

Get the look

Sali Hughes on hero products for under £10

Last year, I sat in a posh hotel while a PR showed me a new luxury haircare range. She'd spent five minutes raving about a £20 hairspray, when I interrupted, "Yes, but is it as good as L'Oréal Elnett?" Leaning in, she whispered, "Of course not. Nothing is."

While this information came as no surprise (I've scarcely strayed from Elnett since puberty), it was still thrilling to hear what I already knew: that this two quid hairspray is accepted as peerless; a commoner who became a beauty monarch.

I adore luxury brands, but there is nothing more satisfying than discovering a product for peanuts that outperforms the upmarket versions. A transformative dry shampoo by Batiste, bought with a few leftover Advantage Card points; a world-class body lotion from Neutrogena, tossed into the shopping trolley with nappies and mince. It makes me deliriously smug.

It was pure hell choosing my top six this week, so desperate was I to spread the love for all my favourite bargains (I'm already planning follow-up columns). Everything had to be under £10, but it wasn't enough to be "good for the money", merely a decent substitute when cash is tight. These six are *the best*, in my view, at any price. So fill your boots.



REU FARRIA FOR THE GUARDIAN/REX

L'Oréal Elnett Hairspray

from £1.99, johnlewis.com
The stylists love it. Weightless and unsticky, with staying power and that lovely nostalgic smell.



NEUTROGENA
deep moisture body lotion

Neutrogena Deep Moisture Body Lotion

£5.10, boots.com
A brilliant brand overall, but this is my desert island essential. It leaves my skin softer than anything else.

Rimmel Glam'Eyes Liquid Eyeliner

£5.29, boots.com
My Twitter followers voted for this by a landslide, and I agree. Perfect, precise lines in true blackest black.



The Body Shop Camomile Gentle Eye Make-up Remover

from £3, thebodyshop.co.uk
Gently shifts all eye make-up (and even stains on clothes). Miraculous.

Dove anti-perspirant roll-on

£2.15, boots.com
Expensive deodorant is useless. This is perfect. Men: please switch. Your deodorants smell ghastly.



Nice 'n Easy Root Touch-Up

£4.28, boots.com
Life-changing. Even my colourist has no idea that I'm buying an extra month between appointments for less than a fiver.