

GLAMOUR

A full-page photograph of actress Claire Danes. She is standing on a wooden bench, leaning forward with her hands resting on the railings. She is wearing a red dress with a white geometric pattern and a white rope-like detail around the waist. Her blonde hair is blowing in the wind, and she is looking back over her shoulder at the camera with a slight smile.

**We're Loving
Claire Danes!**

Happiness
Advice From TV's
Sanest Star

Great Style

101

Chic Work
Looks, Jeans,
and Shoes
You Can't Live
Without

Plus
**Hair & Skin
Resolutions
That Work**

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to Lose 15
Pounds**

**Top 20
Dos &
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Our List

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on a Budget!

JANUARY 2014

Brains.

"I'm happier in my thirties,"

Danes says. "I feel clearer about who I am and less apologetic about it." Dress, top, belt, Derek Lam; bracelets, Jennifer Meyer. Go to glamour.com/magazine for more shopping information.

Fashion editor:
Anne Christensen

Beauty. Claire.

She's got the whole package—hit show, hot husband, cute kid...and some seriously sane life advice for the rest of us. Take it away, Ms. Danes!

By Logan Hill

Photographs by Norman Jean Roy



he last time I saw Claire Danes with soaking-wet hair, she was a teenager, underwater, and kissing Leonardo DiCaprio in Baz Luhrmann's 1996 *Romeo + Juliet* update. Today, 18 years and 20 films later, the 34-year-old actress is standing in a restaurant in a polka-dot blouse, and her hair is dripping once again. No Leo in sight, however. Danes had a late night with her old girlfriends here in New York City, where she grew up, and skipped a blow-dry because she woke just a few minutes ago.

The woman needed a night out. Danes has been on a personal and professional tear the past few years: In 2009 she married actor Hugh Dancy. In 2010 she won an Emmy for the HBO movie *Temple Grandin*. In 2011 she roared back into television drama with her breakout antiterrorism hit, *Homeland*. (Notch two more Emmys in there for *Homeland*.) And in December of 2012, she gave birth to her son, Cyrus. It's been a transformative period, even for an actress who has been constantly evolving in the public eye: from that precocious kid on *My So-Called Life* and that angsty Juliet in the pool to the muted sweetheart of *Shopgirl* and *Homeland*'s defiant Carrie Mathison, who has taken down terrorists in much the same way that Danes has demolished expectations of what actresses can do on television. But right now, we just want her to sit down.

CLAIRE DANES: Sorry I'm late. I hadn't seen all my New York friends in a really long time. We had a sleepover in my hotel last night. I've been sort of sequestered in Charlotte [North Carolina, filming *Homeland*].

GLAMOUR: And having a young kid...

CD: And having a young kid. Yeah, the combination is not always great for my friendships with my ladies. Last night I felt so old because it was way too much fun. We went to dinner and then we went to a bar. That shouldn't be such a novel, exotic experience.

GLAMOUR: That's how you know you're a grown-up.

CD: An actual grown-up with a child and everything.

GLAMOUR: A lot of people don't keep up with their old girlfriends.



CD: Yeah. [My *Homeland* character] Carrie doesn't have so many girlfriends. I had a scene with Morena [Baccarin], who plays Jessica on the show, and it was awkward. Carrie felt different. And I was like, Oh...it's because she's relating to a woman who's not a CIA asset! Wow, she doesn't know how to do this very well. She's not a girl's girl. But I am.

GLAMOUR: What did you and your friends talk about last night?

CD: What we always talk about: boys. Except the only difference was that the boy I spent most of my time talking about was my actual, literal boy: my son, Cyrus. Basically, I was bringing them up to speed on how I have negotiated being a mom and working, which has been...um...possible? Challenging, certainly. I think I was concerned that it wouldn't be possible. I had a lot of anxieties.

GLAMOUR: Everybody does. But not everyone has to switch between parenting and doing something so emotionally intense as playing Carrie Mathison.

CD: Yeah. But the nice thing about my job is that Cyrus can come to the set.

GLAMOUR: I imagine you have your routines on set.

CD: It's been so great. I was pregnant all one season, so the crew feels very warmly toward Cyrus. It's like he's the *Homeland* baby.

GLAMOUR: The show shot around your pregnancy so well during that season, I couldn't tell. But I bet you could.

CD: It's true. I was watching an earlier episode. Suddenly, halfway through the season, I'm a C-cup! Also, they hired a woman with a similar frame to my nonpregnant frame, and whenever we did a shot that was wider than a close-up she would retrace my steps, and they would call, "Belly pass!" Which is the grossest term.

GLAMOUR: Ha! That *is* awful.

CD: We never found a better one. They would literally cut and paste her torso onto mine. I was sort of like: Oh no. You should not tell actresses that this is available. Because pregnant or no, I would think, Well, maybe I will have that doughnut, thank you very much. Belly pass!

MY SO-CALLED BOYFRIENDS

In real life Claire Danes has one handsome man—actor Hugh Dancy. But her on-screen loves have been pretty spectacular too. We asked Danes about her sexy celluloid exes.



Jared Leto, *My So-Called Life* (1994)
"He took me to my first club—but like a big brother would. I had a club soda."

GLAMOUR: I want to read a quote back to you from just after *My So-Called Life* days: "I'm 18, and I'm already thinking, You should've taken it slower. I'm reminiscing already: What am I going to be like when I really get old? Like when I'm 30."

CD: Oh, Jesus!

GLAMOUR: So what's the answer? What are you like now that you're, as you said, really old?

CD: Well, not too different. I'm happier in my thirties. I feel clearer about who I am and less apologetic about it, and more accepting of my limitations and also more aware of the ways in which I'm capable. I was always looking forward to this time because people talk about it in very romantic terms. And I think it's true. Gravity hasn't had too profound of an effect, and you're a little less emotionally gangly. The twenties are a deceptively challenging-slash-painful time. I'm just glad to be out of *that* phase.

GLAMOUR: But you always seemed so precociously confident.

CD: I was meandering a little. And a lot of the mysteries of life have been illuminated [since then]. Like, OK, this is the man I'm going to spend the rest of my life with. This is my son. This is my city. This is my home.

GLAMOUR: You and your husband, Hugh Dancy, seem so comfortable now.

CD: I've been with Hugh for...seven years? It really doesn't feel that long. It feels new every year because there is a new set of challenges: Who are we to each other now that we're married? Who are we now that we have this shared person? We never have to fight to keep it fresh and new. Life just demands that of us.

GLAMOUR: You two seem very encouraging of each other's careers.

CD: Yeah, relationships are a constant negotiation and balance. I'm just a hard worker, so [in previous relationships] I took that creed "Relationships take work" a little too literally at times and stayed in relationships longer than I maybe should have, because I thought, Well, no pain no gain.... And it's nonsense if it's just not working. You have to leave and end it.

GLAMOUR: In your Emmy acceptance speech you called Hugh "my crush."

CD: Well, it's true that you often kind of forget to see the person you're most intimate with, but occasionally I'll come to and sort of think, Oh my God! You're really, really good-looking! [Laughs.] I'm embarrassed now! It's nice to occasionally have that flash.

GLAMOUR: Do you do anything to remind yourself of that?

CD: People talk about "date night," and it is true: Sometimes you have to apply yourself, or at least apply lipstick to yourself. You kind of have to dress up, just because. You know, wear heels to your own dinner table.

GLAMOUR: So you break out the Emmy gown and order in pizza?

CD: Well, not quite. But yeah. Sometimes it feels totally absurd, 'cause we're just going down the block and he's wearing his "smart" blazer. Like, who are we kidding? We know where this is going: We're going back home to watch *Breaking Bad*. Still, those

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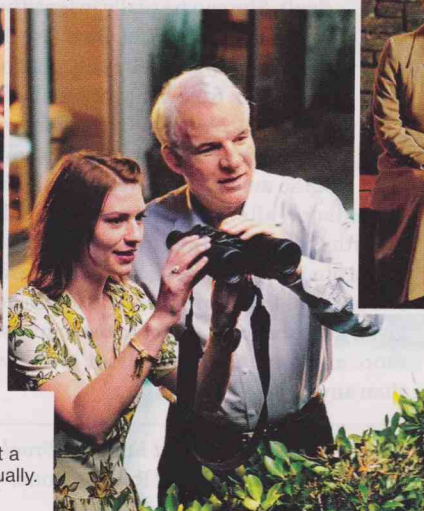
gestures are important. It just hasn't stopped being fun.

GLAMOUR: You and Hugh have similar careers now, especially now that he's starring in *Hannibal* and you're on *Homeland*.

CD: Yeah, we run lines with each other a lot. We'll talk about work: the stress of getting a script a day before you're meant to film, the politics of putting a show together. *Continued on next page* ▶



Leonardo DiCaprio,
Romeo + Juliet (1996)
"He can be naughty. I'm so f--king earnest, and he's not."



Steve Martin,
Shopgirl (2005)
"I don't think I've met a smarter person, actually. I kind of idolize him."



Jason Schwartzman,
Shopgirl (2005)
"He's a great improviser—I'm so not. I can just listen and watch him twirl around me."



Damian Lewis,
Homeland (2011)
"We have all had dinner parties that evolve into dance parties. We really like each other."

We have a shorthand, and we've had these very parallel experiences in our careers. He played an autistic person, and then I played an autistic person. He's FBI; I'm CIA.

GLAMOUR: And you both moved from film to TV.

CD: Yeah. Maybe we've influenced each other's choices. But we're not particularly actorly people. We have a lot of shared interests. Acting is just one of them.

GLAMOUR: I hear you two do crafts together?

"The twenties are a
deceptively challenging-
slash-painful time.
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CD: Hugh is actually a really great artist. We both draw, and for a while we took classes together. This is a terrible thing to admit, but he's a better illustrator than I am. And I kind of stopped doing it as much because I got a little competitive.

GLAMOUR: Did you find something you were better at?

CD: I've been really into embroidery lately. That somehow seems safer: It's mine, and it's silly.

GLAMOUR: But when do you find time?

CD: In between takes. They made one of the arms of my director's chair into a pincushion. It's totally preposterous.

GLAMOUR: So you're screaming about some terrorist—

CD: And I literally go back to embroidering bunnies on onesies. It's a great way to divorce myself from the screeching insanity. It's a good balance.

GLAMOUR: What do you make of these "Claire Danes Cry Face" memes online? These pictures or clips of you, as Carrie, crying?

CD: Well, it is true, she gets emotional a lot. [Laughs.] There is that. But I actually think feelings are really hard for people. I think people are made uncomfortable by uncensored expressions of emotion. But, you know, that's my job. I don't have those fears. I really have never been concerned about being beautiful on-screen. That's just not my jam. I'm concerned about it if I'm playing a beautiful character. But it's not relevant for Carrie. I don't need to worry about that, and I think that's really great. I love sitting in the makeup trailer and getting my makeup done in 15 minutes as opposed to an hour and a half.

GLAMOUR: And can we talk about Carrie's pantsuits?

CD: Carrie wears a lot of Theory. That is her brand. She's a Theory girl. It's a lot of navy. A lot of navy. I actually forget how to wear my own clothing when I'm filming because I wear basically the same pair of jeans and a long-sleeve T-shirt and then change out of it and immediately into my pantsuit.

GLAMOUR: President Obama has said he watches the show while the girls play tennis, and he also told you, "You're a finer actress than I am president." What do you hope he sees in the show?

CD: Escape, first and foremost. It's a piece of entertainment, and I want him to not think about his job for a second. It would be nice to imagine that some of what we're talking about is reflective of his experience, but it's just a good ride.

GLAMOUR: You've done research into Carrie's bipolar disorder.

CD: YouTube videos have been the most helpful thing, actually. People just talk to the camera, often in altered states. I kind of get a contact high from them and observe their physical mannerisms

and—I'm doing it now! [She gestures excitedly with her hands.] It's really fascinating to perceive the world in incredibly different ways.

GLAMOUR: I feel like that's been a theme in your work, with Carrie Mathison, Temple Grandin, and your 2005 dance piece, *Christina Olson: American Model*, based on a woman who was immobile from the waist down. You've been interested in...

CD: ...in kind of quote-unquote disability. We marginalize people who have these conditions, out of fear or misunderstanding, and I think that's wrong.

GLAMOUR: Why do you think you're drawn to those stories?

CD: If I hadn't been an actress, I was thinking seriously about going into psychology. It's just really what I'm interested in: the human psyche and how we process information. How we experience feelings and create our own personal narratives. Acting is just an extrapolation of that.

GLAMOUR: You're up front about embracing the word *feminist*.

CD: I am a feminist. And I'm so glad that [Girls creator and star] Lena Dunham exists, because she is one too, and she's quite vocal about it. Yes, women have more freedom and more influence than ever, but it's hardly equal. It's just not. It's really f--king crazy. I'm sorry I'm cursing. But it's wild that women are under-represented [in Hollywood]. I have real anxiety about directing, and that's something to question and challenge and correct.

GLAMOUR: You mean you have more anxiety about directing than a male actor might?

CD: It's really difficult for a woman to fantasize about that authority because we have to take our machete and whack all the weeds that surround that idea.

GLAMOUR: As a powerful woman in a man's world, Carrie has been controversial from the beginning.

CD: She's fun because she is controversial. And she is difficult. She can be really insensitive, transgressive, inappropriate, and hurtful. But I love that she's so comfortable with her power. She's really unapologetic about it. I hope I can learn from her a little bit in that way.

GLAMOUR: Are you looking forward to spending more time with Cyrus now that the show has wrapped?


CD: So much. There was a possibility of doing another job immediately after this last season, but ultimately I just need to be with Cyrus. The first five months I was with him 24/7, but that's obviously not been possible these days since the series started, and I miss him terribly. I miss being the primary caregiver. I hate having to defer to the nanny so much. He's great. It's more about me than it is about him. I want to be Mom more than anything. ■

Logan Hill is a journalist living in Brooklyn. He writes for GQ, The New York Times, and Rolling Stone.

Tablet
Bonus!



Watch our
exclusive cover
video with Claire
Danes in *Glamour's*
digital edition.
Download it now
from your device's
app store.

A full-page photograph of a woman with long, wavy blonde hair sitting on a wooden bench. She is wearing a light blue long-sleeved shirt with a white collar and blue jeans. A small, fluffy white dog is sitting on her lap. She is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. The background is a blurred outdoor setting.

**"A lot of the
mysteries of
life have been
illuminated,"**

Danes says of her marriage. "Like, this is the man I'm going to spend the rest of my life with...this is my home." Shirt, Chloé; jeans, J Brand; bracelets, Jennifer Meyer; heels, Michael Kors. Go to glamour.com/magazine for more shopping information.

Hair: Serge Normant for sergenormant.com; makeup: Matin for Laura Mercier; manicure: Tatyana Molot for abtp.com; production: Kara Glynn; set design: Mary Howard.