Y MOMMY IS THE GREATEST PER-SON IN AMERICA," says Lisa Stroud.
"She's my mommy and she's pretty

like Aunt Pearl, Aunt Bertha and Karen (Nina's hairdresser) and I just love her. I like the way she wears her hair; corn-rowed or Afro. I've had an Afro since I was born. I love all of her clothes, especially the long skirts. And her shoes.

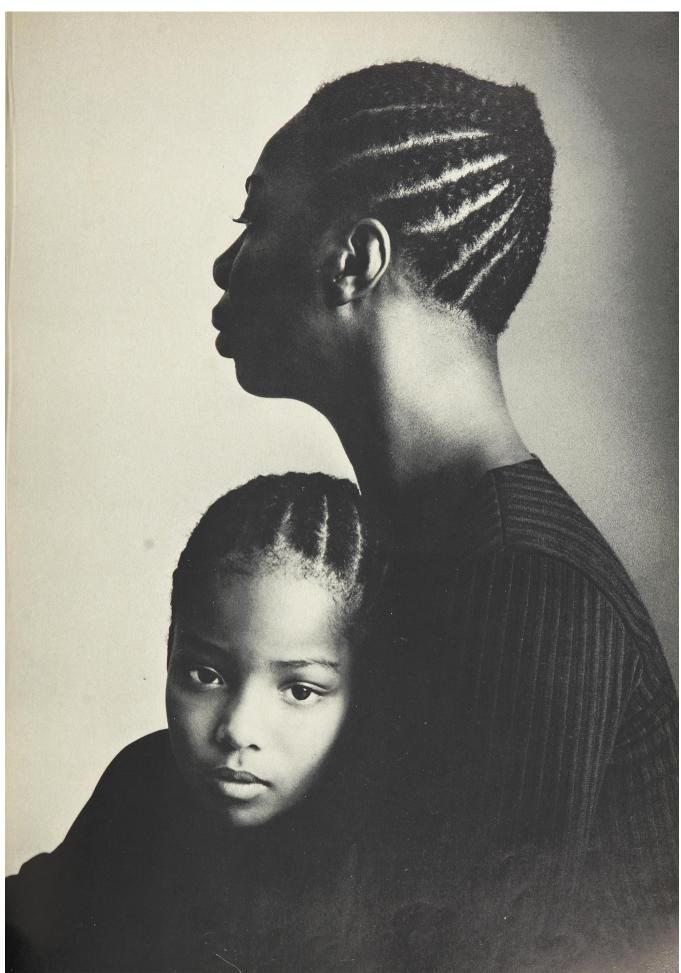
"I like all Mommy's songs except 'I Loves You Porgy.' I can't stand that song. Everywhere I go people want me to sing it, and I sing it just the way Mommy sounds and they all laugh. I get so tired of that. I sing all her songs and the Jackson 5's. My favorites are: 'Don't Pay Him No Mind,' 'To Be Young, Gifted and Black,' and 'Ain't Got No, I Got Life.' I like the Temptations, too.

"Sometimes when I'm mad at Mommy I just take the cat and go upstairs and turn on the TV and not talk to her—only sometimes though. We swim a lot. I learned how to swim when I was four. She lets me cook, too. I can cook bacon, eggs, pancakes, French toast, cream of wheat, grits, sausage and the best hamburgers. I make coffee, tea, warm milk, and soup straight out of the can.

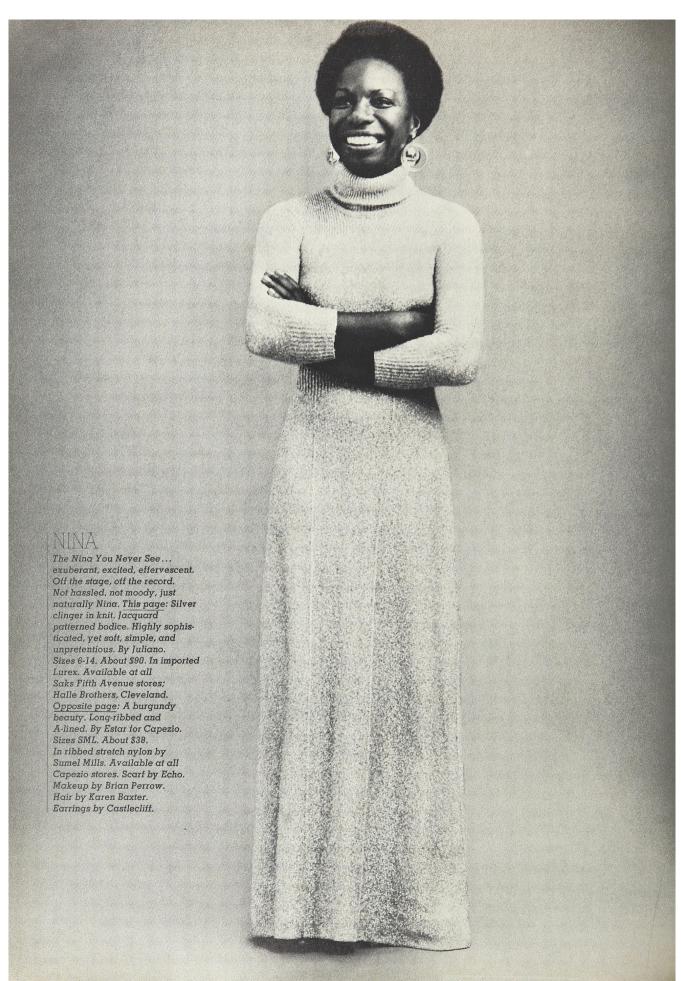
"We spend every Christmas in North Carolina with Grandma. I look forward to that. Traveling with Mommy is fun, too. We've been all over the world. We dance all the time. We can do the football, the popcorn, the four corners. Yvette is my best friend, and Tiger, my cat, I love him. Olivia, Tonia, Kim, and Yasah Shabazz are my friends, too. Could you ask the Jackson 5 to call me sometime?"

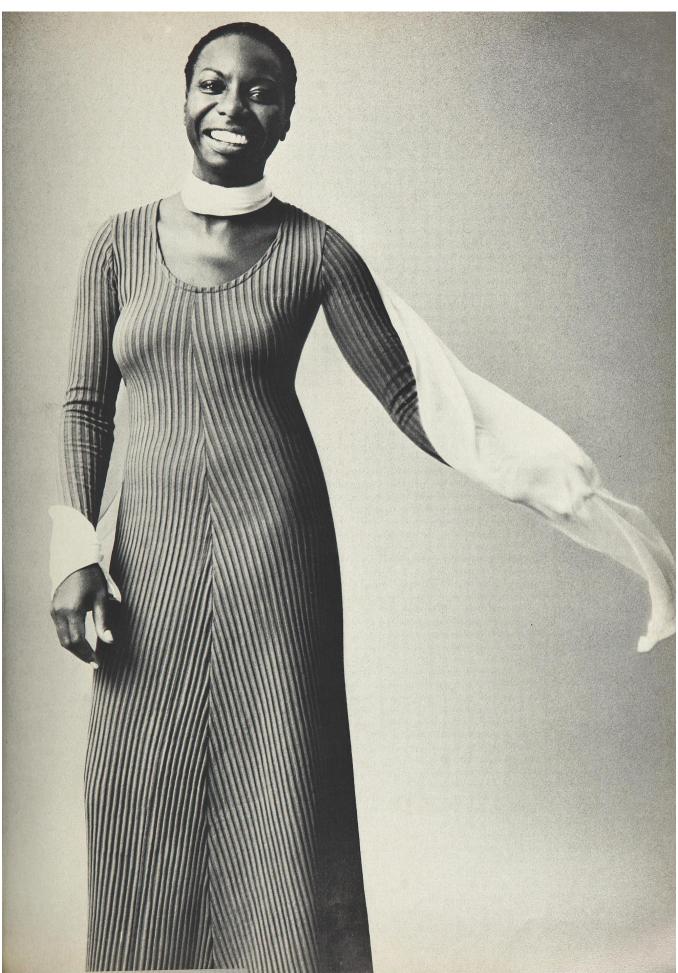
MOTHER AND CHILD
Nina and Lisa wearing their
hair corn-rowed in the old
African tradition known as
the "Nefertiti" head. Nina's
varies from full Afro to
different forms of braiding;
corn-rowed from forehead to
nape of neck, across the
head from ear to ear, or
around the head. Hair by
Karen Baxter. Nina's dress
by Estar. Lisa's top by
Danskin. Makeup by
Brian Perrow.

KOURKEN PAKCHANIAN



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NINA'S STORY

he imitates me in every
way. I'm just Mommy.
Julia's her star. Being a

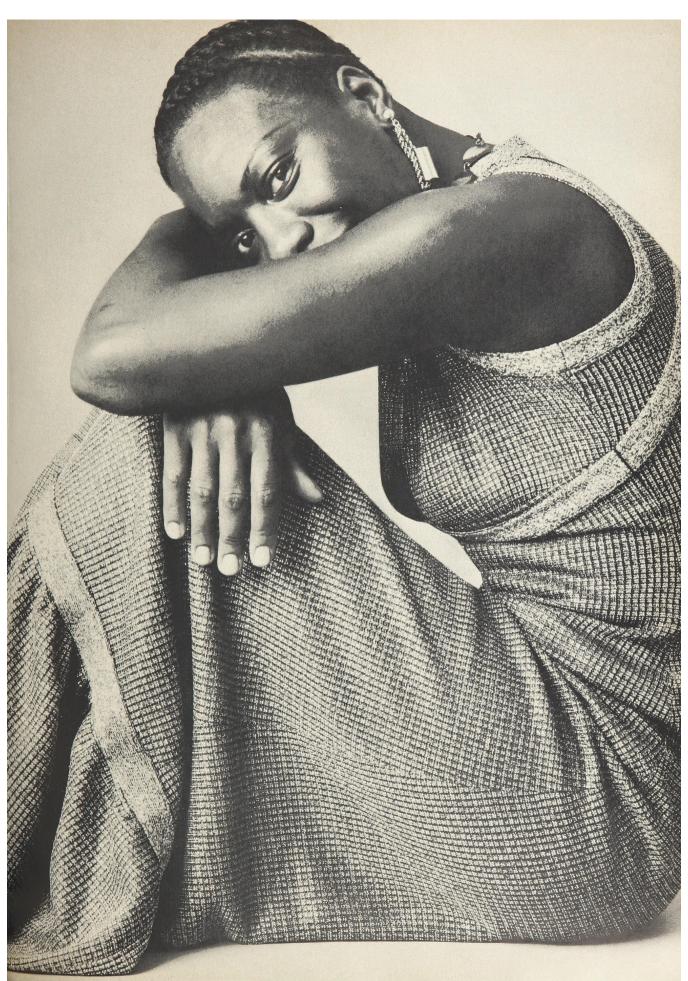
mother is fantastic. Lisa always turns up with the unexpected. Watching her grow—physically and mentally—is phenomenal...seeing her learn new words or take matters a little more seriously than before. She adapts so well. Whatever country we visit, Lisa quickly picks up the accent and the mood. I'm so proud of my baby. I only wish I had more time for her. She can't always travel with me. There's school. But then, she is the treat to come home to. You've got to let them know you really love them.

"Lisa loves to talk. And I listen, listen, listen. You'd be surprised how far ahead of you kids can get. We do a great many creative things together, and I do want Lisa to fulfill her talents. She loves to draw and sing and pick out tunes on the piano. She's an excellent dancer and swimmer. She does everything an average child does, but better. I wouldn't want her to be in show business. It's so dirty, so unnatural.

"I want to prepare Lisa for life in a natural, unaffected way. Being a celebrity's daughter can prove pretty unhealthy when you're on your own."

THE HIGH PRIESTESS OF SOUL A living legend \dots a loving mother ... an artist ... entertainer... totally black woman looking quite sure of what she's all about ... relaxing and loving every rare moment of it...in a long silver and brown clinger, with just enough flounce for floating. By Getty Miller for Pranx. Sizes 5-13. About \$40. In Acetate/Mylar from Ross Zeldin. Available at Plymouth Stores, New York; Her Clothes Tree, Philadelphia; Joe's Place, Washington, D.C.; Knobby Shop, Sacramento. Earrings by Castlecliff. Makeup by Brian Perrow. Hair by Karen Baxter.





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