THE ALL-SINGIN', ALL
DANCIN', IRISH-ITALIAN
EXPORT TEACHES FHM
A THING OR TWO ABOUT
DATING IN THE TINDER AGE

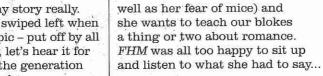
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Photography: Zoe McConnell



Well, son, it's a funny story really. Your nan originally swiped left when she saw my profile pic – put off by all these tattoos...' Hey, let's hear it for pops, 2055, part of the generation that helped kill chivalry.

It's a scenario one pretty lady is on a mission to prevent: Irish-Italian model and TV star Nadia Forde is here to fly the flag for old-school dating before the online sex drones take over, once and for all.

Fantastic Miss Forde has been a pretty big deal in her native Ireland for some time (notching up a hit telly show and a top 10 track on the UK Urban Club chart). But now, she has her heart set on charming these fair isles. An appearance on *I'm A Celebrity...* last year has already done wonders for her British profile (as



FHM: Hello Nadia. You must have notched up loads more interviews like this since being on British TV... Nadia: Yeah, I'm used to being asked random questions for three hours straight, so it's cool. I've just done this campaign for a dating company, so I have a full afternoon of interviews, but I have a feeling this one will be a bit more fun... What sort of dating advice have you been dishing out, then? It's all about people embracing

It's all about people embracing their imperfections and learning to love their flaws. There's so much pressure around dating these days, that it's good to focus on something different. And it's not just physical imperfections, it could be, like, "Oh, I'm scared of the dark" or "I snore..."

You clearly keep your imperfections quite well hidden...
Ha! I'm a bit impatient and a massive chatterbox, so if I come home from a long day, I have to get everything out, even if the other person isn't interested. I'm always texting, too...
Yeah, everyone is glued to their iPhones these days. Has that rubbish ruined the art of dating?
A little bit, yeah. But isn't that

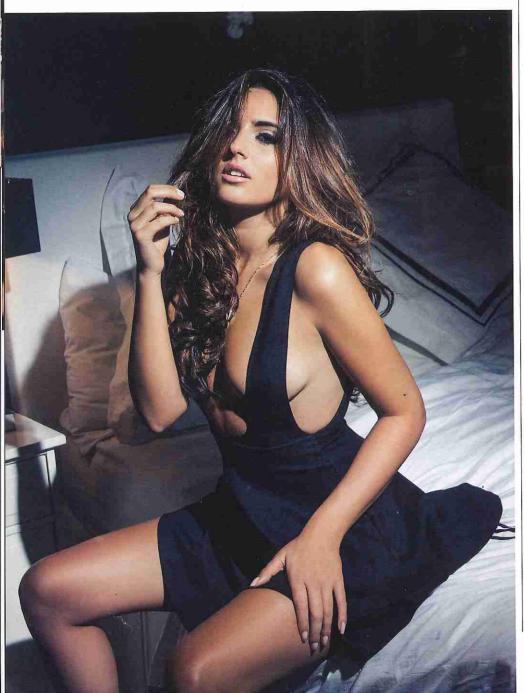
just modern life? Everything's done online nowadays, so it feels natural that dating is too. I mean, for me, it's still important to do the old chivalry thing.

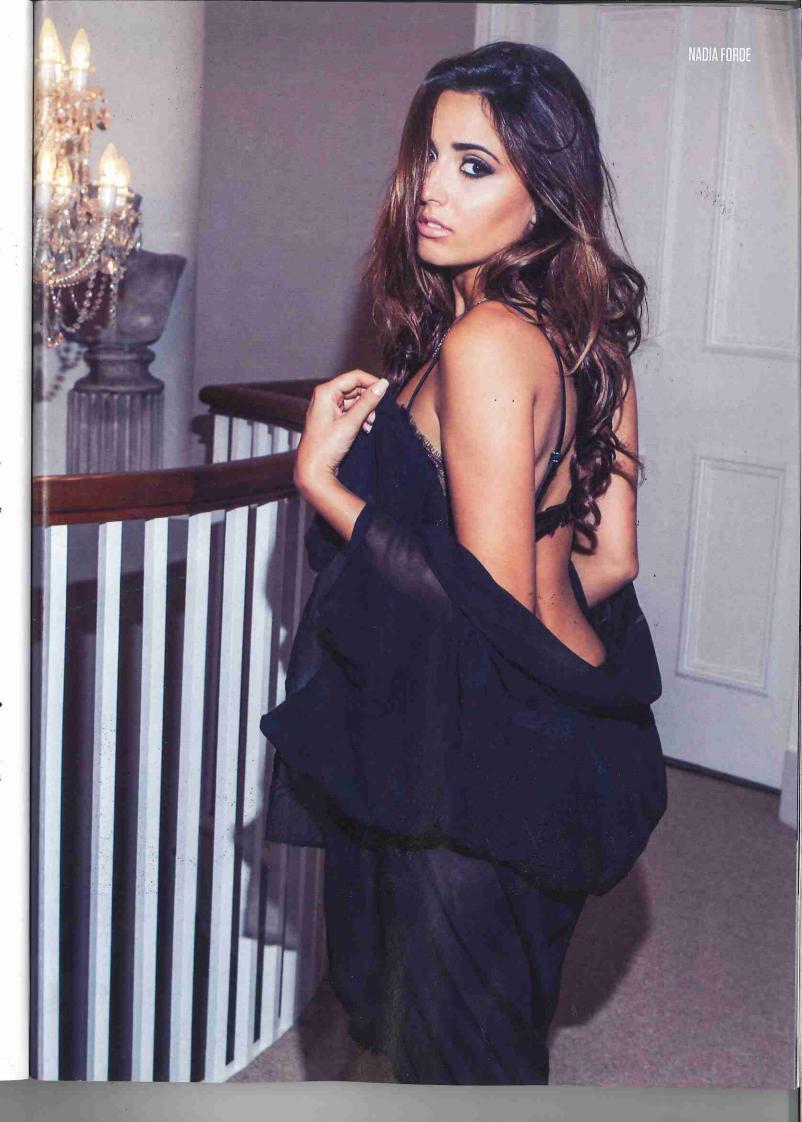
So we wouldn't find you on Tinder? I've never been one for casual hook-ups. I don't get that whole thing. But then I'm not a big fan of dates and I'm rubbish at flirting. I'm so shy that, for me, hanging out with a bunch of mates is way more appealing than the whole awkward, "So tell me a bit about yourself..." But I've been single for three years now, and it's been so long since I've done all that, so you know...

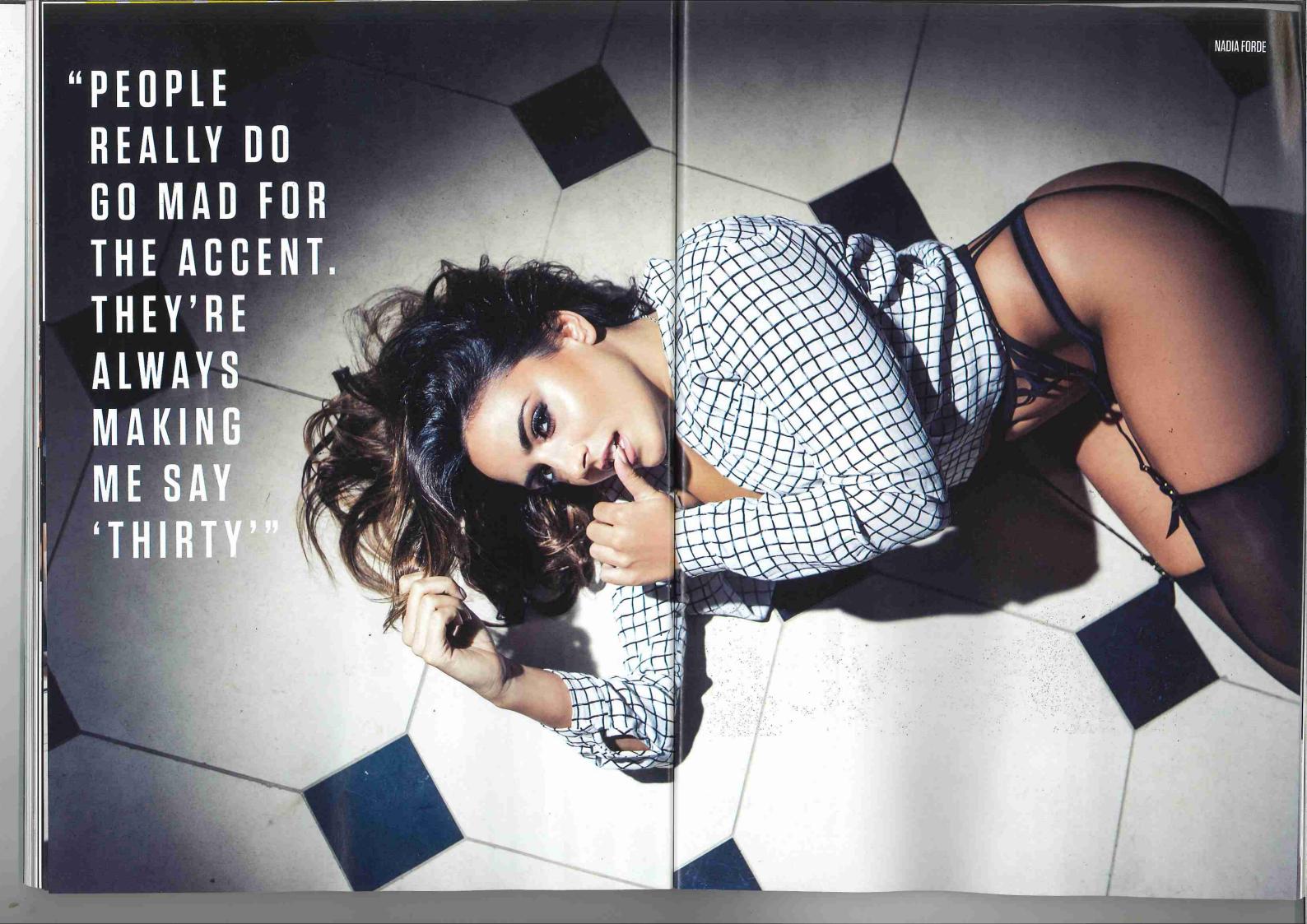
Wait, how is that even possible? What sort of terrifying secret are you hiding?

Jesus, I don't know! Ha-ha!
Sorry! We didn't mean to imply
you were a monster...

It's OK. I think it's just been a choice thing. I've come out of long-distance relationships in the past really not knowing what I wanted.







We're surprised you didn't cook t or eat its willy...

Not quite, but I'm definitely more accustomed to them being around. So having watched your US show, Nadia Goes To Hollywood, those Yanks seem a bit full-on and, at times, bloody rude. Are they genuinely arsey or is it all an act? I think it's both. They can be full-on, but LA is a true land of opportunity and there's a very clear difference in attitude between people from there and British people. People are going to put you under pressure, so you have to stay strong and deal with it.

Having a 'royt noyce' accent must help too?

Ha-ha! I'm sure the last time I spoke to FHM, you got me to do a 'how to charm an Irish girl' guide [That was a guide to charming girls, not a thing about charming girl guides — Ed] and it was so well received! I got lots of messages. People really do go mad for the accent, don't they? They're always making me say '30'.

You've had a bit of chart success in the past, right?

Yeah, I think these days you need to cross over into all mediums, and that's why you get so many musical people moving into TV. But I've got a new single coming out called *Stuck*, which I'm super-excited about. It's a catchy pop song you'll definitely be singing along to.

You seem to have a fair few strings to your bow. What else are you awesome at?

I was definitely the kid who couldn't sit still. As a teenager I wasn't interested in boys, and was singing and dancing five days a week. That probably changed a bit when I was 18 and was a bit more, like, "Mmm, boys, maybe I'll have a look!"

Given your heritage, which parts of you are Irish and which are Italian?

My bum is Italian, as is my hair.



QUICKFIRE ROUND

UK or USA? Oh, UK.

Guinness
or gin?
Guinness
with a shot of
blackcurrant.

Italy or Ireland? Oh God! I'll piss off half my family. But Ireland's my home.

City or country? Country. I love somewhere

secluded.

Trainers or heels? Trainers always. I can't walk in

heels.

Jungle or hotel? Hotel, with my jungle family.

Red Bull or coffee? Coffee.

Ant or Dec? That's a naughty onel And before you ask, I can tell the difference!

