

# MILLENNIUM

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Lifestyle & Entertainment

EXCLUSIVE

## RAMONA SINGER

'The Real Housewives  
of New York City'  
Star Dishes on Season 5,  
Her 20-Year Marriage  
and Being in Business.

## PHOTORAMA

Botanical Garden of  
the Villa Reale  
of Monza.

## MIXOLOGY

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Mixing Exotic  
Concoctions at  
MPD.

## NUTRITIONIST

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Breaks New  
Ground in the  
Male Dominated  
Supplement  
Industry.

## INFLUENTIAL

The Luxury  
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## PORTFOLIO

The Elegant  
Sonya Kadr.



# WINSTON

NEW YORK





MILLENNIUM MAGAZINE

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# MILLENNIUM

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## COVER



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RAMONA SINGER  
"The Real Housewives of New York City"  
Interview by Amanda Greer,  
Millennium Spokesmodel. Hair styled  
by Terry Maher with Assistant Melissa  
Markham. Make-up Artist Jennifer King.  
Wardrobe styled Sydney Cohan with  
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by Oreste Schiavone for Kaostika  
Studios.

MIXOLOGY  
Evan Finkelstein  
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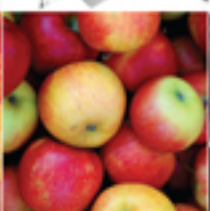
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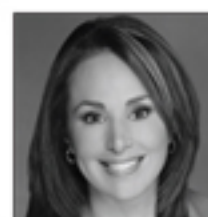
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# Business Networking

Jersey Shore Premiere Events ([www.jerseyshorepremiere.com](http://www.jerseyshorepremiere.com)) hosted the Premiere Red Carpet Business Networking event at The Downtown in Red Bank. The event benefited Lunch Break, Red Bank's soup kitchen. Almost 150 people attended mostly local business owners and media personalities (including Jacquellina from the TV show Jerseylicious, and Diane and Anthony Scali from Jersey Couture). The goal of the event was to raise awareness (and donations) for the charity as well as bring small business owners together in order to strengthen the community. Red carpet host included Millennium's April PORTFOLIO model, Melissa Maria (right).



Photographer Carl Maiorino.

# Hamptons Millennium

Millennium Magazine kicked off the “unofficial” start of summer at 75 Main Restaurant & Lounge in Southampton, Long Island, on Memorial Day Weekend. Millennium followers joined Andrea Warshaw-Wernick, (second from left) creator of Fab at Any Age and her friends of the Hamptons in celebration of her being featured on the cover of our May 2012 issue. With flavors like Dragon Kiwi Fruit and Berry Bliss, guests received samples of YouTonics, the once-daily collagen protein supplement that provides for youthful healthy skin and lean muscle growth; two fabulous new fragrances by photographer and adventurer seeker Christophe Jouany: St Barthelemy, with its Patchouli and Jasmine signature notes, and Marrakech with its orange blossom signature scent, both Eau de Parfum made with 68% natural ingredients, and Andrea wanted everyone to look Fab At Any Age with her DVD "Fit And Fabulous At Home Workout " with trainer Paul Williams, plus FREE consultation! 75 Main is an Italian restaurant that has quickly become one of the newest hot spots and celebrity haunts of the Hamptons, boasting a long list of star studded evenings.



Photographer Danielle Davis for PhotoMedia Diaries.

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# The Luxury Review

Millennium Magazine attended The Luxury Review, an Invitation-Only exclusive press showcase & one of a kind shopping experience featuring the latest in luxury products & services. Brand categories include jewelry, time pieces, cosmetics, private aviation, yachting, resorts, fine wine & champagne, art, spirits, electronics, home design and much more was represented. Guests sipped signature cocktails, enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, decadent chocolates and more while perusing the latest from an exclusive collection of luxury brands last month at The Metropolitan Pavilion. Attendees included select members of the press & media, editors, product analysts, studio executives, product integration & product placement professionals, tv/film producers, personal shoppers, stylists as well as private clients & VIPs.



IMAGES SHOT BY DANIELLE DAVIS FOR PHOTOMEDIA DIARIES

# MIXOL



BY WARREN WOODBERRY JR.



# O G Y

No longer is it just short for one of New York City's most popular neighborhoods—the trendy Meatpacking District—MPD the French-American restaurant nestled just at the foot of famous High Line Park hails as a regal dining establishment where renowned mixologist Evan Finkelstein whips up exotic concoctions for patrons.

MPD which actually stands for the French phrase *mon petit déjeuner* "my little breakfast," was birthed from the vision of artists who sought to recreate the decadence of Paris. MPD offers one breakfast inspired dish every night of the week such as its Maine Lobster Omelette, Jumbo Lump Benedict or Quiche Du Perigord.

Slide up to the bar where Evan creates liquid delights such as Blackberry Press (a mix of homemade belvedere lemoncello, crème de mure, fresh lemon and Moët Champagne, topped off with a sage leaf).





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*My favorite drink I like to make, I like to do a version called Sunrise Margarita. It's spicy though with fresh jalapenos and orange juice instead of lime juice.*

Evan Finkelstein is the head mixologist at MPD, having learned the trade from older cousins at an age we won't say here. But he has been at MPD for nearly a year - bartending professionally since age 21 we might add. He's at the bar 4 to 5 nights a week with a welcoming smile and a passion for bartending that makes watching him mix drinks just as enjoyable as drinking them.

MM: SO WHAT'S IT LIKE WORKING AT ONE OF THE HOTTEST SPOTS IN THE MEATPACKING DISTRICT?

EF: We're a French-American fine dining restaurant located in the heart of the Meatpacking District. We provide a dinner party experience on the weekends. Thursday, Friday, Saturday nights there's a DJ. After 10 o'clock it gets a little lively in here. People like to have fun, close the shades, shutter the windows, turn up the music, shut down the lights. We have a lot of fun in here. It's small, it's intimate, we close it off, get the right people in here and get things going.

MM: EVERY BARTENDER HAS A FAVORITE POISON THEY LIKE TO MAKE. WHAT'S YOUR SIGNATURE DRINK?

EF: My favorite drink I like to make, I like to do a version called Sunrise Margarita. It's spicy though with fresh jalapenos and orange juice instead of lime juice. It's sweet and spicy. It has a little kick to it. I'm a tequila drinker so that's where my passion lies.

MM: WHAT DRINK WOULD YOU RECOMMEND HERE AT MPD?

EF: We run a nice, serious cocktail program here. We have

a phenomenal house cocktail list. I'd probably say our most popular drink here is our sangria. It's more of a cocktail than a wine drink. It has rum, cognac, fresh raspberries, and fresh lemon juice. People order that thinking they're going to get a nice soft drink. It sounds innocent but it's not.

MM: YOU SEEM TO HAVE A LOT OF FUN BEHIND THE BAR HERE. YOU OBVIOUSLY LIKE WORKING HERE.

EF: The people I work with, we have a great time here. Most of the senior staff has been here a year plus. We hang out here together we spend our off days together. We have a very family-oriented environment.

MM: WHAT BRINGS PEOPLE TO MPD?

EF: Our customers come here for the food and ambiance. We have a mid-20s to late-30s crowd. This place drives a late night environment. People come here to party but they keep coming back for the food.

MM: YOU TAKE YOUR JOB REALLY SERIOUSLY.

EF: This is the hospitality business. For every guest that walks through the door our goal is to make them happy. I want them to sit down at my bar and have a smile on their face. I want them to come back because of an interaction they had with me, not just for the restaurant or the food. ■

RAMONA SINGER  
"The Real Housewives of New York City"  
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# Ramona Singer

A Candid Talk with 'The Real Housewives of New York City' Star.





*Interviewed by "MISS MILLENNIUM" Amanda Greer*

Sitting with Ramona Singer, the original star of the hit BRAVO TV series, 'Real Housewives of New York City' she takes time out of her busy schedule for a sit-down interview with me, as her daughter Avery is sick home from school. Ramona was so sweet and couldn't stop talking about her daughter. Avery has a great mom! Ramona discussed everything from her daughter's college prep to her keeping in touch with her fans.

These days Ramona is busier than ever staying hip, becoming more "tech-savvy" as she puts it, updating her website, incorporating functions for greater interactions with fans, new layouts and video to keep her following updated for live viewing of, 'ASK RAMONA' a "deeper and snarkier" dish & scoop relating to her hit reality TV show. And who can forget Ramona's ever loving, 'Turtle Time' which is part of it, and live social networking to interact personally with



the, 'Tell it like I see it' New Yorker to distributing her very own Italian line of Pinot Grigio. She recently redesigned the label to introduce the popular QR Code providing buyers with immediate updated access with a scan from a mobile device!

AG: I saw footage of what's in store on, 'The Real Housewives of New York' and WOW! There's a lot of insulting, name calling, nudity, partying and some tears. What happened?

RS: Listen, when you get six women together, fireworks happen and you know there's moments when we're all getting along great and then there's a bit of a discourse. That's life!

AG: What do you think of Kelly Bensimon's new book, 'I Can Make You Hot' and not coming back to the show?

RS: I haven't read it. I was really never that friendly with her but it was BRAVO's decision and they're a billion dollar company. I think they know what they are doing.

AG: Do you consider writing a book?

RS: You know I have a lot to say and I don't think I can get it all in one book and 'um I just don't have the time. A book is a great way to interact with your fans but I'm very fortunate because I do my bottle signings and I go on the road. Would I like to do a book one day? Absolutely!

AG: Title?

RS: 'Just Do It', 'Having It All' or 'Cooking with Wine!' (Ramona says coming up with titles excitedly.)

AG: What's your favorite cooking with wine recipe?

RS: A chicken dish I use when I want



to entertain, it's chicken breast used in a white wine sauce which I use Pinot Grigio and it has lemon, artichokes and mushrooms too. And it's really good!

AG: Would you ever consider 'Dancing with the Stars'?

RS: I would consider but I'd prefer going on that Donald Trump show, 'The Apprentice'.



AG: Do you still talk to Bethany at all?

RS: We text! Bethany's a big texter.

AG: Have you seen Bethenny Frankel's reality show?

RS: It saddens me to see her having these... you know everyone has highs and lows in their marriages and it just troubles me to... it pains me actually to see her having this low point in her marriage with her husband but marriage is tough, it's tough and she got married, pregnant and a huge business all in one year and it's very stressful.

AG: Well you've been married for 20 years! I feel a, 'Congratulations!' is in order given that the divorce rate increased since No Fault Divorce was enacted in New York. Please enlighten New Yorkers - what strengthens a marriage and how you lead by example for your viewers?

RS: Twenty! Can you believe! Thank



you! Well first of all, when people are getting divorced they say mental cruelty but it doesn't mean it really is mental cruelty. I think they just use "things", they use certain adjectives to get around the law but maybe it does make it easier. Listen, marriage is work and people don't realize that. It's work, it's communication and it's trust and you have to keep the romance alive.

AG: How do you keep the romance alive?

RS: I call it private time. I just make sure my daughter has a sleepover or she's out for the night or take a weekend away or a night away somewhere. You have to make time. My husband would like for that to be number one of course. (Becoming a little blushed, she smiles.)

AG: And y'all started your True Faith Jewelry Line together?

RS: We're best friends and I'm still attracted to him 20 years later.

AG: Well y'all are good lookin' people!

RS: I remember this one gentlemen, he couldn't believe his wife was divorcing him. I said to him, well when was the last time you made love to your wife? And he's like, 'Um, um, um' and I go, 'Well HELLO! Why do you think she wants to divorce you? You're not paying attention to her. My goodness, it's too late now!' I mean once the sex stops you're in trouble. I think it's up to the woman, I believe the woman is essential for the family... you set the pulse so it's up to you to make sure you spend the time with your husband, it's up to you to plan the vacations, it's up to you to make a home. Just create the whole

wonderful warm vibrant young lady. And on top of that! I'm truly entrepreneurial I mean before the show, I was 29 years old and I had my own business. I put myself through college.

AG: Fashion Institute of Technology right?

RS: (Ramona shakes her head, yes) Hmm hmm... got my first job at Macy's!

I enjoy life! I work hard and I play hard! Like this apartment (pointing out her apartment's structure) I was the contractor! I designed this whole apartment. I picked out the moldings, I said, 'Okay I want a swing door.' I designed the curtains I picked out the furniture and the fabrics. I'm into gardening.

AG: I think you're one of the favorites on the show.

character... to my personality. I'm getting older and I think I look just the same age as all the other women. I like looking young naturally, I like staying fit and I think I'm showing to women that you can be sexy when you're older. You can have your own career and have a successful marriage and a great child and still go out and have fun!

AG: Being that you are so well known, is it difficult being out and about in NYC?

RS: People are pretty respectful I have to say and if they do come over it's as if they're an old friend and I'm thinking that I'm supposed to know them. They say, 'Oh Ramona! Hi, how are ya!' and I'm like did I go to college with them or did I meet them at a party? Then I realize that they're a fan and so nice. One time I was at the store and a guy came up to me and asked, 'Are you Ramona Singer?' (Does her best imitation of a guy's voice) I said,

ambience, that's what I believe.

AG: That's what makes a real housewife.

AG: What in your opinion makes your life interesting in reality TV and what do you think your audience focuses on from the show?

RS: I'm a woman that really has it all. First of all I'm married now for twenty years and I'm happily married. I have a daughter who is grounded - she's an A student and she's a model citizen. She gives back to the community, she's president of her AIDS Society and she volunteers for the underprivileged nursery school. She has strong morals and is just a

RS: I think one of the main reasons that people like to tune in to watch with me... is they know I'm not full of crap! What you see is what you get! I say what everyone else is thinking. I'd rather say to you, 'Why are you wearing cream today? You should be wearing a black dress!' You know if you're going to a funeral or whatever... I'd rather say it to your face. I am unfiltered but it's never with malicious intent unlike some of my other cast mates whom I think sometimes have malicious intents. I'm an open book, you could just see it on my face what I'm thinking.

AG: Can you offer our followers any beauty tips?

RS: I drink a lot of green tea. I have a lot of energy. I'm always going, running, doing. I eat right, I stay fit. I think there are a lot of facets to my

'Well yes' and he said, 'Well my wife likes you!' So it's always positive, I've never gotten anything negative so it's actually kind of welcoming.

AG: So never a bad experience?

RS: Well I had a very funny experience! This is Manhattan so I was walking to this party in these high heels running late and this gentlemen says, 'Oh my gosh! You're Ramona!' I go, 'Yes' he says, 'Can I please have a picture?' and I said, 'Oh I can't I'm so sorry, I'm running late' cause for me every minute counted and he says, 'It's okay, I'll walk with you' so as he's walking with me, he's taking the picture of us (chuckles) and I thought it was very sweet.

This other time my husband and I were at a charity event, we had just done the red carpet and the bar was let's

say 20 feet away and it took me like half an hour because everyone's stopping me wanting a picture and I finally had to say, "You know what let me go to the bar and get a drink and then we'll take some more pictures!". But I've learned... well one time I was at a department store with my daughter and this woman comes over and asks, 'Can I please have a picture with you?' I said, 'I really appreciate your support and it's so nice to meet



you but you know what? If I take a picture with you then everyone will come over. And you know it separates... I'm still me, I'm still Ramona! I want to have my you know... there are events where I go to and I know it's my responsibility to meet and greet for an hour and take the photos, but when I'm shopping with my daughter I don't want to be stopped for thirty minutes taking photos at Bloomingdales! I've learned over time how to handle it because you don't want to offend your fans because without them I wouldn't be here! It's a learning experience!

AG: You've been great at showcasing your Pinot Grigio all over America including my home-state Texas! Tell me about the trip and your feedback.

RS: Great reviews! What most people don't like about wine, because you have to acquire a taste for it, is that you have to have it with food because the last bite can have tannins in it and be acidic and my wine is smooth. But my daughter is my

priority and so I've been combining college trips with wine signings so when we were in the mid-west looking at a college I did a signing there.

AG: Are you going to add more to your Pinot Grigio line?

RS: I definitely like drinking wine you know although I do enjoy Vodka and other drinks too, but every day at dinner I have a glass of white wine or red wine. I normally don't drink red wine on the show because I'm a little clumsy and I'll spill it on myself and with red wine I tend to, for me take such large sips that I get the you know 'milk mustache' so actually you will see me introduce a red wine on the show this year!

AG: You've hung out with cast members from other reality shows such as the ones in New Jersey and Orange County. Are the girls supportive? What have they said about your businesses?

RS: They're very supportive and proud and some of them even call me for advice. Both Tamra and Vicki, they're my favorites from O.C. They have pieces from my True Faith Jewelry. In fact Tamra was in New York the other day, she was on the Today Show with Hoda and Kathie Lee and she had on one of my bracelets and things on so yeah!

AG: Not only are you an inspiration to other housewives but you include your daughter Avery to accompany you at your signing events. Has she expressed her interest in becoming a business woman learning from you?

RS: Yes. Avery's always been very involved. I included her in my decisions and make her apart of everything I do like the labeling for my skin care, she helped me picking the colors and the logo even with the Pinot Grigio I was asking her opinion and with the red wine I was having her feedback on it.

AG: You're like her mentor?

RS: It's interesting because I was a business entrepreneur woman before the show and through the show I became a serial entrepreneur! It got my juices going and inspired me to create these other businesses but it's

almost like I'm raising the bar high for her and even for myself. It's like, 'Oh My Gosh' you know!

AG: Did you have anyone mentor you?

RS: My mom. My mom was a victim of domestic abuse so I witnessed it and this was years ago before they had shelter for women and now I give back to shelters, I raise money for different ones for women and children because they didn't exist when I grew up. So she always said to me, "Please make sure you find a business or have a career and you have your own money" so that just kind of gave me the impetus and the drive and the push because I didn't want to end up like my mother stuck in a situation.

AG: What do you think about Gay Marriage?

RS: I think someone has the right to. We live in a great country. I think the greatest country in the world and we're all about freedom of choice and if that's what you choose to do than you should be able to.

AG: After wife-swapping on the Rachel Ray Show you said you'd, "Never complain about one thing". Has that feeling continued through the Reality Drama motions that come with filming?

RS: I think I have a very blessed life and very lucky. But sometimes the show is difficult because there is a lot of craziness going on but I do have fun doing it and as long as I keep having fun I'll continue doing it. And you know I go to my home in the country and every time I turn the key I go, "Wow! I'm so lucky to have this home!" I'm so lucky to have a husband the way that I do because a lot of my friends are getting divorced and it's scary so I thank God every day for the life I have.

AG: You are part of a group supporting AfricaFoundation.org?

RS: I believe children are the future of the world and a lot of people like to say just support the US but I believe

*Ramona Continued on Page 39.*





# PHOTORAMA

Photographer Andrea Falcone

Model: Tamara M.






Images captured in the Botanical Garden of the Villa Reale of Monza near Milan, Italy.







Wardrobe by Sasha Kraznovic.



Make-up by Alessandra Fainoni with Assistant Giulia Frigerio.





# LIZ GASPARI

She is one of the most powerful women in the Sports Nutrition industry, serving as Vice President and Director of International Distribution for Gaspari Nutrition, Liz Gaspari has successfully broken ground in the male dominated supplement industry.

Liz recently shared with Millennium Magazine how she has gotten to where she is today. We found that not only did she begin at a young age, she started where most of us also do, with a dream and a vision.

One of the most inspirational female moguls, Liz Gaspari started as an entrepreneur at a kiosk before the age of 18. Liz would create a business, market and develop it and then sell it. She enjoyed the challenges and hard work that came with starting and managing a business. Business came natural to her, having relationships with people and giving back to the community; just like she learned from her grandfather, who was known for being an incredible businessman and giving back to his entire community as well. With a role model like her grandfather, Liz created a nutrition and fitness empire.

Liz was always into working out. She states that in high school she was made fun of a lot for the way that she looked.

"I wasn't one of those popular girls with a lot of friends," says Liz. "The minute I got out of high school, I made a complete transformation of myself. Going to the gym, eating healthier and the changes I made for myself made me so confident. I was so determined to feel great that I became interested in the healthy aspect of living and keeping in shape."

When Liz and Rich Gaspari met, Rich, (former Mr. Universe, Mr. America and Professional Mr. World Rich the "Dragon Slayer" Gaspari) was the person that everyone loved to speak with, but Liz soon found that he needed assistance in the sales and marketing end of his business. Liz stepped in to help him and together they have worked hard through perseverance and determination to build their company to where it is today.

Gaspari Nutrition is now one of the world's largest nutrition companies. Rich and Liz, with the help of their team, started the entire international division that now accounts for over 50% of sales for Gaspari Nutrition.

Liz Gaspari has most recently attended Gabrielle's Angel Foundation for Cancer Research as well as sponsored the BLK Launch Party in Miami at the Breakwater Hotel alongside "Real Housewives of New Jersey" stars Albie and Chris Manzo, Jacqueline and Chris Laurita and Caroline and Al Manzo.

Liz has some incredible upcoming projects that she will be working on as well as launching her own website, [www.LizGaspari.com](http://www.LizGaspari.com). Follow Liz on Twitter at @LizGaspari. 

- Robyn Santiago



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Lifestyle & Entertainment

Coming July 2012

"MISS MILLENNIUM"

AMANDA GREER

The Official Spokesmodel for Millennium Magazine

20-Page Photo Spread

**2<sup>ND</sup> ANNIVERSARY ISSUE**



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*Ramona Continued from Page 24.*

we are one world now and Africa has third world countries and the only way they're going to get out of poverty is if you educate the children so they can create their own businesses and make their own money. Just giving money to someone is not really helping what the real problem is. We build schools and I actually helped raise money to help build a kitchen so the kids can have a healthy meal. (Ramona excitedly getting out her photo book to share her trip's photos with me)

AG: How many more seasons do you envision, 'The Real Housewives of New York City' continuing and you committing to?

RS: That's a good question. We just finished our fifth season and I think it's going to be the best season ever! O.C. just finished their seventh season so we have potential too. I love doing the show and when you love something, do it! This is the most hysterical thing... I remember when I first agreed to sign up for the show. I first said I don't have time! They said, 'Oh Ramona! Don't worry about it! We're only going to film 2 or 3 hours a week and that's it.' Well, let me just tell 'ya when I was in St. Barts I was filming from 10a.m. to midnight every day with only a 90 minute break to wash my hair, shower and do my make up! So that's now how involved I've become!

AG: But you enjoy it?

RS: I'm very competitive and I want a great show!

AG: What is your most memorable part of the new season?

RS: Going to St. Barts! Once you see it, you'll love it! First of all it's paradise. It's very interesting because five of us went first for 3 or 4 days and then all of a sudden one of the girls came later and the dynamics just totally shifted and everything changed! All I can say is that it was a wild trip!

AG: You are a true New Yorker? Have you ever considered moving away from the city?

*Ramona continued on Page 40.*

RS: I grew up in Upstate New York and I came here when I was 17 and I've asked my husband where do you




think you'll want to retire but there's

something about the energy of the city so I don't have the answer. What I love about NYC is number one the energy, number two is I can walk out of my house here and go and have lunch by myself or do anything and I don't feel alone. And that's what I love about New York!

AG: Any words of advice to Millennium Magazine's readers?

RS: My view in life is a positive outlook and it's because I always look at it as the glass is half full not half empty and when something adverse happens to you in your life you can't be consumed by it because it's not going

to change anything and just think of the positive. I think if you have that attitude in life you'll be happier and you'll live longer. You can have all the fame in the world but if you're not happy in here (points to her heart) doesn't mean anything. 

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**DIGITAL PRINT**

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