

Party OF Three

Haylie Duff talks about the holidays, home life and *The Real Girl's Kitchen*

Words by Vanessa Pascale · Photo Credit: Yoni Goldberg

Veg Out: Stretch, Sip and Savor is in full effect, and the NYWFF-event-host, Haylie Duff, is in the thick of it, smiling and chatting with those around her. Dressed in all black—leggings and shirt topped with a leather jacket—and her blonde locks loosely spiraling down around her shoulders, the Houston, Texas-native and new mom (this past May, she and fiancé Matt Rosenberg welcomed daughter Ryan) appears to be in her element as she stops by the tasting stations serving healthy light bites.

The actress, best known from *Material Girls* starred in with younger sister Hilary, *7th Heaven* and holiday flicks like *Hats Off to Christmas* and *All About Christmas Eve*, made a transition last year from acting to educating viewers on how to navigate a kitchen in her cooking show *The Real Girl's Kitchen* on Cooking Channel. What started out as a blog where she posted recipes, evolved into a brand with a show and cookbook (which she personally signed and gave to event attendees) by the same name.

Last month, RealGirlsKitchen.com received a revamp—in addition to delicious recipes and tips, like how to brown butter, Haylie is sharing photos of her home life and Ryan, home decor, book club, baby stuff, and “feel good,” and her latest musings. Haylie’s focus, career-wise, these days is exclusively on *The Real Girl's Kitchen*—since she had Ryan. “I really tried to not work too much and really be home with Ryan, so I worked a lot during my pregnancy. I’m very happy that I can be home with her for the first few months, and we’ll see what comes after that,” she says in regard to her acting career.

At the time of our interview in October, the holidays were right around the corner, and as a “big leftovers-girl,” Haylie was looking forward to baking turkey pies with her family. “We take the turkey from Thanksgiving and shred it, make homemade pie crust and we fill it with celery and stuffing—whatever is left over from the table and make awesome turkey pies,” she says with a smile. As far as seasonal traditions go, Haylie and her family string up lights and decorate together, and enjoy tamales on Christmas. With this being Ryan’s first Christmas, she intends to incorporate some new traditions. There likely won’t be any New Year’s resolutions, she tells me. “I always tend to make them and then I

What do you think people would be surprised to find out about you?

“I feel like I open up myself so much on the show. Maybe they’d be surprised I have a lot of tattoos.”

What is one of your tattoos?

“One of them is a peacock feather on my foot. I think I have 11 tattoos, but you never see them,” she laughs.

always break them, so I dunno if I’ll make one this year.” But really, who needs resolutions when your life is so perfectly on track?

Haylie has a full, fulfilling plate—juggling home life with Matt and Ryan (check out her home renovations on her blog) and three platforms under *The Real Girl's Kitchen* umbrella. When there’s time for some rest and relaxation, you might find her reading (“I love to read!” she tells me)—or watching “*How to Get Away with Murder*, *Homeland*, *Quantico*, and *The Real Girl's Kitchen* on Cooking Channel,” she adds with a laugh.

Don’t miss Haylie on *The Real Girl's Kitchen* (Saturdays at 1 pm) and keep up with her at RealGirlsKitchen.com. **ML**



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