

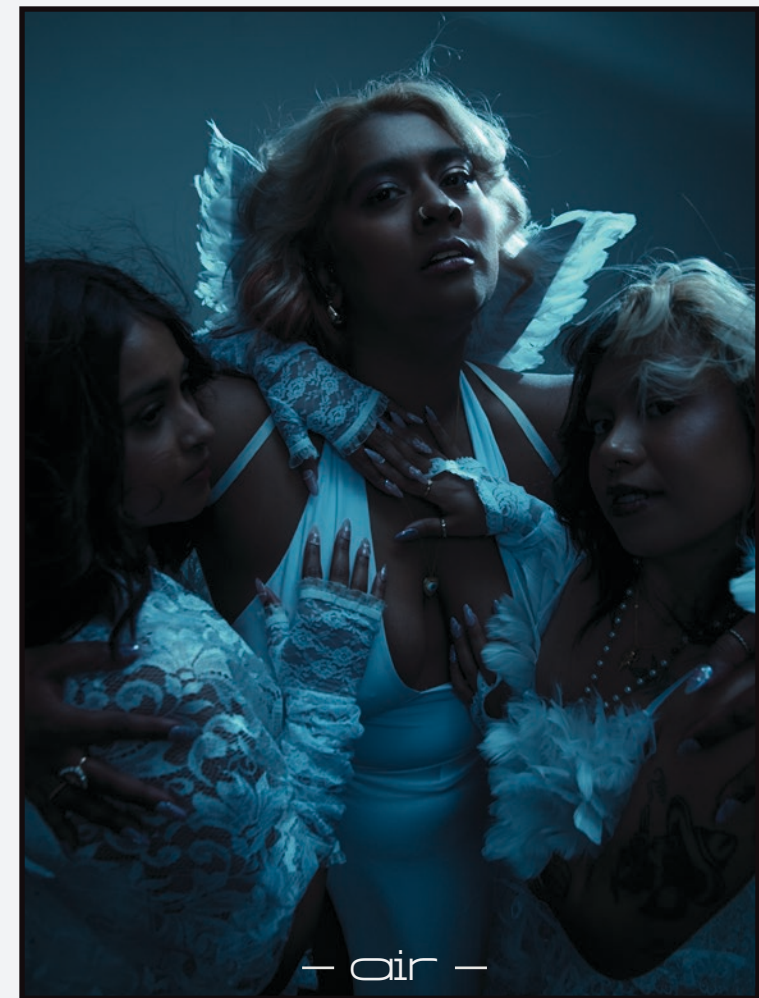
# Ascendants

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ROYA DELSOL

@royadelsol

WORDS BY SOLEIA FRANCIS

@solfuric



## TEAM + LOCATIONS

### NAIL ARTIST

Lara Jannin

### PRODUCER

Isaac Nikolai Fox

### STYLISTS

Kendrick Tran, Valentine Lovetalia

### HAIR AND MAKEUP

Lara Jannin, Danika Guerrero, Anna Pritchett

### BTS PHOTO

Nicole Banda

### LIGHTING

Vonny Lorde, Gerald Eze

### PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS

Smita Mahmud, Jennifer Wan,  
Christina Lin, Minha Lee.

### LOCATIONS

Foy House, Humber Bay  
Park East.

## MODELS

### AIR

Lubaba Gemma, Em Nyogi,  
Valentine Lovetalia

### FIRE

Rahnell Branton, Jude Karda,  
Mars Alexander

### EARTH

Oro JT, Czarina "Zesty" Daipan,  
Sadiah Rahman

### WATER

Soleia Francis, Lara Jannin, Cien  
Francis, Kiura Francis

The Libras in my life are messy, hunny. They're very driven and goal-oriented, though.

LIBRA

**T**he girls, gays, theys, and dolls all crave community, now more than ever in a precarious world. We crave closeness. I started practicing tarot eight years ago because it was a pathway towards togetherness and a communal belief in something so unknown and intangible. We're all looking for answers. We all want to better understand things that we don't have knowledge in, and many of us look for these answers in astrology and tarot.

How easy is it to classify that guy you hooked up with that didn't text you back as another typical Scorpio? How often do we cringe or recoil when we hear that our friend is going out with a Gemini? When you find out that your blind date is a Libra, do you start planning your escape out of the bathroom window right away—or do you sit through apps and drinks first before making a run for it? In an age of blinding and deafening uncertainty, astrology and tarot can provide us with certainty and validation. It's also a *little* culty.

There is no scripture, but there are astrological transits and tarot interpretations that give us comfort and confidence. We don't convene in holy temples, but in cozy rooms with windows that let us see the night sky. We're clinging to ancient teachings of the stars, waiting to be told what to do. And when we believe, we can exhale. What is more comforting than a prediction from the future? Astrology provides us with strength we always had, but couldn't tap into without a little help from something mystical and otherworldly. Isn't that what most cults promise?

We feel a sense of hope because The Ace of Cups was upright, and that means things will be okay. We blame our shitty luck and bad moods on a retrograde, an eclipse, planetary changes—or anything “low vibrational.” We bond over arcane knowledge and find community in it. We build our own churches around constellations and tarot and oracle decks. Maybe there's no all-powerful leader to shepherd us, but we find our own guidance in the omnipotent power of the stars.



lubababa

# rahnnell

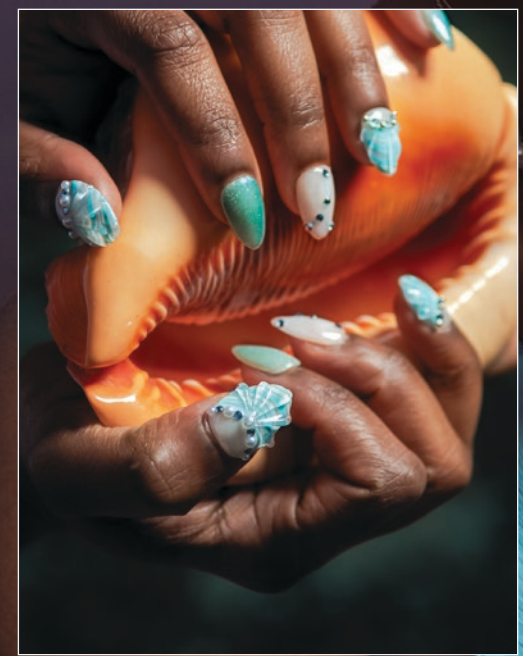
Firey, bold, spontaneous—with a good sense of order and planning. We love a Sagittarius shorty.



SAGITTARIUS

Crybaby central over here. I'm either a sappy lovgirl or my own chamber of self-pity.

# soleeia



CANCER



You're the best at what you do, but that might not be for everyone. It's okay to be an aquired taste.



You're the Martha Stewart of the Zodiac, down to earth. Tauruses are natural homemakers, but don't let the wrong people in.

juode

zesty

# AQUARIUS

Get your head out of the clouds, Aquarii.  
Come back down to earth, reality is just  
as good as your daydream.



# valentine

# lara

Slow down for a second, Pisces girls.  
Think about your own heart, not  
everything is meant to be held onto.



# PISCES

# CAPRICORN

Take a break once in a while. Capricorns are the Zodiac's capitalists, make room for your rest.



# sadiqah

# mars



# ARIES

I love Aries downnnn. Channel your gut fire energy, and don't be afraid to stand up.

# oro

You're very giving, but that can be your downfall. Give your all where it's reciprocal, to people who see your worth.

You're secretly emotional. That two-faced label is you trying to process your own emotions—so talk about them instead of hiding them.

# emme



## VIRGO



## GEMINI

# YOU STING FOR GOOD REASONS

My twin sisters are so cool and scary. You wanna talk about the queens of cutting people off—holy crap. My sister Cien broke up with a man because he sat in the middle seat on the TTC.

She's like: "why are you going to squeeze into this middle seat next to me—why am I the man right now?" But I love that they have standards, we could all learn from them. They strict as hell.

Kiura is ready to go, ready to rumble at any point. If we're out at a party, she'll be like "if we don't know the next 3 songs, we're leaving." Type A, about business, she's no nonsense.

I feel like the advice I'd give to them is to keep doing what they're doing. These two (and the other Scorpios I know) are true to their morals and how they are in the world.

Scorpios: you know exactly what you want. That can be intimidating for some people, but never be scared to act on it.

**All words by Soleia Francis.**  
(The Scorpios are my younger sisters.)

## SCORPIO

43



# cien & kiura