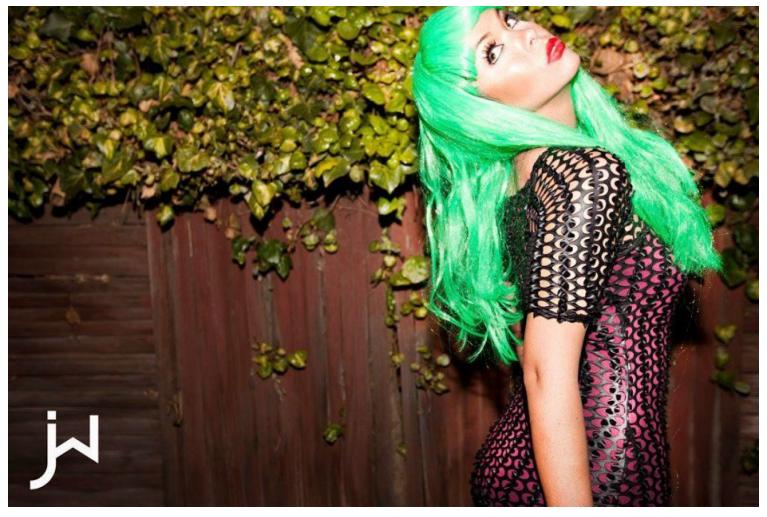


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By Lana Bowers Photos by Jeremy Waldorph

jeans every day and yet another who wears
Burberry on a regular basis? Who knew those

of the word, they never actually hear it.
Here's the thing: unless your child can blink

cured fingertips go to work. She's sending text engaged members of society. messages faster than a court reporter can shorthand witness testimony. She puts the phone to It's Not Them, It's Us her ear. If you eavesdrop on her conversation, you can hear her saying, "O.M.G.! That's like, 50 to the park with her children, she encountered the other end of the line.

her purse, and her iPhone, the "stuff" this eleven-year-old has on her person is worth more and tears. While a child wanting toy, and then than an entire semester at community college. becoming upset at not being able to have it, is But, do designer clothes and high tech gadgets not so unusual—it was the mother's response a spoiled child make? Can it be that a teenager that was shocking. The mother, instead of simthese kids have actually earned their lot and un- of Stefanie's stroller—she practically begged. derstand its value?

O.M.G. That's like, so not possible!

ave you heard about the high school student with her own personal assistant? Yes, you read that right—a teen- and completely spoiled. They are the "just-sayager with her own personal assistant! And no, yes" generation—ask them the meaning of the she's not Miley Cyrus. What about the four- word, "no" and they'll stare blankly. While it year-old preschooler who wears True Religion might be possible they may know the meaning

designers even made stuff so small—is there re-ally such a demand for tiny designer duds? Ap-feannie", she'd better learn to cope with "no." And having money isn't the problem-in fact, Then there's the first grade boy who is in heavy it's often the goal. It's the generation's ability negotiations with his mother for an iPhone. I to value money along with their relationships, wonder whom he would call. Maybe the eleven time, belongings and their own self-worth year old girl who already owns one? This young that's being called into question. It's our job as fashionista reaches into her Juicy Couture purse, parents to teach our children what is truly valupulls out a 3G iPhone, and her expertly mani- able so they can grow up to be productive and

not possible!" A shimmer of pale pink lip gloss a mother who was completely unable to utter accentuates her mouth as she talks. Her tone the word "no" to her two-year old. The child and speech patterns indicate there may actually saw-and then demanded-a soft, squishy be another iPhone-toting eleven-year-old on ball that Stefanie had tucked safely away in the compartment beneath her stroller. As the child In my assessment, between the girl's clothes, dove for the ball, Stefanie gently slid the strollwith a PA isn't completely spoiled? Is it possible ply saying "no," offered to buy the toy right out When Stefanie refused to sell the toy, the child launched into a new level of screaming. The

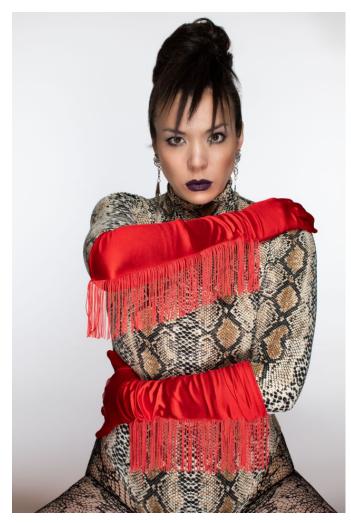




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