



Curated By You: Gurusurya Khalsa Makes A Grainline Willow Tank Paired With The Made By Rae Cleo Skirt

## Description



Skirt made with FS SPICE 100% Linen

## **Tell us a bit about yourself and what you do.**

I'm Gurusurya I work as a professional photographer and spend pretty much all my free time with friends or crafting or both. I have always felt a strong pull to create things with my hands. I love the magic in a thing that was created by hand rather than produced. My grandmother taught me to sew at a young age but I only started to sew clothing about a year and a half ago and I have fallen in love with the process. You can see more of my crafting and photography on my Instagrams: [@makeeatsleeprepeat](#) and [@gurusurya](#)

## **Why do you sew?**

I have always been a maker of some sort, often diving deep into one form or another. I spent years in a love affair with knitting and it seems that this past year Sewing has grasped my interest, and tightly! I was exposed to sewing from a young age. My grandmother was a prolific quilter and seamstress all her life. She would often spend time in our home over the summer tailoring clothes, mending things and indulging me in joint projects where I would design a doll quilt and she would sew it together. Only recently have I picked up sewing in a meaningful way for myself. I made a few pieces of clothing for a trip to Turkey and Morocco last year and was instantly hooked. I love how empowering and gratifying it is to make my own clothing.



## **What do you like to listen to when you're working (and why)?**

Podcasts! and sometimes music or TV. I am a victim of never being able to do just one thing at a time. If I am listening to something or watching something my hands are always working. I joke this is why I don't read as much because I can't sew or knit at the same time!

A few of my favorite podcasts include; 99pi, Reply All, Criminal, The Daily, Armchair Expert, Endless Thread, Not By Accident, My favorite murder, and so many more!!

## **As a child, what was your first encounter and memory of beauty?**

This is a hard one. I'm not sure I have ever taken the time to truly reflect on this. The most visceral thing that I am remembering is a deep sense of feeling the beauty of music. My father grew up in Zimbabwe and exposed me to wonderful African voices and rhythms, I studied classical Indian music in India as a child and of course, I have always loved a good catchy pop song. Whether it is folk music, dance music or pop songs, if it's got a good beat I can't help but sing and move my body!



Gurusurya wears a Grainline Willow Tank made with FS SPICE 100% Linen

### **Where is home and how does it affect what you do?**

Home is so many places but for now, it is Portland, OR. Before that, it was San Francisco and before that Amritsar in India. Each of those places feels a bit like home. I think my time on the west coast informs my relaxed style and open mindset and growing up in India gave me a nuanced understanding and love of color and craft.

### **Name a book that you've recently read which inspired you and why?**

I was recently sent 2 boxes full of old quilting books from my grandmother's collection. I am always in awe of and daunted by the math and precision of quilting. There are so many beautiful motifs I would love to incorporate into clothing items. Perhaps I will make a linen quilt in the future!





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**What was the first thing you ever remember making on your own?  
Tell us about this memory.**

It's hard to say what was first, I was a pretty crafty and industrious kid. I really loved making beds and houses for my stuffed toys and dolls. I learned to crochet around 8 years old and I loved the mechanics of it. Unlike knitting, I felt free to experiment making my own patterns for hats and stuffed toys without fear of dropping a stitch!

**Who are your muses and inspiration?**

My grandmother both for her infinite creative energy and her compassionate yet no-nonsense outlook, and anyone who has managed to carve out a life where they have time and space to do their craft weather or not it is what earns them a living.



## **Do you have a community of crafters/ makers around you or do you find you are on your own?**

I work from home and find that I do a lot of making on my own but I am also very fortunate to have very talented friends who I can make with on occasion. I love sewing with others so much that recently a friend and I started the Portland Sewcial Club which brings together makers to sew together monthly!

## **How important is it to make something with your hands?**

It is vital, I feel an urgency to make things when inspiration strikes. This makes it hard to go to museums and art shows sometimes because I often walk out wanting to attempt to make most of what I saw. It is both an addiction and therapy in one.



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## **What does success mean to you?**

To me, success is defined not by an outcome but by the presence of self to enjoy the doing of a thing. That thing could be sewing a garment or living a life!

## **What have you chosen to make out of FS linen and why?**

I have made many things out of FS linen but for this particular project I used [FS SPICE Softened Mid Weight 100% Linen](#) to make a [Grainline Willow Tank](#) paired with the [Made By Rae Cleo Skirt](#). I have been wanting to make this top for a while now and I love how the linen gives it an instantly lived-in look. It is so comfy and cool and I know it will be a staple for me this summer.



FS SPICE Softened Mid Weight 100% Linen

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