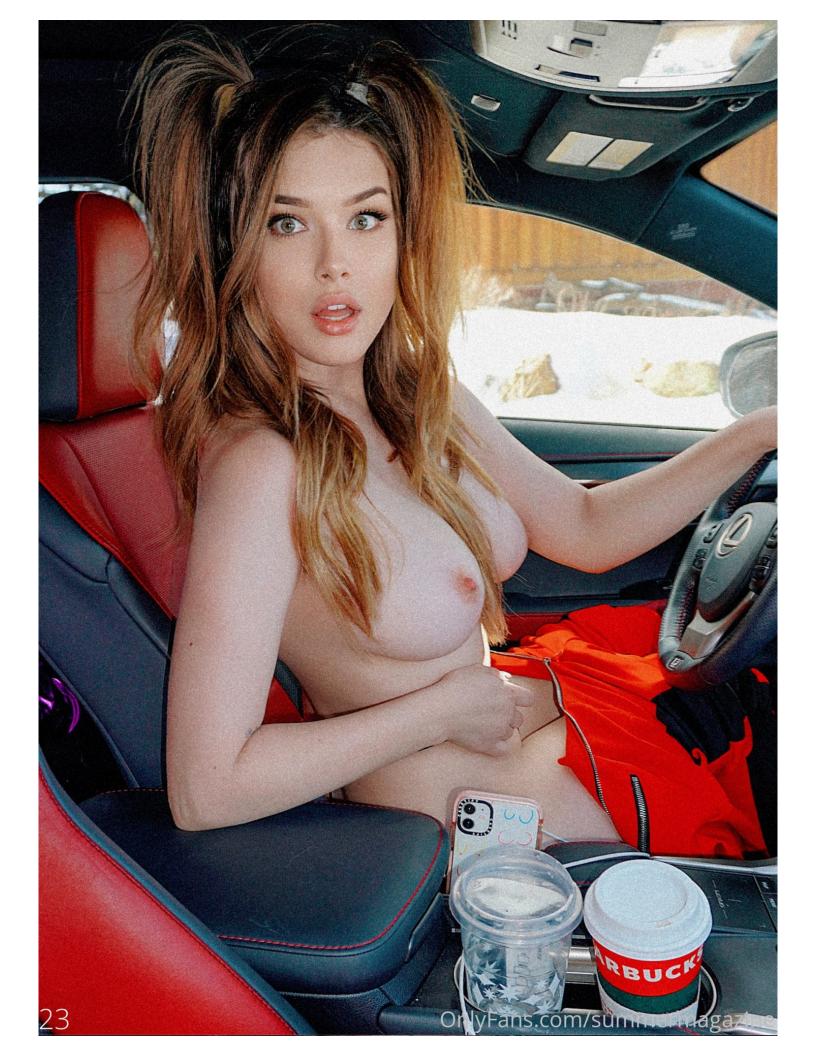


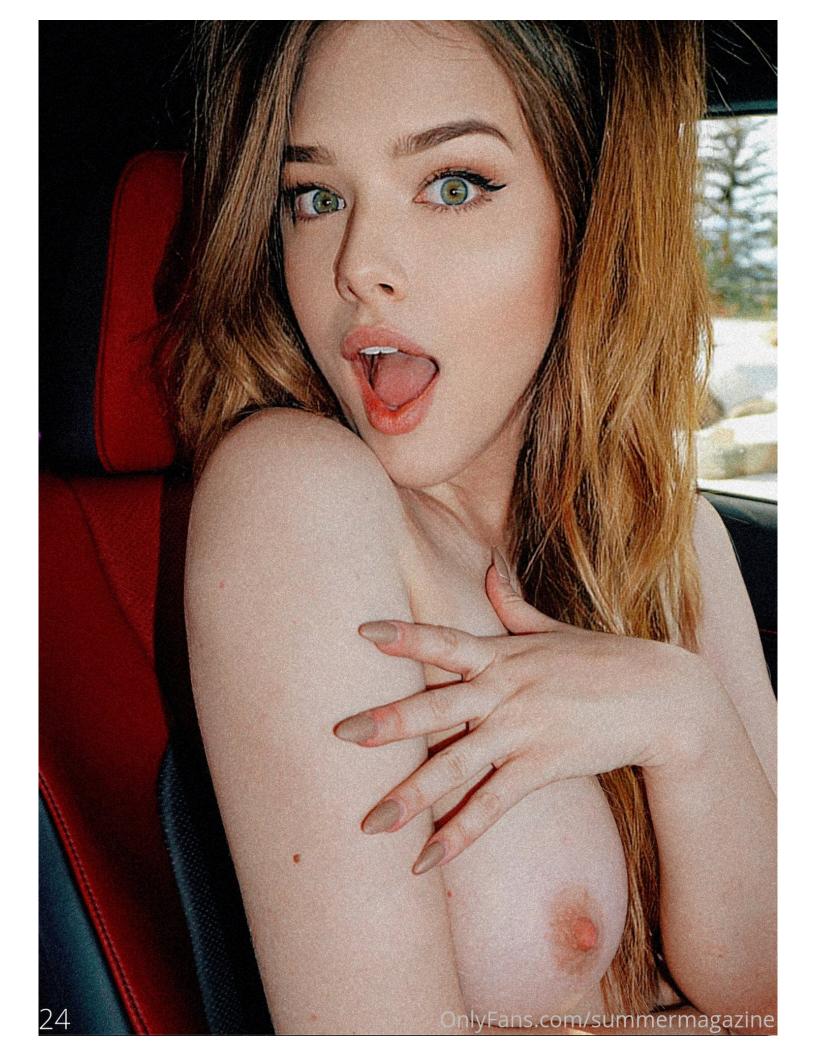
Tell us your socials! Where can people find you?

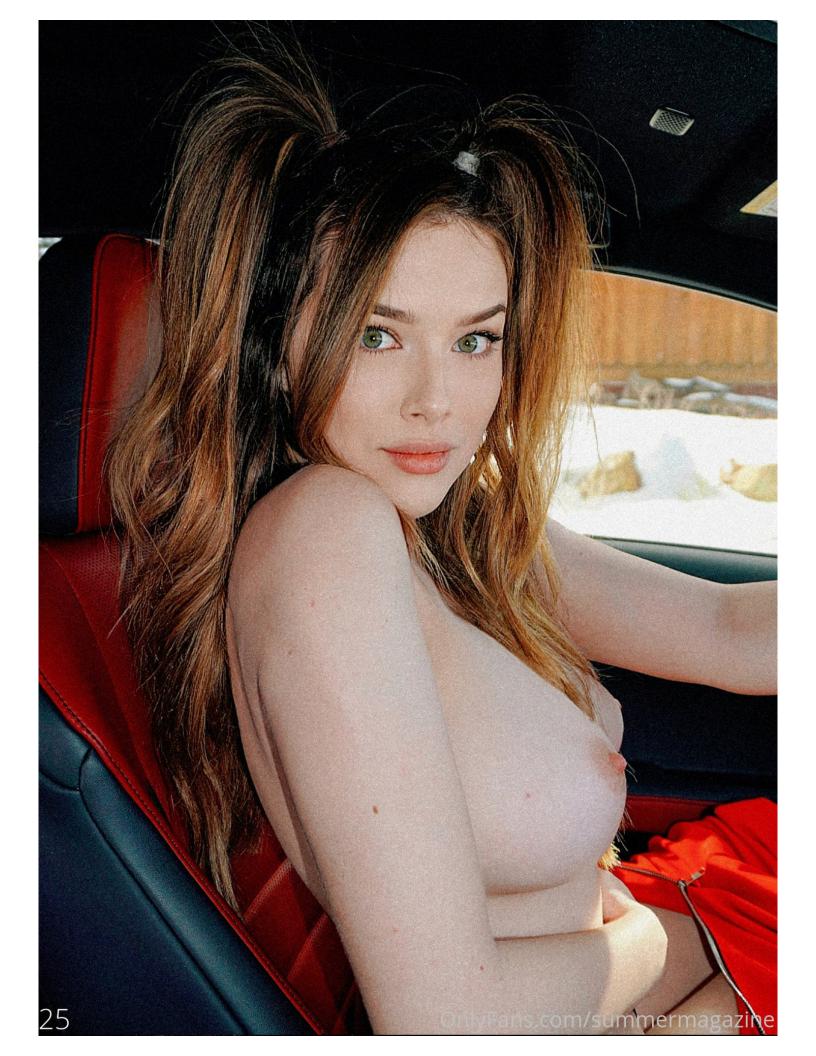
You can find me on Twitter, Instagram, and now only fans at AJKPHOTOGRAPHY (@ajkphotography1)!

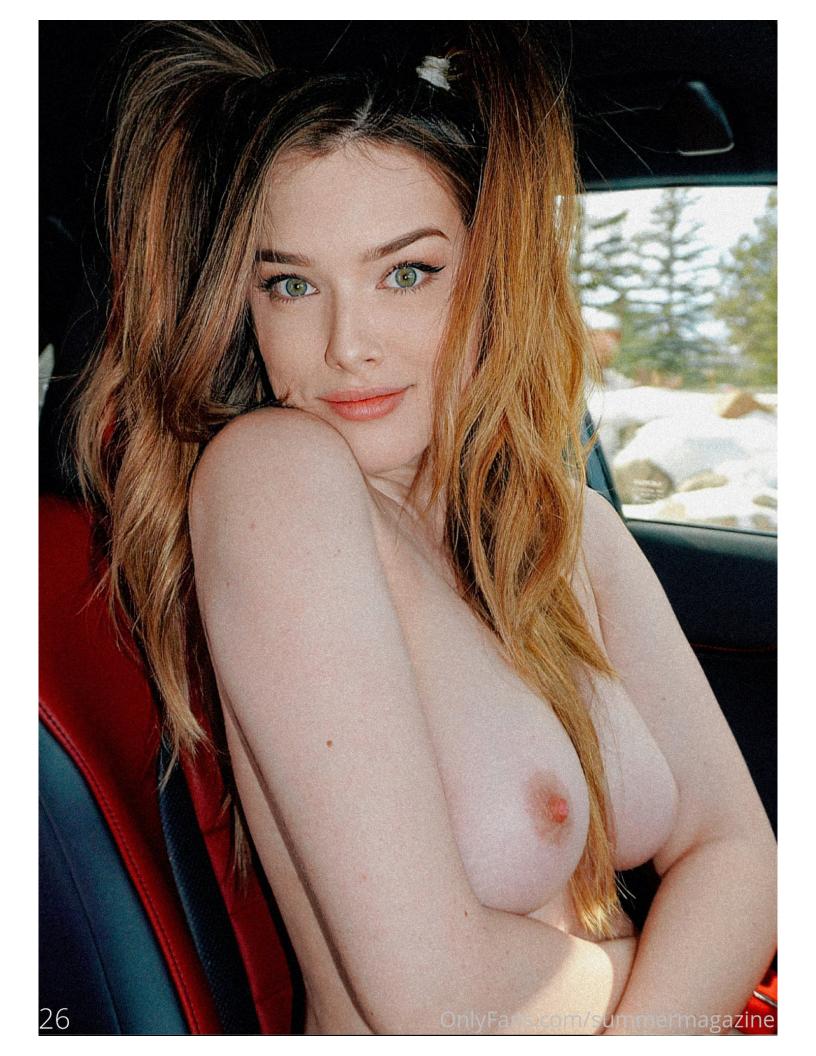


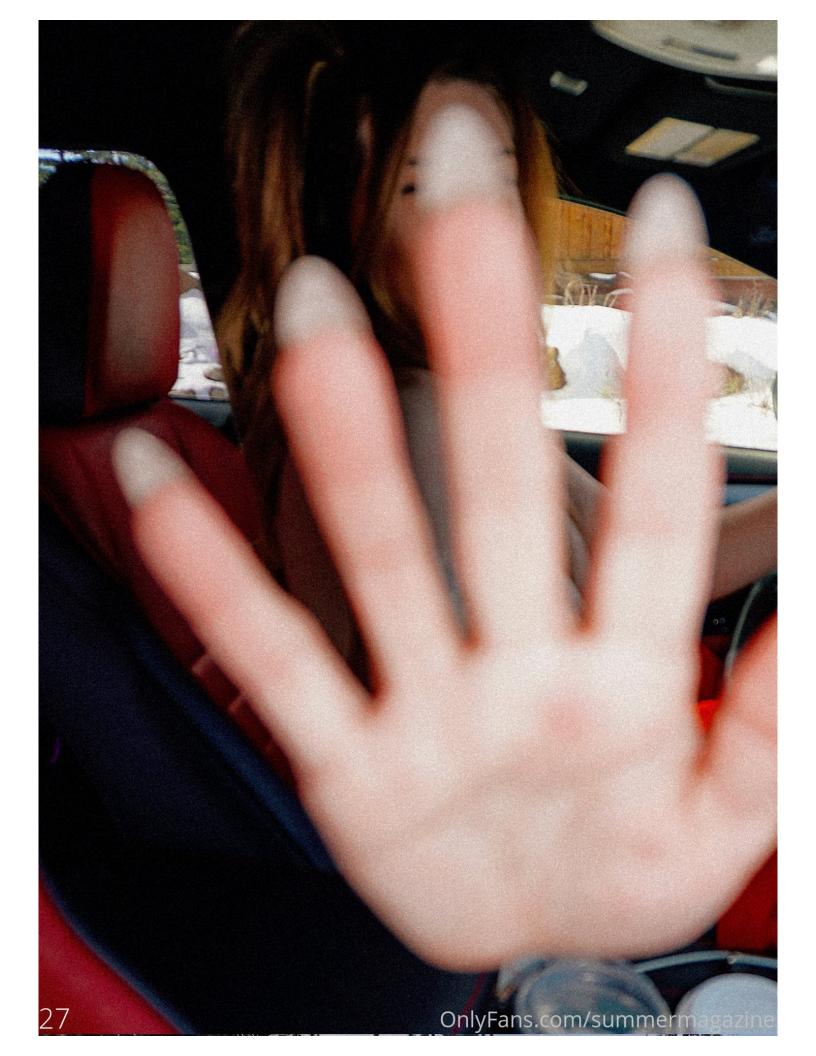


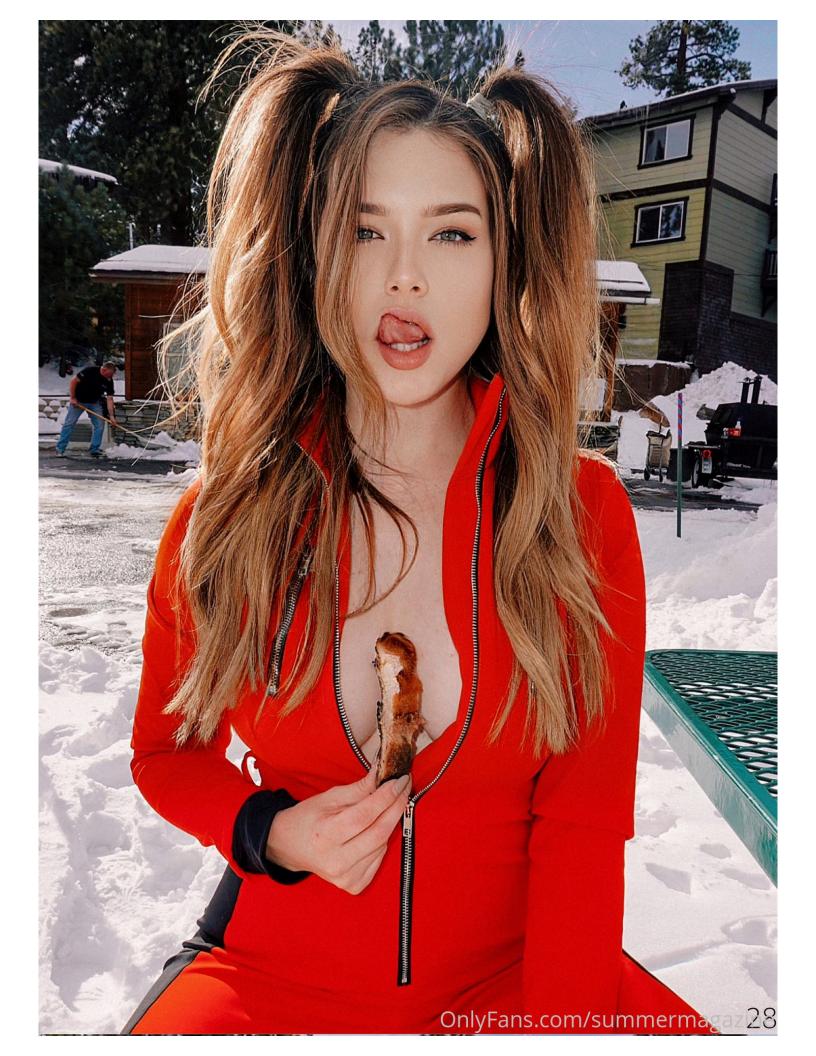


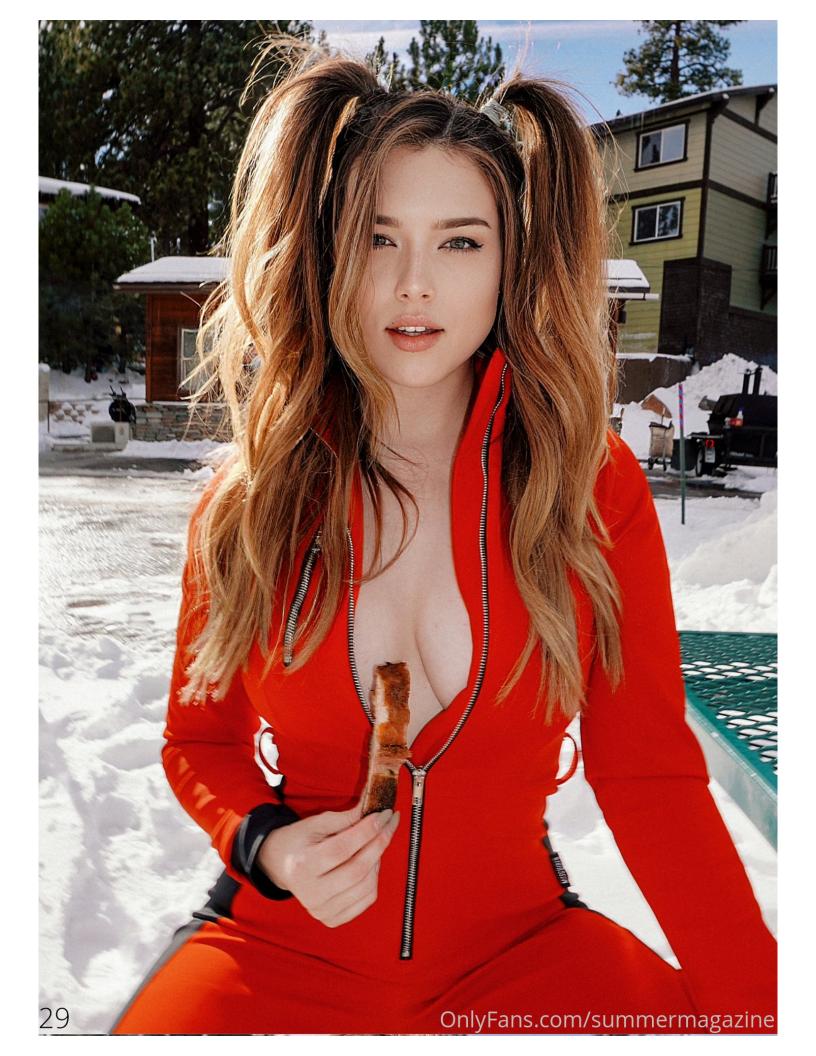




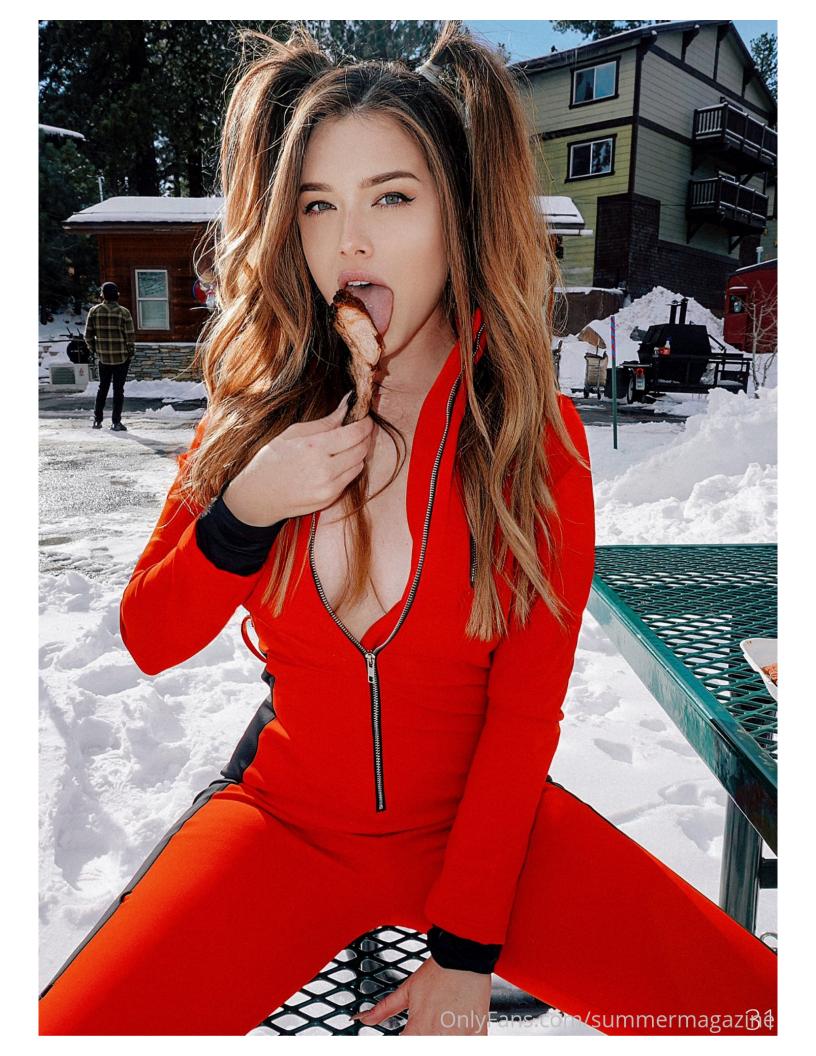


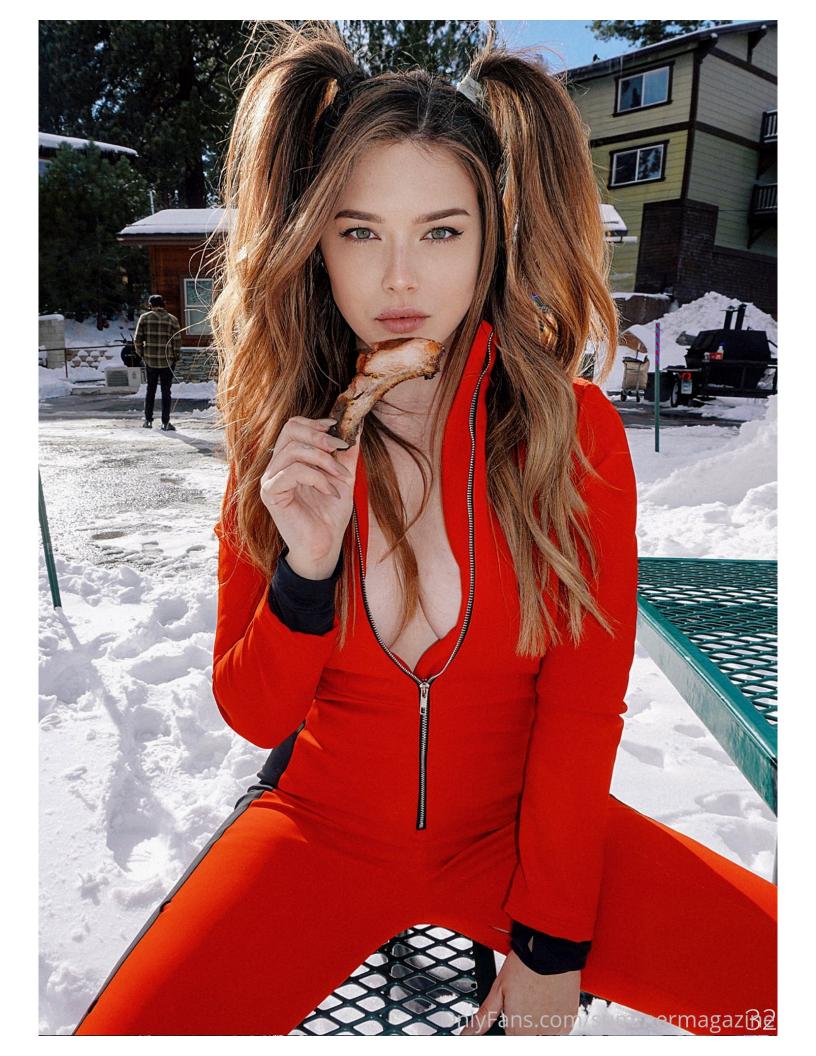


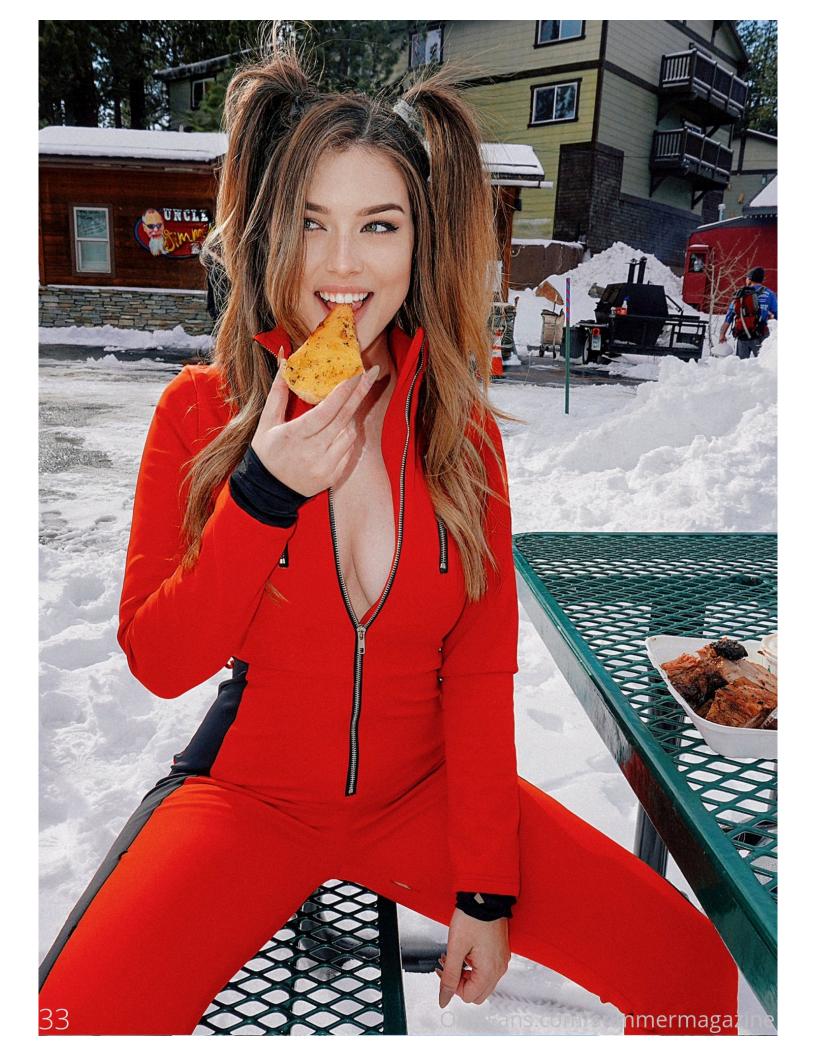




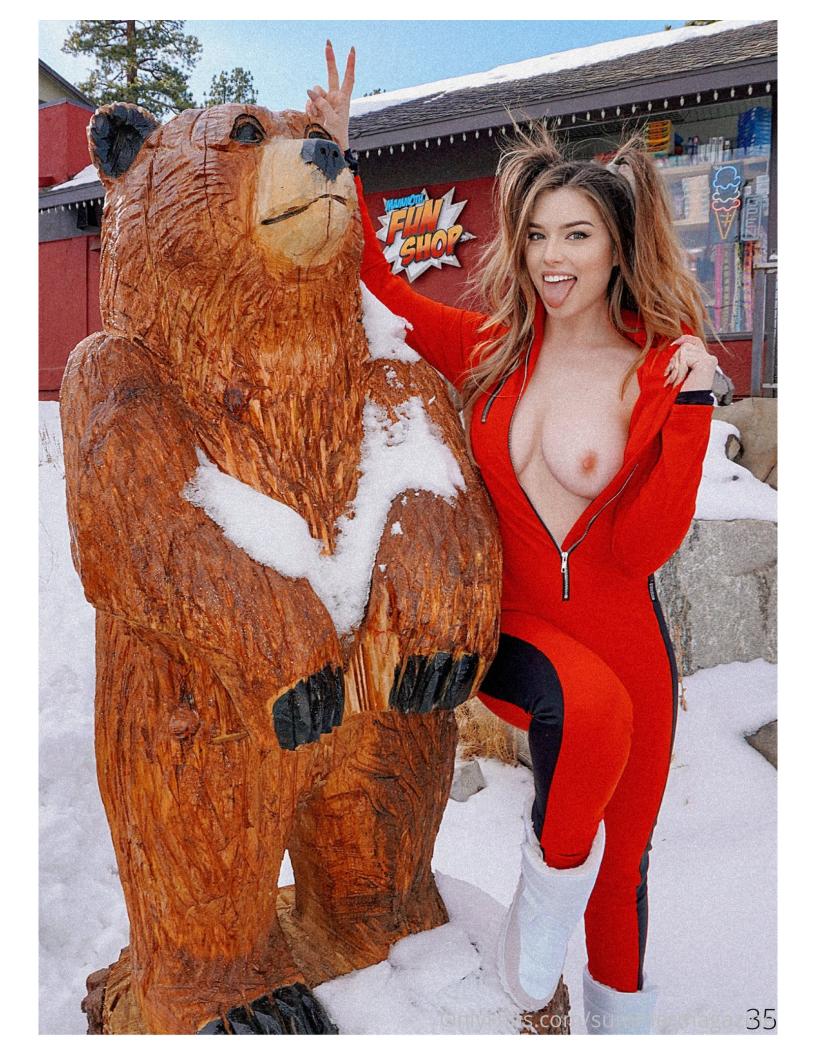


















LAUREN SUMMER

ANSWERS YOUR DEEPEST QUESTIONS

Do you feel like you're living a meaningful life?

Oh my god YES! I've had my moments where I definitely feel like my life could be more meaningful and I could be doing things with more substance. But I'm finally at a place where I feel like I'm doing amazing things not only for myself, but for others to. I love having a big following because I can do so much good with it.

Through all the chaos this year, what do you think is the most important thing 2020 has taught you? Has it affected how you view others in your social circle?

Oh man. It might be cliché, but I think the most important thing the 2020 has taught me to appreciate everything that I have. Big or little, it could all be taken away in an instant. Whether it's just having the ability to go to a restaurant or having a healthy family members. Don't take it all

for granted. And YES definitely. I have seen some friends that have been so careless about the pandemic and don't seem to care if they get sick or get other people sick, it is definitely changed my view of them.

Is there something that people always assume about you that really bothers you?

I used to care what people thought about me, but now I couldn't care less. It's honestly huge growth for me!

What do you think your worst trait is?

Oh god lol. Honestly, that I overthink way too much. If someone sends me a text and I think of the vibe is off I will overthink it for hours and create this entire fake scenario in my head when in reality they were just driving or some shit lmfao. I'm too anxious for my own good.

6.) What is the most generous thing that you've done for someone?

I think I want to keep that to myself! I'm nice just to be nice, not to tell other people about it, you know? I think it means more that way.

Who is the most famous person and slide into your DM's?

Okay...listen. There have been quite a few famous gentleman who have slide into the DM 's, but none of which were disrespectful and some of them I still talk to every now and then so I don't know that I really want to out them for clout, know what I mean? After the world series stunt, Johnny Knoxville DM'ed me saying he loved it and that was pretty funny.

Do you sleep with a stuffed animal?

HELL YESI DO. My favorite one is a stuffed teddy bear named Bjorn and he is my son. I adore him. Who doesn't want to snuggle a pillow that hugs you back?!

Do you have any grudges against anyone?

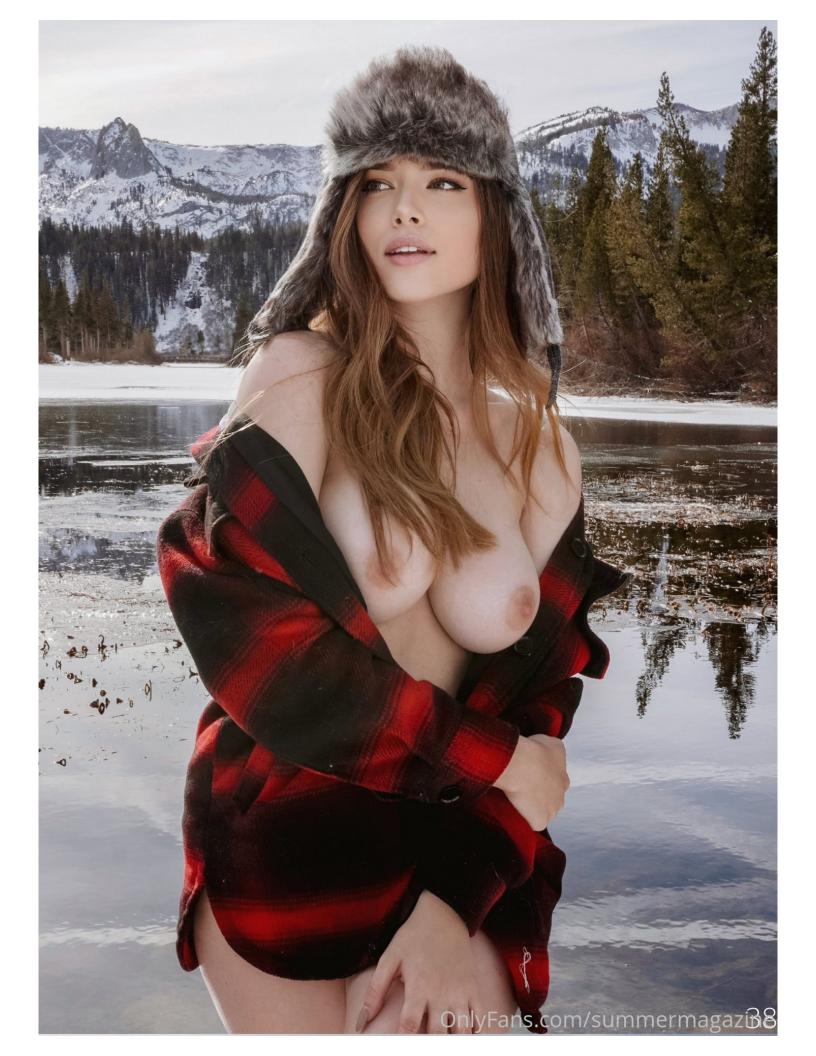
Nope! If someone wrongs me and I know i'm in the right, I just move on. I forget that they exist and don't let them live in my mind without paying rent. I've got hot girl shit to do.

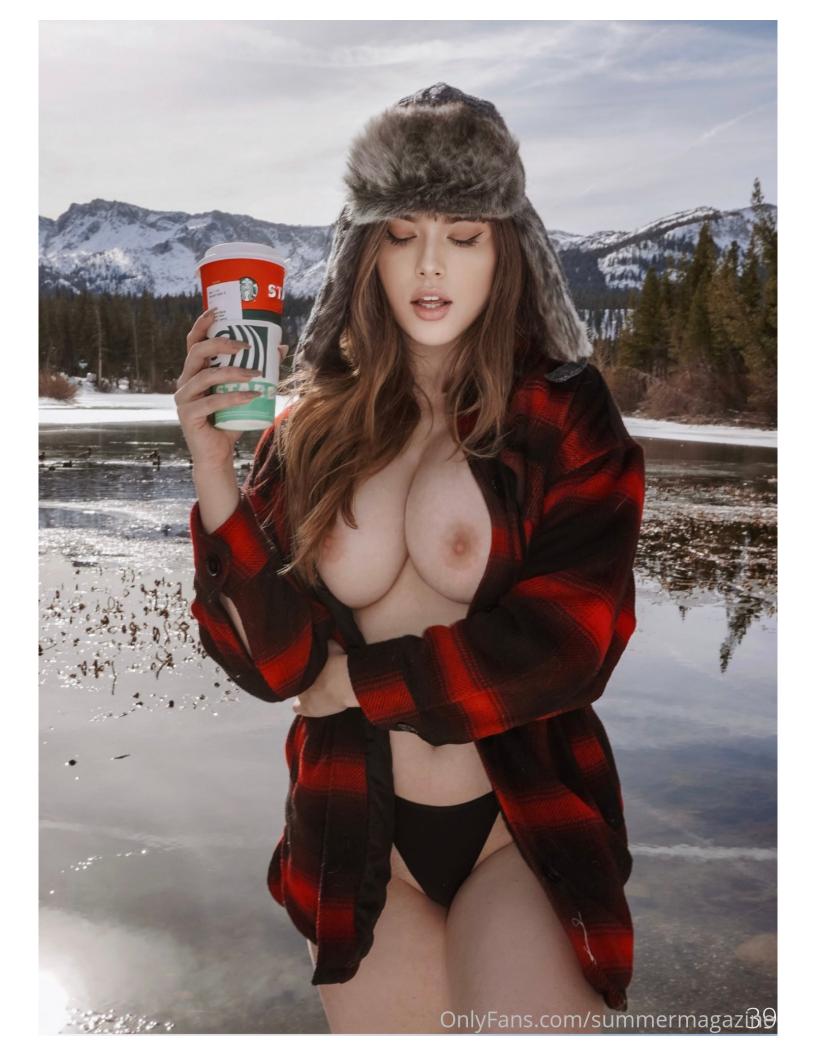
Are. you happy with your life?

Happy? Yes, extremely. Satisfied? No. I have such huge goals and aspirations that I'm working towards that stop me from being 100% "happy" with where I'm at. I'm beyond thankful, I'm just not done yet.

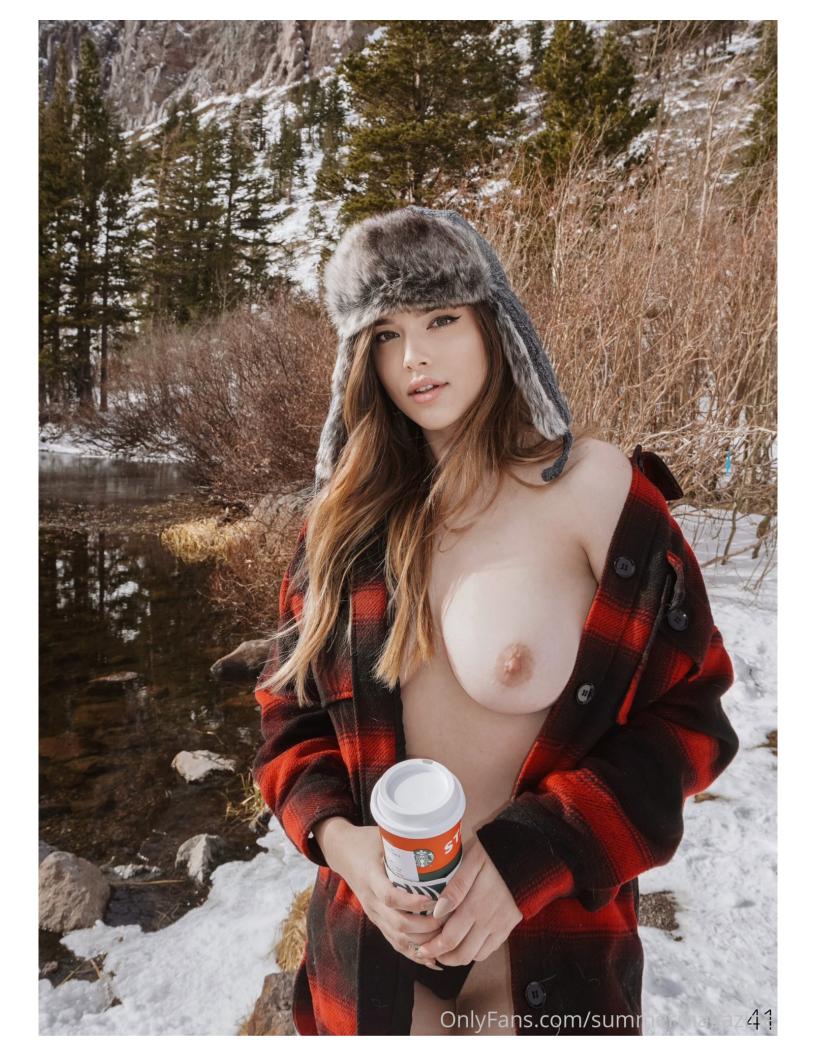
What's the most useless thing you know how to do? Be a god damn influencer, Imfaooo.

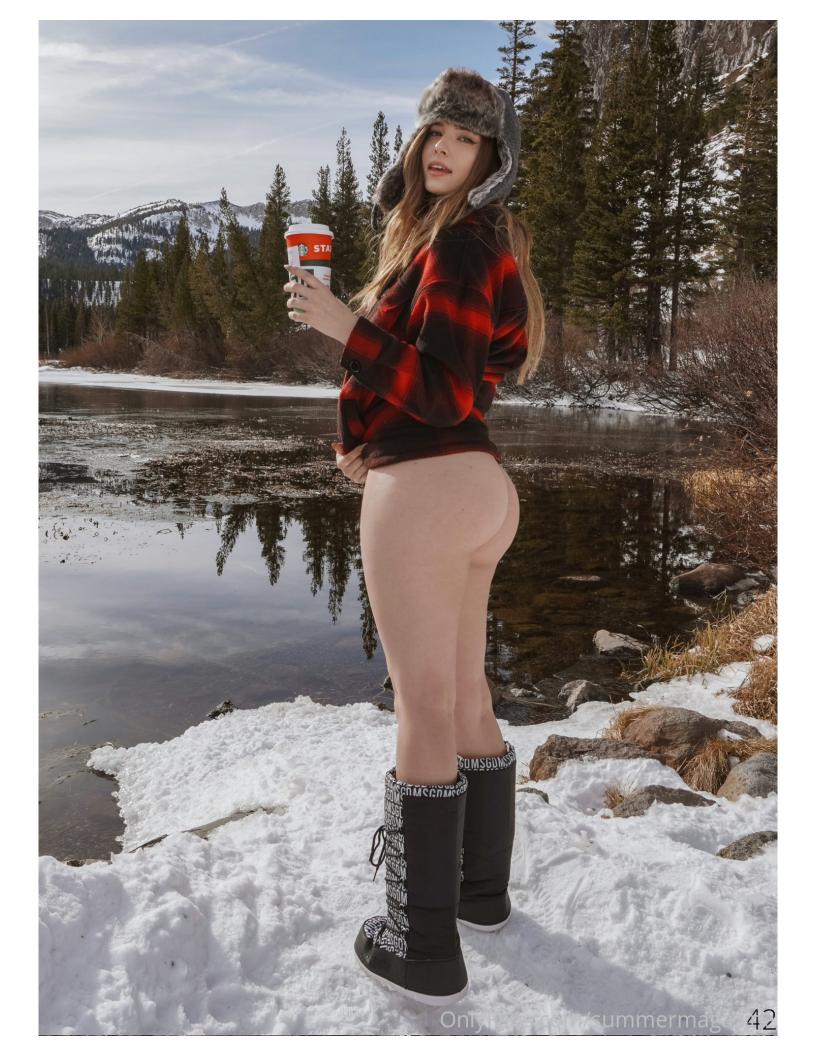


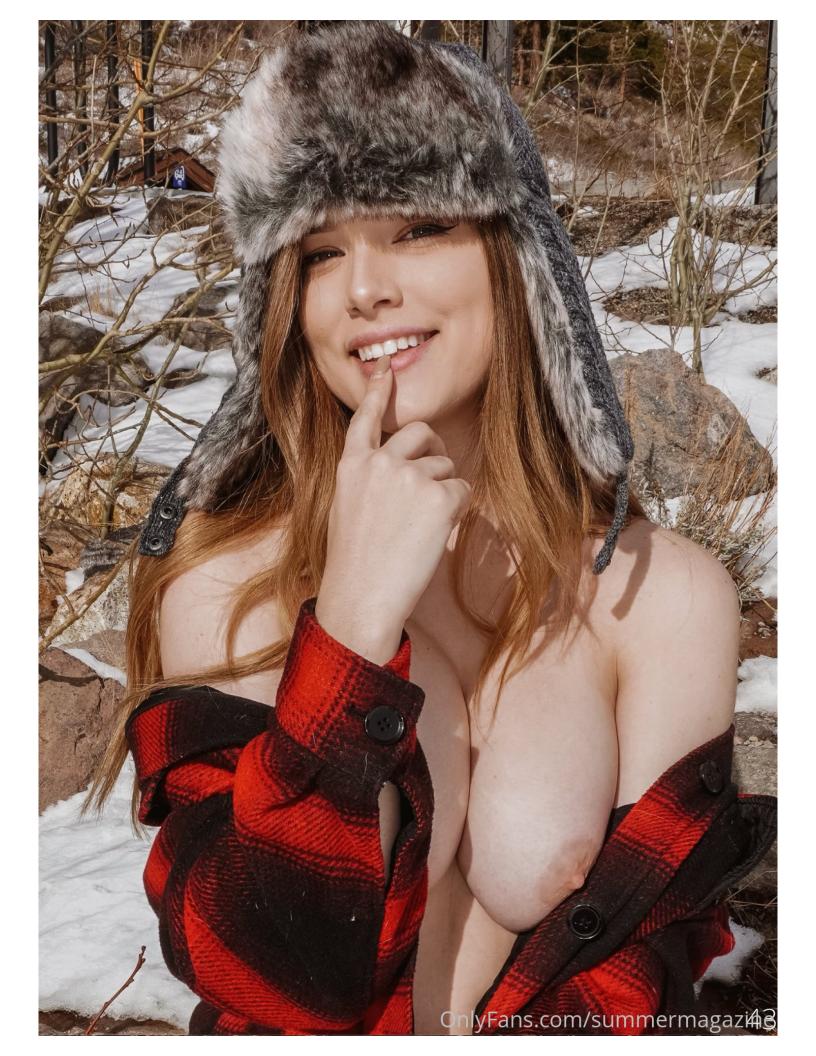


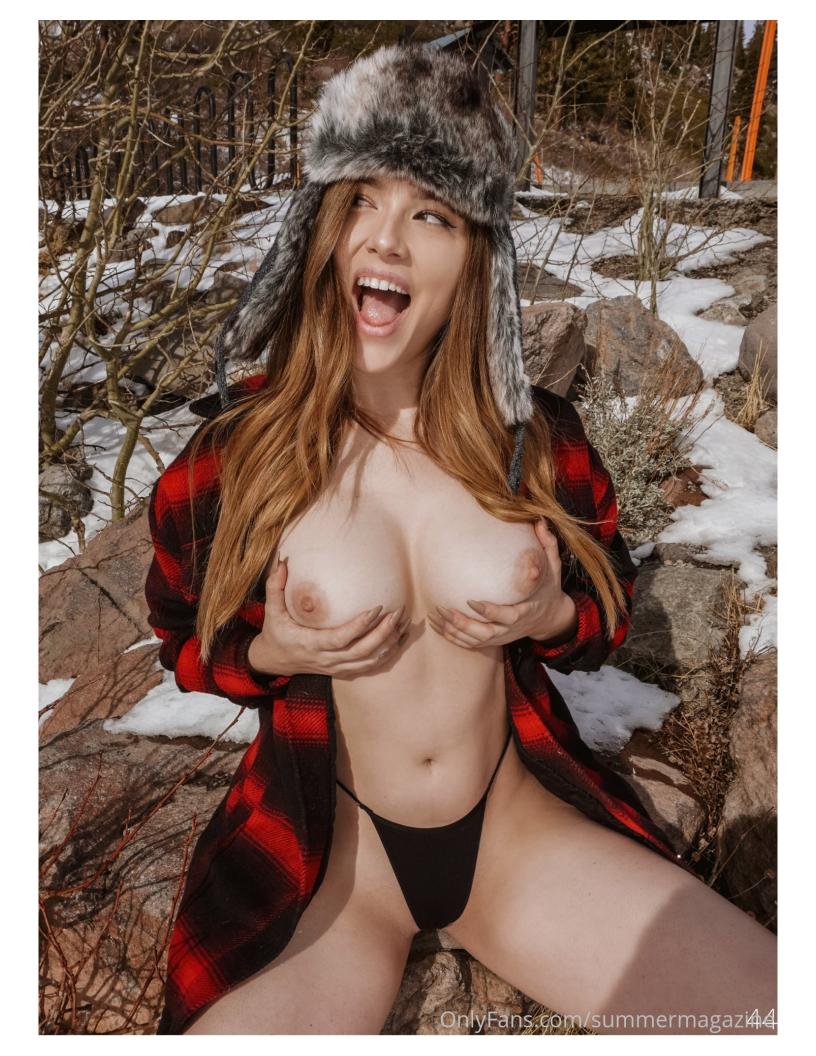


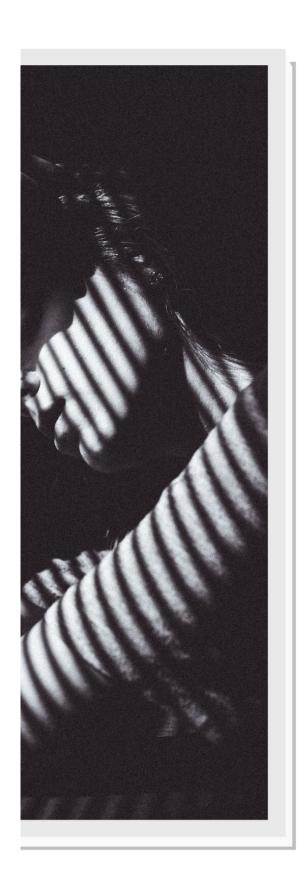












MOVING ON 46 FROM 2020

2020 has been quite the year for all of us. We were all challenged in ways that we didn't expect to be challenged, had things taken away from us that we didn't think we would have taken away from us, and pushed to new limits. However, in the midst of all of chaos, whether we realized it or not, we were gathering new tools to deal with all of our future problems head on.

Quarantine hit me the same way I think it hit everybody else. I was overwhelmed, I was anxious, and I was scared. And for some reason, even though I knew that everyone in the world was going to the same thing, I felt alone. I felt like I was the only one overthinking, the only one not being able to handle my emotions or my thoughts, the only one unable to just get a grip.

There was a night about a month into quarantine where I was sitting on my couch in front of the fireplace, and out of nowhere, the warmth from the fireplace was enough to make me think "I'm getting a fever, I have coronavirus, I'm going to die." And that set me into the most intense panic attack that I've ever had in my entire life. I was convulsing, I was crying, I was struggling to breathe for three hours.

I worked harder than I ever have at calming myself down in dealing with my racing thoughts. I was forced to deal with these new intense emotions. I've always had anxiety and I've always had panic attacks as long as I can remember, but this was just an entirely new level of intensity and I was forced to learn how to deal with it whether I liked it or not. But you know what? I did.

I learned new ways of talking myself down, I learned new breathing techniques that I wouldn't have looked up without being placed in such an intense and desperate situation. All of my future panic attacks will now be even the littlest bit easier because I was forced to acquire all of these tools.

In about May or June, whenever i really hadn't even left my house to even go to the grocery store in months, I really started to deal with cabin fever and feeling trapped. I decided to distract myself by trying new hobbies like the ukulele or even bedazzling.

It helped pass the time and it helped my sanity by just focusing all of my energy on these new hobbies. To just focus on creating and not focus on my negative thoughts or the "what if's" of the future. We didn't know how long we were going to be in quarantine or how many people would end up dying or how drastically our lives would be changed. It really forced me to just focus on the now and appreciate all that I have in this moment. My health, my happiness, my friends and my family. Because I knew that many people out there were not as lucky as me. On my worst days, my most anxious and depressed days, I was still in a better situation than millions of people all over the globe.

2021 is not going to be drastically different than 2020, I know that. But I'm hopeful for the future, and even more hopeful in the way that we will all be able to deal with things. We have been challenged so much for a year straight, there is nothing that 2021 could throw at us that we wouldn't be able to handle. The collective growth and learning we have all done collectively as a world, is just beautiful.

2021 isn't ready because WE are.

I was overwhelmed, I was anxious, and I was scared. And for some reason, even though I knew that everyone in the world was going to the same thing, I felt alone.

