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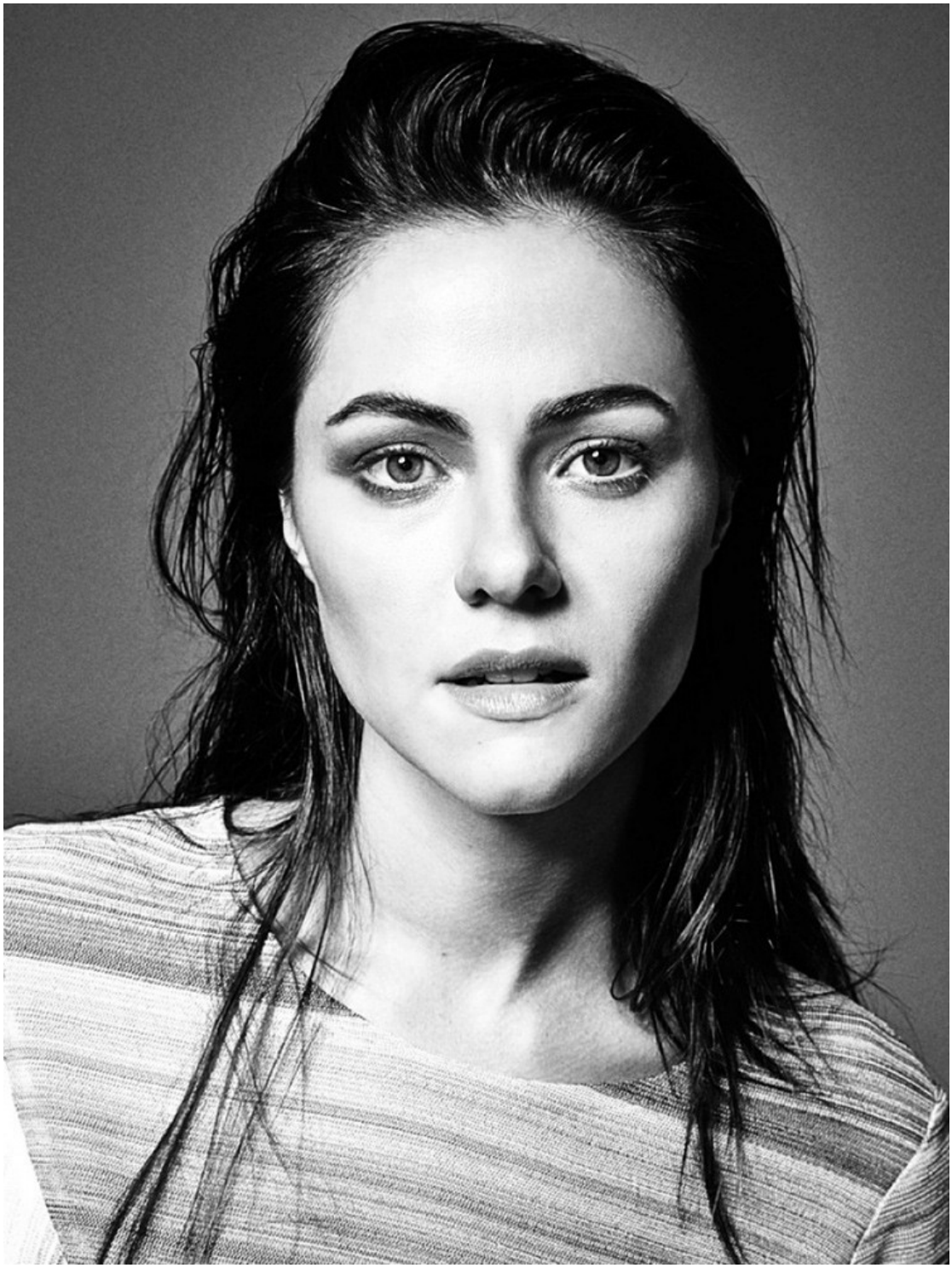

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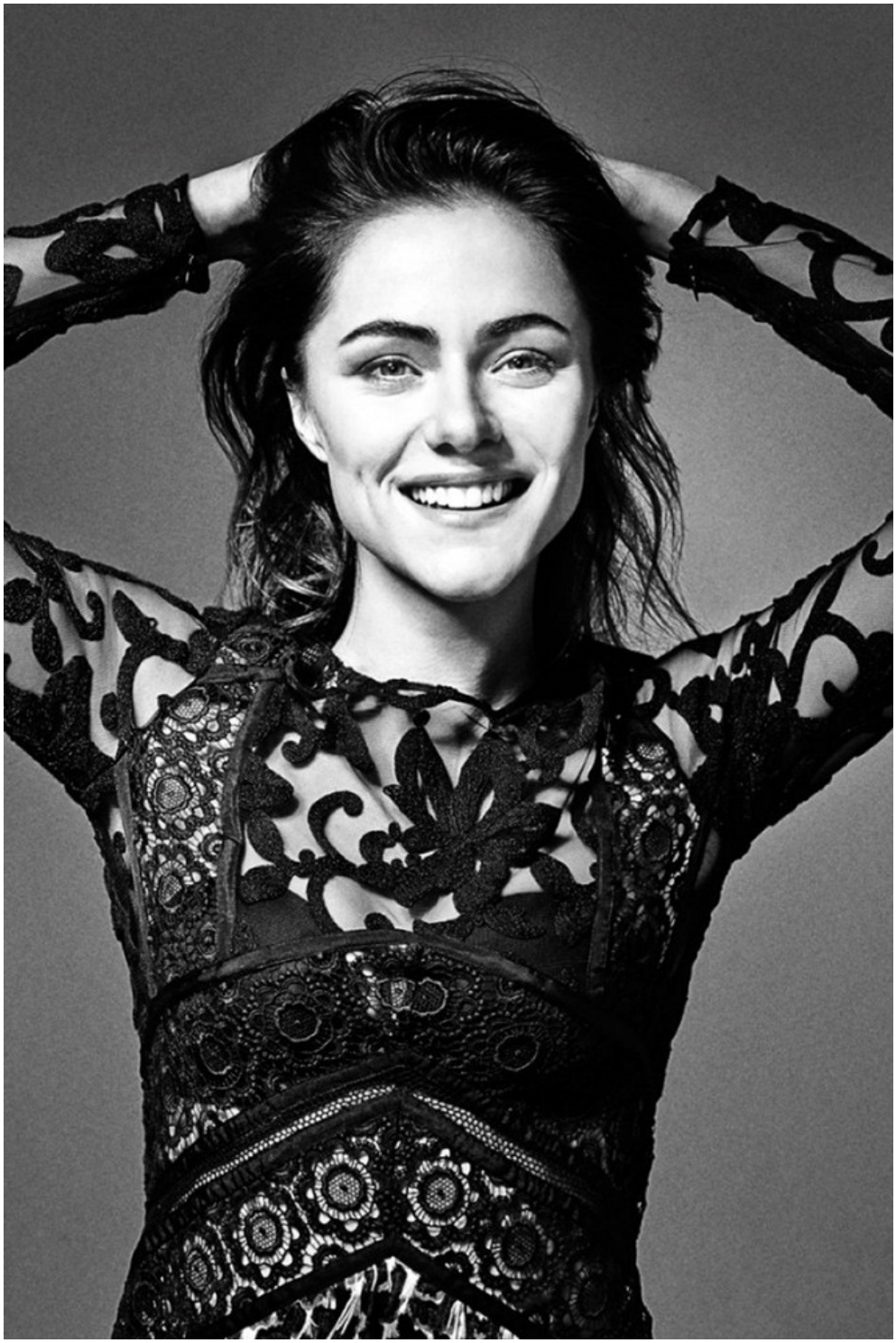

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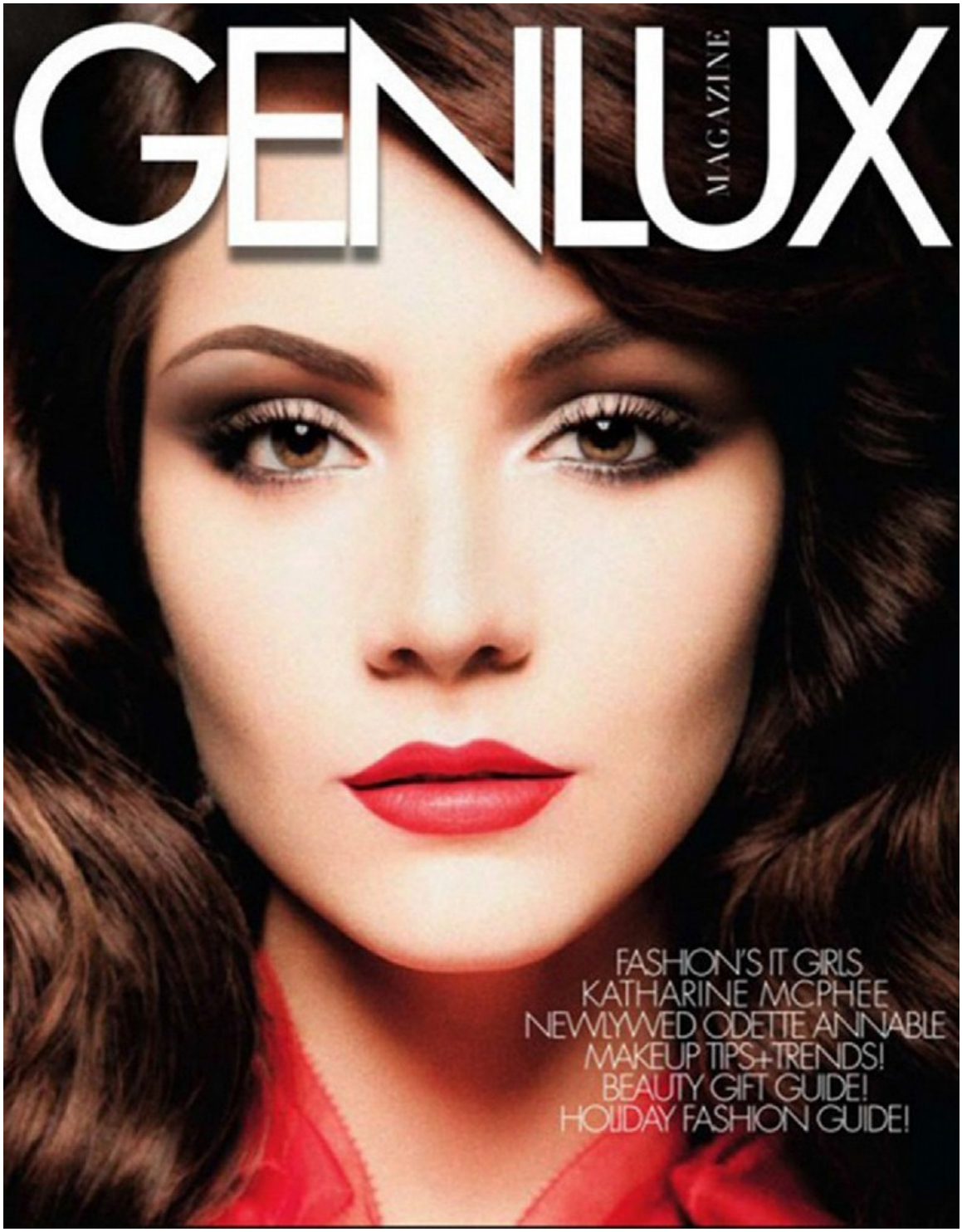

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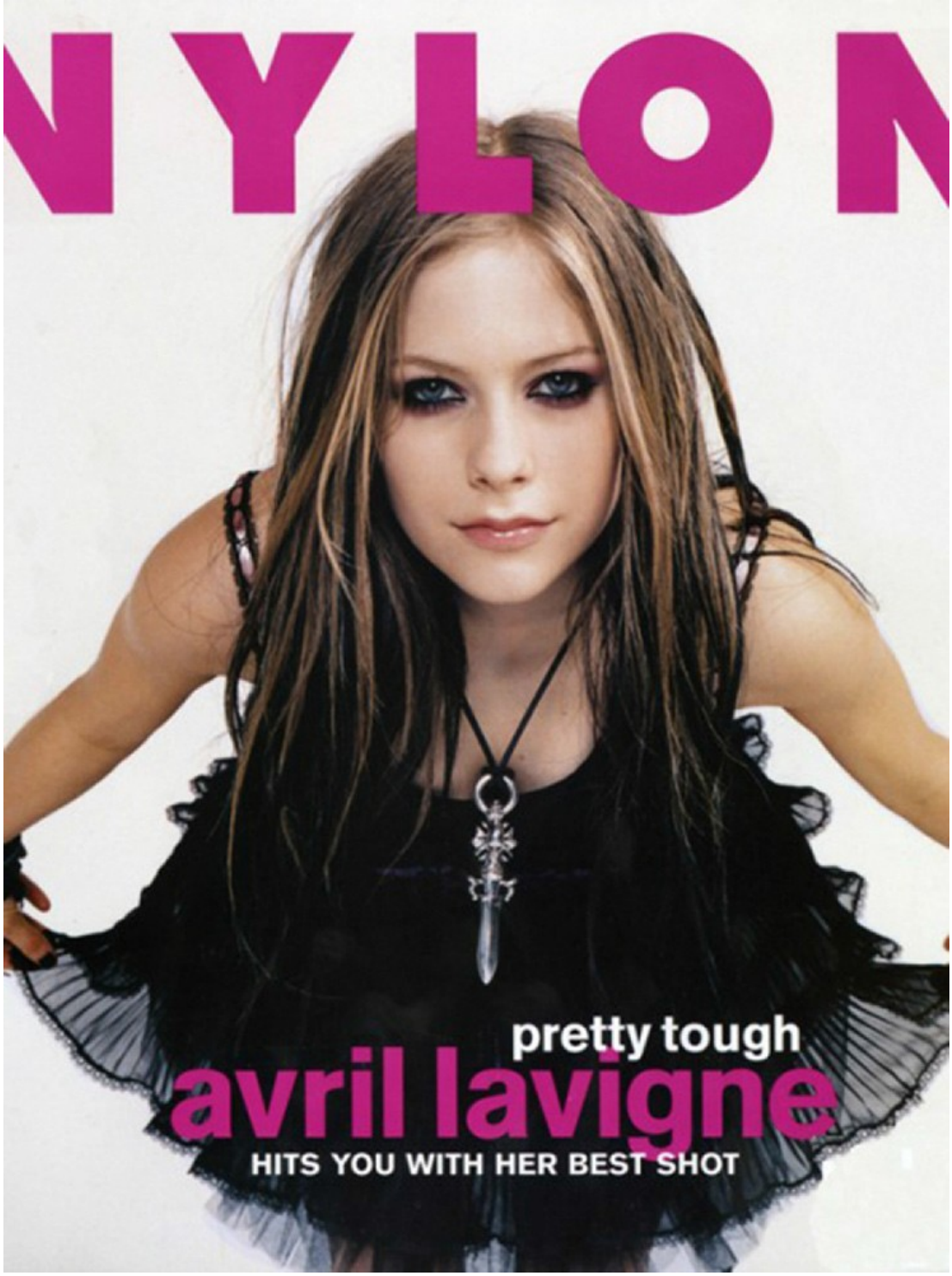

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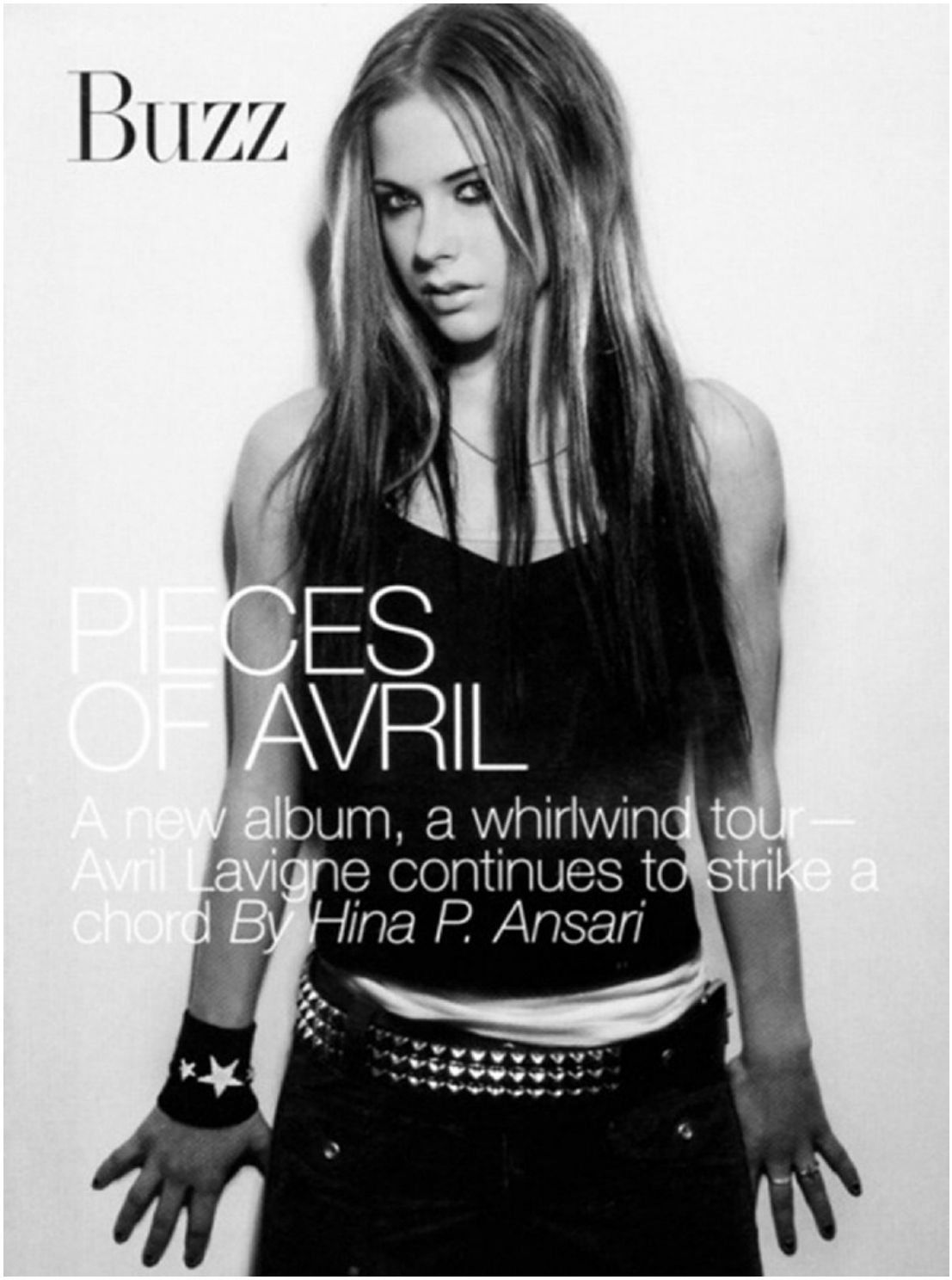

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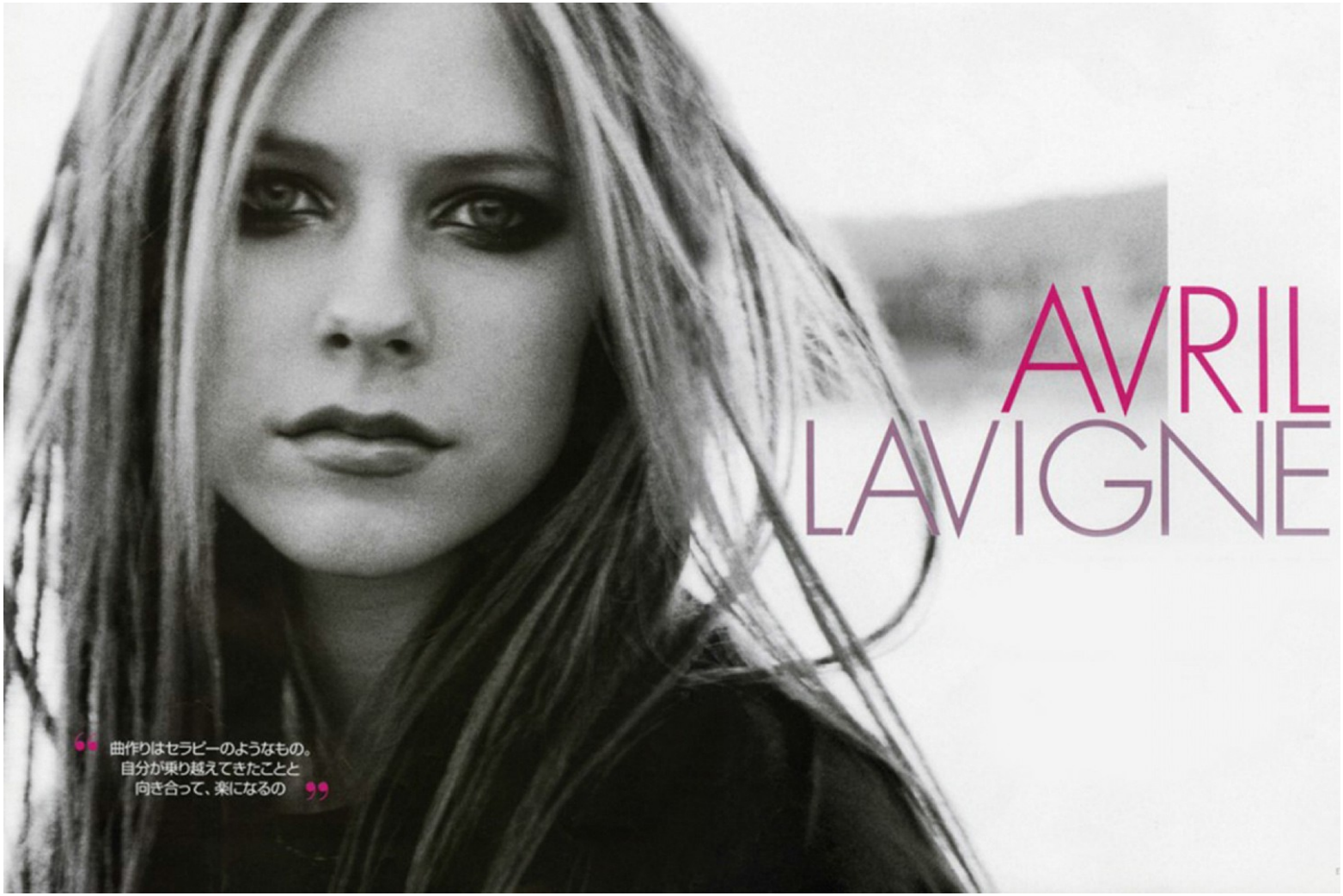

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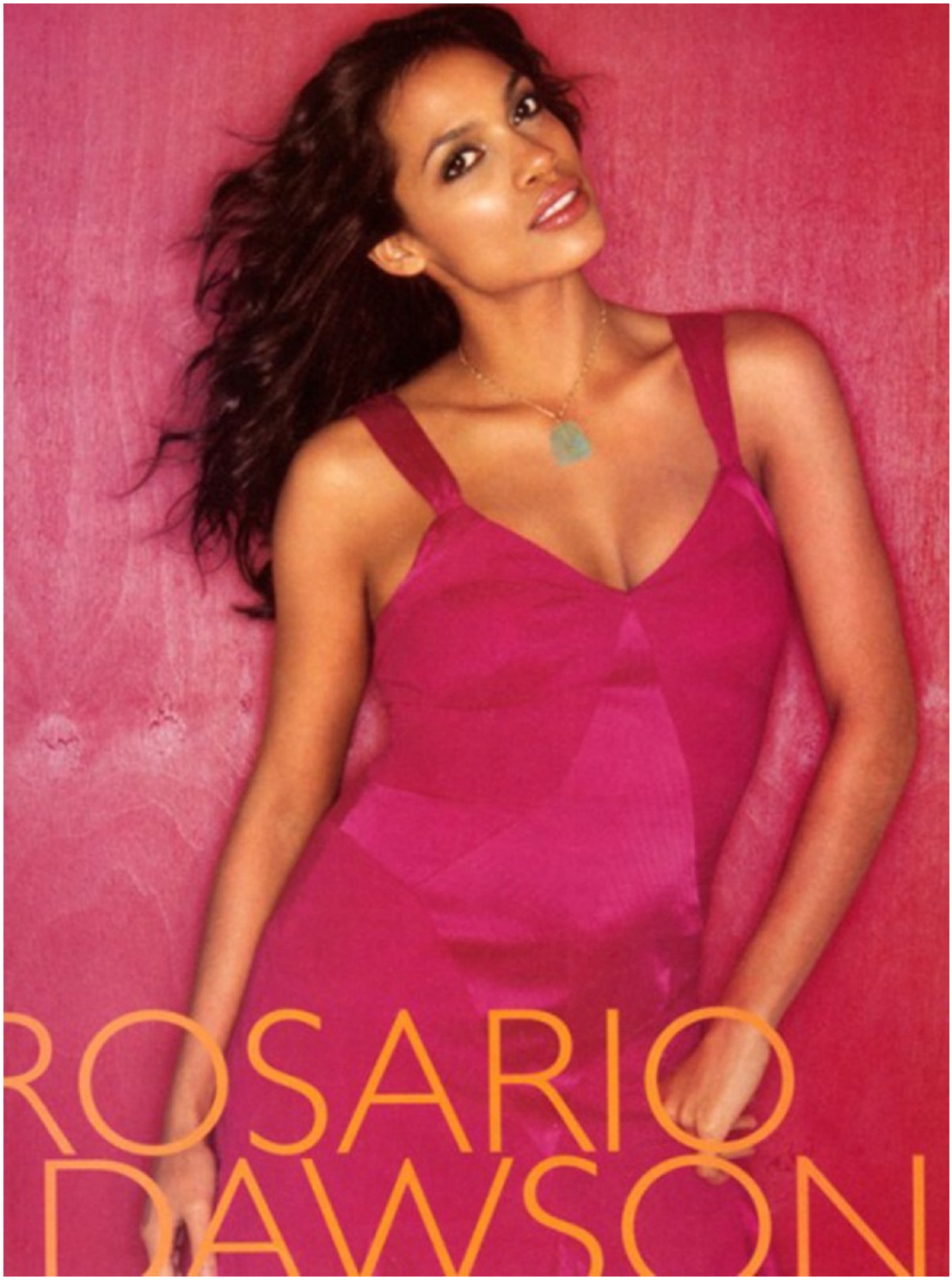

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We are at odds with pop culture. Maybe there is something in the tattoo ink permeating our blood that makes us skeptical, but it seems clear to us that most summer blockbusters, *Billboard* artists, and mall fashion are created to appeal to the simple-minded masses. In our search for art we tend to reject the mainstream on principle. So when we first heard of Christina Perri, who got her big break by having her ballad "Jar of Hearts" played on *So You Think You Can Dance*, it was easy to dismiss her as just another Jewel. Then we took the time to take a second look at Perri, her tattoos, and even those *Twilight* books she's always talking about. The tween literature offers some compelling words that have been turned into tattoos by many: "If I could dream at all, it would be about you." "Time passes. ... Even when each tick of the second hand aches like the pulse of blood behind a bruise." "And so the lion fell in love with the lamb. What a stupid lamb. What a sick, masochistic lion." Turns out *Twilight* author Stephenie Meyer exceeds expectations—just as Perri's "Jar of Hearts" lyrics do: "And who do you think you are?/Runnin' 'round leaving scars/Collecting your jar of hearts/And tearing love apart/You're gonna catch a cold/From the ice inside your soul."

So Meyer isn't Billy Shakespeare, and Perri isn't

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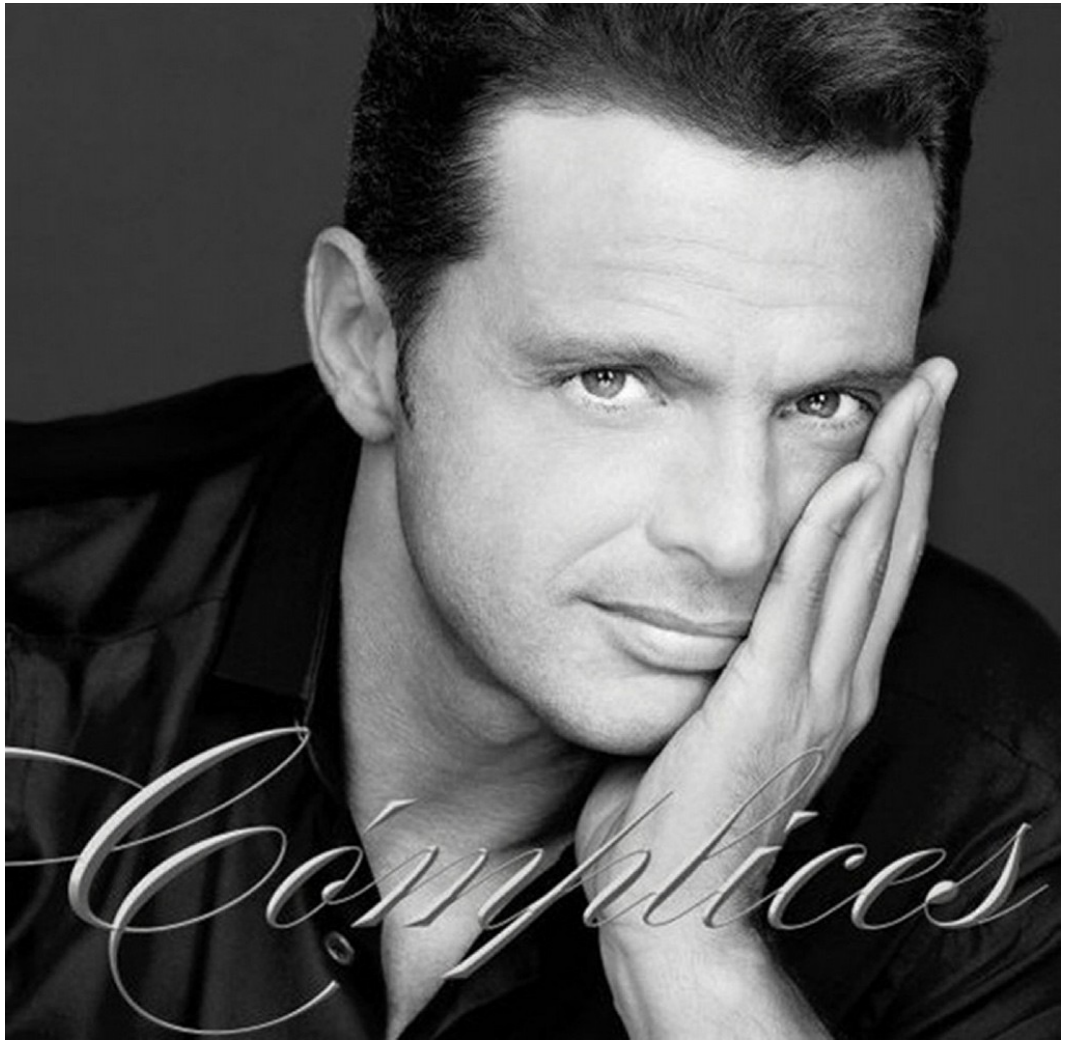

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