



PAULA'S
CHOICE

JUNE BEST/WORST

BEST

✓☺ **Maybelline New York The Colossal Volum' Express Waterproof Mascara** (\$6.99). Maybelline's original The Colossal mascara became an instant favorite of mine for its ample lash-magnifying results that look great, so I had high hopes for the waterproof version. I wasn't let down. Although this version doesn't leave lashes as thick and lush as its non-waterproof counterpart, the worry-free, easy application still leaves most other waterproof mascaras in the dust. Unless you want ultra-thick lashes, you'll be impressed by the results from this Colossal, and it is waterproof as claimed. You will need more than a water-soluble cleanser to remove it.

WORST

☹️ **Clarins Bright Plus HP Intensive Brightening Botanical System with Snow Lotus** (\$155 for a set of 6 0.2-ounce bottles; 1.2 ounces). Packaging plays a huge role in how consumers perceive products. In fact, in many instances, the packaging has far more draw and effect than what's inside. In this case, however, the packaging is not only a lure but also truly deceiving because it makes this vastly overpriced kit seem like a specialized treatment.

The goal of this two-step system is to "brighten tired-looking skin" and restore "a luminous and healthy-looking glow in just 3 weeks." How is this supposed to be accomplished? Step 1 involves applying **Age Control Concentrate**. A cursory look at the ingredient list reveals what a joke the name of this product is. It's mostly water and alcohol, the latter of which is age-promoting, not reversing. Other than tiny amounts of vitamins C and E, there is nothing positive about this product. It contains a large amount of fragrance and is laced with fragrance chemicals known to cause irritation. What a slap in the face to women looking to take the absolute best care of their skin, regardless of cost!

Step 2 is the **Brightening Concentrate**, a bland yet silky moisturizer that contains a tiny amount of vitamin C, most certainly not enough to affect skin discolorations. Again, the amount of fragrance is cause for concern, as is the inclusion of several fragrance chemicals known to be irritating. Used separately or alone, there is no reason to believe either of these products will do much more than make skin feel smoother while inciting inflammation and irritation: two things that lead to increased signs of aging. And who wants to pay good money for that?