

NEW

100% unofficial

ULTIMATE FAN'S GUIDE TO

OLIVIA RODRIGO

Experience her journey from teen actor to chart-topping superstar

GOOD 4 HER

Join the singer on her climb to superstardom



PRETTY ISN'T PRETTY

Revisit some of Olivia's most iconic looks

TEENAGE DREAM

Discover Olivia's early career and acting roles

Featuring 4 POSTERS OF OLIVIA



DISNEY CAREER • BEST PERFORMANCES • RELEASING GUTS

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Digital Edition



FIRST EDITION

WELCOME

Welcome to the world of Olivia Rodrigo, and get to know the world's most promising superstar like never before in this essential fan guide.

Inside, experience Olivia's journey to stardom, from her early acting career on Disney shows to her *High School Musical* breakthrough and her remarkable evolution into a world-captivating singer-songwriter. Re-experience the glory days of *SOUR* and Olivia's early performances before we head into the modern era with *GUTS* and beyond. We'll also pay tribute to her most iconic looks so far, meet her best friends and see what the future holds for this non-stop superstar!

It's brutal out here, so turn the page and step inside Olivia's universe. Good idea, right?



Head to the
middle of the mag
(pages 55-62) for your

**PULL-OUT
POSTERS**





A STAR IS BORN

Born in the city of Murrieta, in the southwest of California, Olivia Isabel Rodrigo grew up as the only child of school teacher Jennifer and family therapist Chris Rodrigo. With her father of Filipino descent and her mother of German and Irish ancestry, Olivia is a Filipino American, having grown up around Filipino cuisine and customs while living in the tourist city of Temecula. Olivia also grew up listening to her parents' favourite music, especially in the alternative genre. Music from bands such as No Doubt, Pearl Jam, The White Stripes and Green Day soundtracked the Rodrigo household. With this inspiring her musical and performance inclinations, Olivia began taking acting and singing classes around the age of six. At the age of nine, she began learning piano. Though she initially disliked her time learning piano, she came to deeply appreciate the instrument as it is now an invaluable companion for songwriting.





OLIVIA STIRS UP SUCCESS

Olivia was clearly gifted and was soon competing in local talent competitions. Whilst at Lisa J Mails Elementary School in Murrieta, she joined the after-school musical theatre programme; it was in this creative environment that she landed roles in school plays and even further afield in musical theatre in the region. With her talent blossoming, it's no surprise that Olivia would go on to bigger things, and she soon landed her first professional acting job in a commercial for Old Navy. At just 12 years old, Olivia was cast in her first leading role as Grace Thomas in the direct-to-DVD movie *An American Girl: Grace Stirs Up Success*. With her first film credit in tow, Olivia then landed the starring role of Paige Olvera in the Disney Channel series *Bizaardvark* as well as guest roles on the Zoey Deschanel comedy *New Girl* (pictured).





HEADING TO HOLLYWOOD

Olivia's parents never pushed her to become a child actor, but they supported her with her aspirations, taking her to auditions in Los Angeles - which is where she landed her role in *Bizaardvark* for Disney Channel. This marked a new beginning for Olivia as production was in the City of Angels - around 80 miles from her home - so her family opted to move to Los Angeles so she could be closer to her work. As you can expect with a busy filming schedule for a TV series, there wasn't much time for her to attend a typical middle and high school so Olivia was homeschooled from 2016 until she graduated in 2021. In *Bizaardvark*, Olivia starred alongside Madison Hu, who remains a close friend. The series saw Olivia and Madison play Paige and Frankie respectively, who become successful online stars after posting funny songs and videos on the internet. Olivia learned to play guitar for the role, which was also inspired in part by country music and the musician Taylor Swift.





FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Having starred together in *Bizaardvark*, Olivia Rodrigo and Madison Hu became fast friends and a simply inseparable pairing. Though the two briefly met during audition tryouts on the show, Olivia and Madison started texting each other, and Madison quickly learned that Olivia would be a good friend. Over their time working on the show, the two spent their free time together, leading Olivia to say that people think young people are addicted to their phones, but they're actually addicted to their friends. Olivia has called Madison her "soul mate" and her best friend, with her *Bizaardvark* co-star appearing in one of her music videos for her second album *GUTS*, as well as being the muse for one of her songs, 'logical'. Olivia's breakout single 'drivers license' even references Madison! The two also teamed up with other artists for an event for My Friend's Place, which helps homeless youth find shelter, food, work, education and healthcare. The event raised over \$740,000.

HIGH
MU
THE MU

STREAMING NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 12 ORIGINAL SERIES

START OF SOMETHING NEW

After the success of *Bizaardvark*, Olivia's next role was in the reimagining of Disney's popular franchise *High School Musical*. Developed in a mockumentary style, *High School Musical: The Musical: The Series* (with its tongue-in-cheek title) was set in a fictional version of East High School, the school where the original movies were filmed, and a new musical is on the cards for the school's theatre fans. Olivia played Nina 'Nini' Salazar-Roberts, who is cast as the film's female lead, Gabriella Montez, originally played by Vanessa Hudgens. Interestingly, both Olivia and Vanessa are of Filipino descent. Joshua Bassett landed the role of Ricky Bowen, cast as the film's original male lead, Troy Bolton (originated by Zac Efron). The show debuted on streaming service Disney+ in November 2019 to positive reviews. Much of the comments praised the cast - in particular highlighting Olivia's and Joshua's performances, with one review calling Olivia "especially magnetic".

Disney
HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL THE SERIES
ORIGINAL SERIES STREAMING



GET
RET
THE HOOD





SHE'S SOARING

Over the first season of *High School Musical: The Musical: The Series*, Olivia shone as Nini, with her vocals taking the spotlight in pre-existing fan favourite songs such as 'What I've Been Looking For' and 'Breaking Free'. Olivia even wrote an original song for the soundtrack called 'All I Want', a piano ballad from the perspective of Nini finding out that EJ had betrayed her. Despite Disney not releasing the track for radio, 'All I Want' was a hit and became the show's most successful song as well as Olivia's 'breakout hit'. Not bad for the singer's first foray into songwriting! When it came to the second season, the show pivoted to focus on a stage production of *Beauty and the Beast*. Nini was cast in the lead role of Rose, and Olivia once again lent her writing prowess to the new composition 'The Rose Song': a solo piano ballad about independence.



OLIVIA STRIKES A CHORD

Thanks to the success of 'All I Want', Olivia met and signed with Geffen Records – a record label that has released recordings with Elton John, Nirvana, Aerosmith, Cher and Guns N' Roses, to name a few. The Covid-19 pandemic delayed production of the second season of *High School Musical: The Musical: The Series* in 2020, giving Olivia a break from filming. During this time, the singer focused on writing songs. 'drivers license' was the first of these songs released with Geffen in January 2021. Once again, Olivia achieved an instant hit as critics said it was "the breakout hit of the year". The song broke the Spotify record for most one-day streams for a non-holiday track and for the fastest song to reach 100 million streams. Olivia was then invited to the Brit Awards in February 2021, where she performed 'drivers license' and gave handwritten notes to attendees such as Taylor Swift and Harry Styles.

A full-page photograph of Olivia Rodrigo. She is wearing a pink, white, green, and red checkered Chanel skirt suit. She has long, dark hair and is holding a pair of dark sunglasses in front of her face with both hands. The background is a blurred interior with a large American flag on the right side.

OLIVIA TAKES OFFICE

SOUR debuted at number one on the *Billboard* charts and received tremendous critical acclaim across the track listing of bedroom pop ballads and pop-punk anthems. Olivia was on a roll, and her star continued to shine brighter and brighter. In July 2021, at just 18 years old, Olivia was invited to the White House to meet President Joe Biden and his chief Covid-19 medical adviser, Dr Anthony Fauci. An extraordinary moment for the young singer, Olivia wore a vintage pink checkered Chanel skirt-suit on the visit: a nod to both the iconic Cher Horowitz of the '90s film *Clueless* and the Chanel-wearing First Ladies of the White House such as Jackie Kennedy. The aim of the visit was for Olivia to record videos encouraging young people to get vaccinated against Covid-19, and she was honoured to have been asked to help spread the message.





A hand holding a microphone against a bokeh background of colorful lights. The background is a dark blue and purple bokeh of out-of-focus lights in various colors (red, green, yellow, white). A hand is visible in the upper left, holding a microphone. The microphone is a pinkish-purple color with a black foam cover. The text is contained within a white, hand-drawn style rectangular box with a slightly distressed edge.

SOUR BUT SWEET

A power ballad detailing a girl's heartache, 'drivers license' was part of a trend in 'sad girl' songs inspired by other singer-songwriters such as Lorde, Taylor Swift and Gracie Abrams, and was originally set for an EP release. After the song went viral on TikTok and the hashtag #driverslicense amassed over 888.5 million views in one week, Olivia decided to forego the EP entirely and instead opted for a full studio album. The album's producer, Dan Nigro, had met Olivia in March 2020 a week before Covid-19 lockdowns prevented face-to-face meetings. Together, they recorded the album throughout 2020 and 2021, with the final recording session taking place in March 2021. Olivia's second single 'deja vu' was released on 1 April 2021 (having had to convince fans that this was not an April Fool's joke first!) and third single 'good 4 u' was released in May. Her much-anticipated album, *SOUR*, finally dropped a week later.

AND THE AWARD GOES TO...

At her first MTV Video Music Awards (VMAs), Olivia was nominated for six awards - the same number as Justin Bieber! The nominations included Best New Artist, Artist of the Year, Song of the Year, Push Performance of the Year, Best Pop and Song of Summer. On the red carpet, she arrived in a striking red strapless couture gown and trademark butterfly earrings that draped over her shoulder. The butterflies had been a mainstay symbol for the singer since around the release of 'drivers license', nine months earlier. Not only do they appear on the album cover of *SOUR*, but they were even on the envelopes of the handwritten notes given to her idols at the Brits in February. She performed 'good 4 u' that night at the VMAs, with her butterfly symbols taking centre-stage in a lilac and blue prom-inspired dress



GOOD 4 HER

Though there were many powerhouses at the VMAs, Olivia took home the Song of the Year award for 'drivers license', beating BTS, Cardi B, Dua Lipa and Bruno Mars! She also took home the Best New Artist award. Speaking on stage after accepting the award, Olivia (who approached the stage in both her red ombre couture gown, as well as pop-punk prom dress complete with matching silky long-sleeved gloves from her 'good 4 u' performance) said: "This has been the most magical year of my life and it is all because of you guys." She dedicated her award to "...all of the other girls who write songs on their bedroom floor. There are a lot of people who will try to dim your light, but speaking your mind and sharing your heart are the most beautiful things in the world."





IN VOGUE

More and more invites started landing Olivia's way with the success of *SOUR*, with one prestigious invitation among these being the Met Gala (delayed from its usual slot in May to September due to the pandemic), an annual fundraising gala held for the benefit of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute. Organised by *Vogue* magazine and its editor-in-chief Anna Wintour, the Met Gala is a trendy, exclusive social event known as "fashion's biggest night", with invites only sent to the most culturally relevant people. Attendees are expected to adhere to each year's themes, which have ranged from technology to time. In 2021, the theme was In America: A Lexicon of Fashion and Olivia appeared on the red carpet in a Saint Laurent black lace jumpsuit with a feather trim neckline. Accompanying the outfit were statement diamond waterfall earrings, and a clean and minimal make-up look.



VIVA OLIVIA

As the ongoing pandemic restrictions started to lift, Olivia played her first concert and festival at the iHeartRadio Music Festival in September 2022 – another milestone to add to the young singer’s list. Among the musicians playing at the festival in Las Vegas were Billie Eilish, Coldplay and Dua Lipa - with Olivia playing a little more than a week after her award wins at the VMAs. Starting with the fast-paced ‘brutal’, the first song on *SOUR*, Olivia brought energy to her debut concert set – before moving into the alt-rock raspy vocal track ‘jealousy, jealousy’. As fan-favourite ‘drivers license’ started playing, the atmosphere drew to a melancholy turn and led into the heartbreak track ‘traitor’. The audience was brought back up however, as Olivia ended her set with the punky ‘good 4 u’. “This is a really special day for me because this is sort of like my first show,” she told the crowd. “I’m just so grateful that you guys are here with me experiencing this. Thank you so much.”

GROWING UP

Though famed for her '90s high school prom-punk style, Olivia is a fashion chameleon and could more than pull off more mature appearances. Thanks to her stylists, her arrival at the opening gala for the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures was one such occasion. Once again, Olivia was dressed in a Saint Laurent gown, though this time it was a stripped-back affair with the floor-length dress sporting an impressive cut-out plunging neckline. No jewellery adorned her wrists or neck, with the dress doing all the talking. Her hair was tied up in a bun too, with just a few loose strands framing her face and a sleek red lipstick topping off her otherwise minimal make-up. It matched perfectly with some of the legendary displays inside the museum, including a pair of Dorothy's ruby slippers from *The Wizard of Oz*.





LIVE WITH KIMMEL

For her first talk-show performance and interview since the release of *SOUR*, Olivia went on *Jimmy Kimmel Live!* just a handful of days short of Halloween in 2021. Explaining the origins of her songwriting prowess to Jimmy, Olivia explained that she had been "...writing songs since I could literally talk." One of her first songs at age nine or ten was 'Superman', which had the lyrics, "I don't need a superman to come and save me. To come and teach me lessons. 'Cause I'm a human being and I can clean up my own messes."

"I thought it was very profound," she told Jimmy. In terms of the process, Olivia said, "I think you can be a happy person and still be upset sometimes. I think songwriting is a great medium to express emotions like that, that you know aren't really fun to talk about."

THE AMERICAN DREAM

Next up at the 2021 American Music Awards, Olivia arrived in a sparkly, sheer halterneck dress with feather trim and metallic gold open-toe heels. Her long hair was draped over her shoulder, and her nails were adorned with a black, eclectic corner design over clear polish. Held at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles, her performance at the awards was of 'traitor', and as she stepped through a door to perform, the crowd roared with applause while she strummed her first chord. Her outfit change consisted of a simple white dress with a diagonal strap over her collar bones and tassels that embellished her midriff. Nominated for several awards at the ceremony, Olivia was victorious with Best New Artist. When Machine Gun Kelly announced that she had won, Olivia hugged her friend Conan Gray, who sat beside the singer and whispered 'Wow' as she walked onto the stage and took the award into her hands.



SK8R GIRLS

Meeting one of your heroes is a once-in-a-lifetime moment, but to have them hand you an award must be even more unbelievable! At *Variety's* Hitmakers Brunch towards the end of 2021, Avril Lavigne presented Olivia with the Songwriter of the Year award. "I'm such a massive fan of you. I look up to you so much," said Olivia to Avril. As Olivia embarked on her first tour for *SOUR* in 2022, she regularly covered Avril's pop-rock debut anthem 'Complicated'. On her first date in Toronto, Olivia even brought Avril out to duet with her on her own song! With the duo wearing matching punk-rock plaid skirts, Avril led on the track's first half before Olivia joined in later on. Posting after the duet on Instagram, Olivia once again thanked Avril for being inspirational: "[sic] toronto last night was special. thank u dearest for singing with me. look up 2 u so much."



BRIT
AWARDS
2022



BRIT
AWARDS
2022

BRIT
AWARDS
2022





BRITS TAKE TWO

For her second attendance of the Brit Awards in February 2022, Olivia opted for a silver sequin dress and black wedge heels with soft waves in her hair that cascaded down her back. Though not listed as a performer this time, Olivia was still nominated for Best International Song of the Year with 'good 4 u' and Best International Artist with producer Dan Nigro by her side for support on the night. Olivia lost out to Billie Eilish for Best International Artist, but could she go home with Best International Song? *Friends* actor Courteney Cox and singer Johnny McDaid presented the award on stage, announcing with much excitement that Olivia had won: her first win at the Brits! "Last year at the Brits was my first performance ever, so to get this award tonight is so surreal. Thank you so much!" said Olivia to the crowd. "I love the UK and so appreciate all the love you've shown to 'good 4 u' and the rest of my album this year."



IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT

Olivia's first-ever Grammys was always going to be a high-stakes affair. Not only was she performing for the first time at the awards, but she was also nominated in seven categories! All eyes were on the stage as the camera zoomed into a white Mercedes-Benz, set up specifically for what would be a remarkable performance. A hand reached over to the radio that changed the dial. Glimpses of 'traitor' and 'good 4 u' with a radio effect were briefly heard, opening up to more static as the hand turned the dial further. Then the camera zoomed out to show a backdrop of a suburban street, and the familiar piano opener of 'drivers license' filled the venue. Olivia was sat behind the wheel in an ethereal white ruffle trim dress with fishnet tights and black Chelsea boots, singing her signature track about heartbreak.







IT MAKES HER HAPPY

To be presented with awards by your hero, not once but twice, is an incredible accomplishment! And that's exactly what happened at *Billboard's* 2022 Women in Music event, where Olivia was awarded Woman of the Year by Sheryl Crow. Not only that, the country rock singer praised Olivia and said: "When I came up, women were struggling to be the architects of their own careers... so when I see someone like our Woman of the Year Olivia Rodrigo having such incredible success at such an early age, I am blown away." A grateful Olivia thanked Sheryl. At the awards, she proclaimed: "It's not always easy being a young woman in the music industry, but I found so much strength from the female songwriters and artists who have come before me and paved the way and opened doors for so many young women like me."



OLIVIA
RODRIGO:
driving home 2 u
a SOUR film

OLIVIA
RODRIGO:
driving home 2 u
a SOUR film

SHIFTING GEARS

With all her chart-topping success, Olivia didn't forget her Disney roots and opted to release a documentary with the company's streaming service Disney+. *Olivia Rodrigo: driving home 2 u* featured footage from the production of *SOUR*, where Olivia and producer Dan Nigro had set up a GoPro in Dan's studio to record their writing and production process. The documentary also follows Olivia and her band on a road trip between Salt Lake City and Los Angeles as they perform songs from the album across various stops on the way. Together, they perform 'jealousy, jealousy' under a highway and 'hope ur ok' while barefoot on the sand. Other songs are given a different treatment altogether; 'good 4 u', for example, sees Olivia singing with a string section in the deserts of Monument Valley, while 'traitor' is a solo affair with the singer using a looper pedal with multiple instruments to synthesise a full band's performance.

RODRIGO:
driving home 2 u
a SOUR film





GRAMMY, GRAMMY, GRAMMY!

On the red carpet for the Grammy's, Olivia wore a satin black floor-length Vivienne Westwood dress with a glittery pink illustration in the shape of a woman's figure, matching satin gloves and a black-and-pink glittery choker around her neck. The songwriter was nominated for several awards, including Best New Artist, Album of the Year, Best Pop Vocal Album, Record of the Year, Song of the Year and Best Pop Solo Performance. The categories were going to be tough fights for the 19-year-old as she was up against industry stalwarts and icons, such as ABBA and Lady Gaga, as well as more experienced artists like Billie Eilish and Taylor Swift. Phenomenally, Olivia won not only one Grammy at her first-ever attendance of the awards show but three - she was triumphant in the Best New Artist, Best Pop Solo Performance for 'drivers license' and Best Pop Vocal Album.



DAN THE MAN

driving home 2 u also showed a more vulnerable side to Olivia, as she revealed that when she first publicising some of her own songs, she was nervous and wasn't entirely sure of them. Olivia had posted a video of herself playing 'happier' on her Instagram but was going to delete the post. It was lucky that she didn't, as this was the first time that producer Dan Nigro noticed the singer, who was struck by the intensity of the line, "I hope you're happy, but don't be happier." The two met in March 2020 just before the Covid-19 lockdowns and proceeded to record and write songs together for *SOUR*. Around five days before the deadline for the final track list, Olivia felt that something wasn't quite right and wanted to add one more fast-paced or upbeat song to the album. Dan and Olivia then wrote 'brutal' in about 90 seconds, with Dan playing a guitar tune that Olivia then riffed over.





B

CBS





A TOUR DE FORCE

After being released from her contract with Disney, Olivia was finally able to embark on her first tour! The *SOUR* Tour spanned 49 shows across North America and Europe in late spring leading into summer 2022. Tickets sold quickly due to the tour taking place across smaller venues than anticipated, with Olivia explaining to fans, "I don't think I should skip any steps," despite her popularity. She looked forward to performing 'brutal' most of all on the tour as it "hits so hard. I always love being at a concert and really rocking out to a song, so I hope people rock out to that one." The *SOUR* Tour was informative for Olivia and taught her many things, "I think most of [what I learned] was just personally, how I can best take care of myself on tour and how I can stay rested, keep my voice healthy and stuff like that."

NOT JUST A GIRL

By the time Olivia's second Met Gala rolled around, you could be sure that her style would have taken another evolution. Embodying fairy-core for 2022's Gilded Glamour theme, Olivia sported a sparkly violet Versace dress with sheer lilac gloves and large fantasy-style butterfly ornaments nesting inside her tousled waves. At the event, she met Gwen Stefani, lead singer of one of her favourite childhood bands - No Doubt - herself dressed head to toe in neon Vera Wang. Olivia even covered No Doubt's famous track 'Just A Girl' on tour shortly after the encounter! Gwen was more than complimentary of her performance and, in fact, had previously praised the singer in interviews: "Olivia's storytelling is confessional and intimate. It's also larger than life... Rare is the artist who can transport that way, especially at such a young age. And for anyone going through their first heartbreak, Olivia's voice is a light in the dark."





SHADES OF GRAY

One of Olivia's core friends in her close-knit friendship circle is Conan Gray, who shares her love of music, especially that of Taylor Swift! The two were enlisted to help promote Taylor's album *Fearless (Taylor's Version)* and the song 'You Belong With Me', and they also work with the same producer: Dan Nigro. The two regularly hang out, going thrift store shopping, performing on stage together, and attending the Met Gala and awards ceremonies. Conan was, of course, also part of the crew featured in Olivia's *SOUR Prom* film along with her close friends Iris Apatow and Madison Hu. "She's just the best. I love her so much. We have tons of fun together," said Conan. "She reminds me a lot of my little sister. We very much are siblings in every single way I could think of."



















SOCIAL BUTTERFLY?

Thirty-five million Instagram followers is an unfathomable amount for most people, and surprisingly it's true for Olivia as well. When 'drivers license' first released and went viral, Olivia was "overwhelmed" by how much attention and traction the song got on social media. "I truly deleted my social media for six months because it was zero to a hundred, baptism by fire," she explained. "I deleted all of it for a long time, and I'm so happy that I did that at that moment. I have a better handle on it now, but then I was just so cold turkey with it. I'm trying to figure out a happy medium." Social media isn't the only type of socialisation that has worried Olivia in the past, indeed, she has worried about her social skills because of her upbringing, "I always felt like I was missing out because I'm an only child and I'm home-schooled."





WE HATE WHAT YOU DO AND WE HATE YOUR WHOLE CREW

During the European leg of her *SOUR* Tour, Olivia swapped California with Somerset for her first-ever festival appearance on UK soil - and one at the legendary Glastonbury Festival, no less! As the sun shone on Worthy Farm, Olivia stepped out in a purple-and-white top with a purple tartan mini skirt. Her hair was curled save for two slim braids that framed her face, and she beamed as she strutted around the stage to opener 'brutal'. As part of the set, Olivia invited special guest Lily Allen to the stage to join her. While introducing her guest, Olivia explained that the next song they were singing together, Lily's 'F*** You', would be dedicated to the Supreme Court judges who overturned the landmark 1973 case *Roe V Wade*, which protected the right to have an abortion in the United States: "This song goes out to the justices Samuel Alito, Clarence Thomas, Neil Gorsuch, Amy Coney Barrett and Brett Kavanaugh. We hate you."



UPTOWN GIRL

By now, Olivia had met dozens of her heroes, but to be invited on-stage *by* one of her heroes must be a truly phenomenal experience - that's exactly what happened when Billy Joel invited Olivia to perform at his Madison Square Garden concert in New York! Fans of 'deja vu' will remember the lines from the song, "I'll bet that she knows Billy Joel 'cause you played her 'Uptown Girl,'" and later, "Play her piano, but she doesn't know that I was the one who taught you Billy Joel." Olivia was glowing with happiness as she performed 'deja vu' with Billy Joel on piano, pointing to the musician when those lyrics came up, before they both sang a rendition of 'Uptown Girl' together. There's nothing like getting over a breakup by singing the song referencing one of your idols with that same idol on stage!





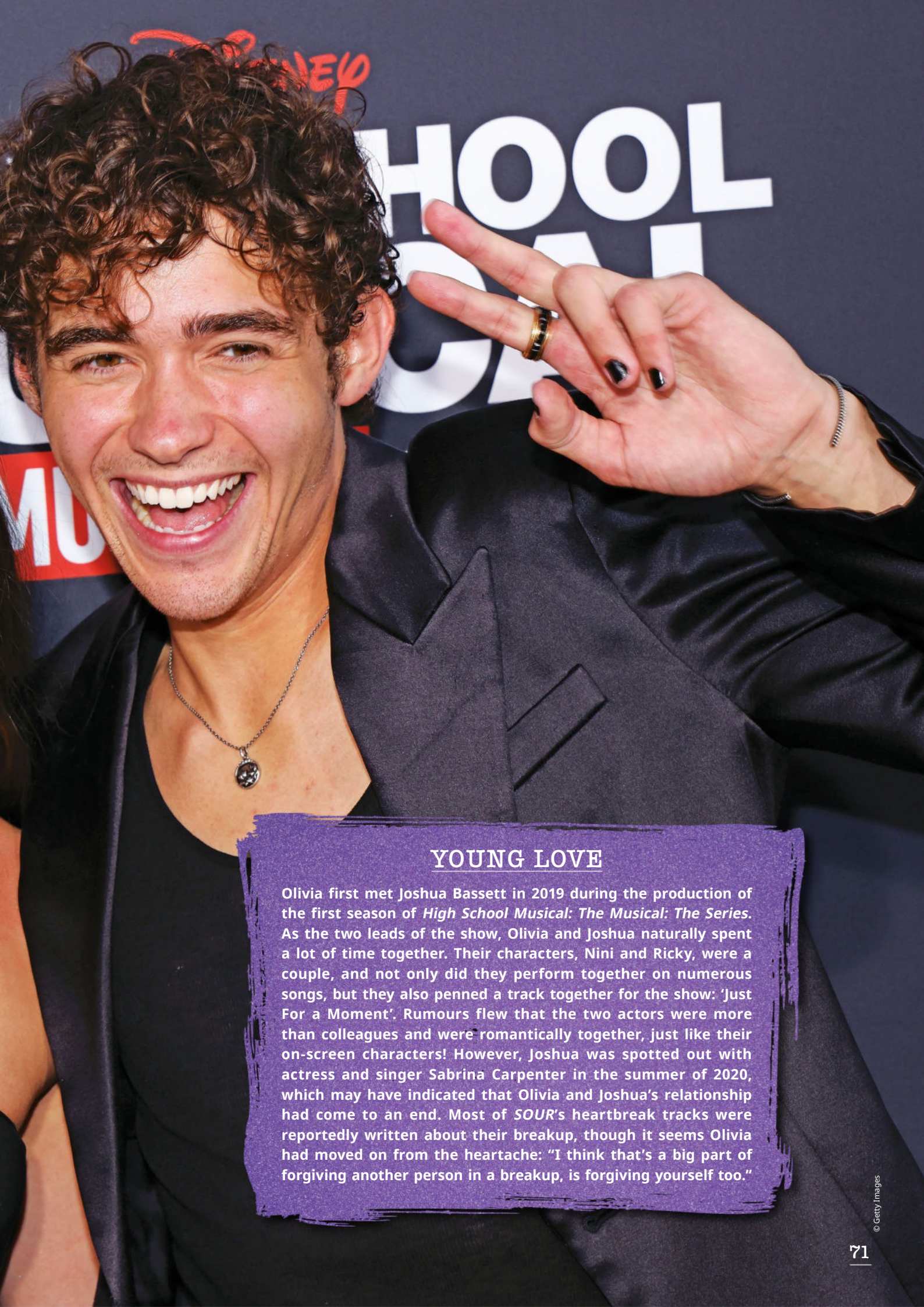
GRADUATION

With the runaway success she was experiencing with her music career, it was time for Olivia to part ways with *High School Musical: The Musical: The Series*. As season three began filming in California, which differed from the original set in Salt Lake City (potentially to help with Olivia's busy schedule), Olivia's character, Nini, became a recurring character. In the show, Nini's arc comes to an end as she is given an opportunity to go to LA and pursue her music career (sound familiar?) and meet her biological father, Marvin, while the rest of the cast takes on a production of *Frozen* in a summer camp. Her final song was 'You Never Know', a song about taking on the next chapter in her life. Filming for the show wrapped in April 2022, just in time for Olivia's first tour to commence.



*“I THINK THAT’S
A BIG PART OF
FORGIVING
ANOTHER PERSON
IN A BREAKUP,
IS FORGIVING
YOURSELF TOO”*





YOUNG LOVE

Olivia first met Joshua Bassett in 2019 during the production of the first season of *High School Musical: The Musical: The Series*. As the two leads of the show, Olivia and Joshua naturally spent a lot of time together. Their characters, Nini and Ricky, were a couple, and not only did they perform together on numerous songs, but they also penned a track together for the show: 'Just For a Moment'. Rumours flew that the two actors were more than colleagues and were romantically together, just like their on-screen characters! However, Joshua was spotted out with actress and singer Sabrina Carpenter in the summer of 2020, which may have indicated that Olivia and Joshua's relationship had come to an end. Most of *SOUR*'s heartbreak tracks were reportedly written about their breakup, though it seems Olivia had moved on from the heartache: "I think that's a big part of forgiving another person in a breakup, is forgiving yourself too."

DRESSED TO IMPRESS

Olivia's striking outfits and recognisable style were no accident. Each outfit is a meticulously planned ensemble, with her earlier wardrobe in the first year or two of her music career thanks to stylist sisters Chloe and Chenelle Delgadillo. Key to Olivia's style, whether on the red carpet or hanging out and about, were vintage designer pieces rather than the latest couture. Sustainability is a massive passion of Olivia's, so it's fantastic that she carries her looks so well! Her outfits on the red carpet generally consist of a one-colour vintage designer dress from the likes of Marc Jacobs, Saint Laurent and Givenchy. Even her gigging and casual outfits will use a designer label, but will most likely be in the form of a simple T-shirt with a logo such as a butterfly, combined with black Dr Marten boots, a designer handbag (such as Chanel) and a pleated mini skirt. Sometimes, a chunky jumper will come into play, too, if the air turns a bit chillier!





Small
Nick Adams
D.R. 22
K. H. B...
B. B...
C. L...
A. J. C...





ROCK AND ROLL ALL NIGHT

An invite to the 37th Annual Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony meant that Olivia could rub shoulders with some of the most extraordinary musicians on the planet – Sheryl Crow, Brandi Carlile, Dolly Parton, P!nk and Ed Sheeran were all hanging out with Olivia backstage. Olivia made her performance debut in the Rock Hall, honouring Carly Simon with a cover of her hit song 'You're So Vain'. Unfortunately, Carly couldn't attend the ceremony due to a personal tragedy, but Olivia was able to step in and accept the award on her behalf. After the show, Olivia said on Instagram: "[sic] feeling insanelyyyyyy lucky and honored to have helped induct the magnificent Carly Simon into the rock n roll hall of fame last night. being in a room with some of the greatest songwriters of all time was something I'll never ever forget. congrats Carly ily!!!!"



THE FAME GAME

Fame has come quickly for Olivia, and the road isn't always easy. In *driving home 2 u*, Olivia confessed that she worried people wouldn't like her songs or that they weren't good enough. This thinking, she explains, comes from her history as a child star, "Being a child actor where you're constantly told everything that you do is amazing when you're literally doing the bare minimum, they're like, 'You're a star!'" Instead, her mindset is the complete opposite, working hard for her success while only really trusting her father, Chris, and producer Dan Nigro to be honest with her. Even after the release of *SOUR*, Olivia felt that fame came with a lot of pressures: "I kind of felt this pressure to be this girl that I thought everyone expected me to be," she said. "And I think because of that pressure, maybe I did things that maybe I shouldn't have - dated people I shouldn't have."



FRIENDS 'TIL THE END

Friendship and loyalty are hugely important to Olivia, and she has a few close friends she has stuck with since being a child actor. One of these is Iris Apatow, the daughter of director Judd Apatow and actress Leslie Mann. Olivia and Iris are roommates, and Olivia once said of Iris: "I think [Iris and I] are Carrie and Samantha from *Sex and the City*. We are dramatic, fiercely loyal, and we both love going to brunch!" The two also watch *Euphoria* together in support of Iris' sister Maude's role in the TV series, and even have matching heart tattoos on their fingers! As an actress, Iris appeared in Olivia's short film *SOUR Prom*, which features some of Olivia's other friends and songs from *SOUR*. Their friendship is so close that Iris joined Olivia on the European leg of her *SOUR* Tour, hanging out in Paris, Milan and even having drinks in a UK pub the night before the singer's Glastonbury debut!







CHANNELING CHANEL

Three times the charm at the Met Gala as Olivia pulled off yet another stunning outfit in 2023, this time to the theme Karl Lagerfeld: A Line of Beauty (a homage to the Chanel creative director who passed away in 2019). For this ensemble, Olivia paid tribute to Chanel darling Audrey Hepburn with distinct microbangs across her forehead and her hair tied back tight with minimal jewellery save for some rectangular black earrings and matching rings - all to put the spotlight on her Thom Browne black-and-white gown. Strings made up the piece, with dramatic monochrome flowers around the bustline. At the afterparty, Olivia let her hair down figuratively and literally - this time opting for a vintage 1994 Chanel Sequined Dress with a large bow on the chest, her long brown silky hair falling down her shoulders, as well as some Jimmy Choo satin heels.

NEW BLOOD

With *SOUR* being a breakout debut for Olivia, all eyes fell onto the singer for her follow-up, with fans eagerly awaiting her next release. Their prayers were answered when the first hint of a new single landed on her website in June 2023, counting the days until 30 June 2023. The gothic rock opera 'vampire' was released when the countdown hit zero with references to vampire lore, as well as hinting at a relationship with an older, manipulative person. Olivia later explained how the song came to be. She had the concept and word 'vampire' typed out on her phone under her notes, and she "was upset about a certain situation and went to the studio alone and sat down at the grand piano, and the chords and melody and lyrics just poured out of me - almost like an out-of-body experience."





GUT FEELING

As 'vampire' was released, so was the title of Olivia's next album *GUTS*, an album about "growing pains" as Olivia figured out her identity. Her top priority for *GUTS* when she was writing was to match the success of *SOUR*. "The beginning was really hard," said Olivia. "I felt like I couldn't write a song without thinking about what other people were going to think of it." Ultimately, *GUTS* marked a significant difference in tone when compared to *SOUR*, "Our goal was to make something a little more playful, a record that didn't take itself so seriously," said Olivia. With *SOUR* being essentially an album about the singer's split from fellow *High School Musical: The Musical: The Series* co-star Joshua Bassett, Olivia didn't want *GUTS* to be as sad or defined as a heartbreak record like *SOUR* was, "I'm feeling a lot happier these days. Everything's pretty good. So I wasn't going to make something super devastating, a record of ballads."

The m!ka logo is positioned on a black boom arm of a professional microphone stand. The logo features the lowercase letters "m!ka" in a white, sans-serif font, with a yellow exclamation point replacing the letter "i".

m!ka







UNDER PRESSURE

Olivia's second album *GUTS* started recording in December 2022, with the singer and producer Dan Nigro working hard and spending a lot of time writing on the record. "Dan was like, 'You've got to go home and rest,'" she remembered. Food breaks of burgers, Taiwanese food and even Taco Bell helped alleviate the long writing sessions and the built-up pressure from trying to parallel *SOUR*'s achievements, "There were definitely days where I found myself sitting at the piano, excited to write a song, and then cried," admitted Olivia. "I grew up in this weird environment where everyone praised me for being talented for my age, and [*GUTS* is] about me facing this pressure of making a sophomore record while also facing this pressure of wondering if people would still think that I was cool even when I wasn't a 17-year-old girl writing songs anymore," she added.





STAYING TRUE

GUTS is not only Olivia's sophomore album, but its subject matter is also more mature with themes of identity, societal expectations, relationships (that go beyond just the topic of heartbreak) and betrayal, alongside more explicit language and more visible humour than *SOUR* allowed. In 'bad idea, right?', Olivia sings "Haven't heard from you in a couple of months but I'm out right now, and I'm all f***ed up," which is behaviour likely expected of any soon-to-be 21-year-old, but she was hesitant to include it at first. "I have a lot of young girl fans, and I'm very conscious of that. But also, it's real. All of my role models are my role models because they're unapologetically who they are. I can't cherry-pick parts of myself to express. And if that's the worst thing that I'm doing, then I think I'm doing pretty well."

SHINING BRIGHT LIKE A DIAMOND

Two years on from her VMAs debut, Olivia returned to MTV's awards in September 2023, glistening in a custom Ludovic de Saint Sernin Swarovski dress, with 150,000 crystals sewn into the garment, as she arrived at the Prudential Center in Newark, New Jersey. Her look was completed with diamond earrings, her silver rings as seen on the *GUTS* album cover, straightened hair and platform heels. At these awards, the songwriter was nominated in six areas, matching the nominations that Doja Cat, Miley Cyrus, Nicki Minaj and BLACKPINK achieved. The categories were Video of the Year, Song of the Year, Song of Summer, Best Pop, Best Cinematography and Best Editing, all for 'vampire'. Olivia missed out on awards for all of these save for one – the editors for 'vampire' brought home the award for Best Editing, as voted for by industry professionals.







GOOD IDEA, RIGHT?

Changing into a sleek, bold red crop top and pleated mini skirt, Olivia performed 'vampire' on the VMAs stage surrounded by a gloomy, bushy woodlands set complete with atmospheric fog billowing. As the song reached its fast-paced peak, sparks flew across the stage, with Olivia looking visibly confused as she continued to sing the bridge. Suddenly, the camera tipped sideways, a background tree fell, and a long red curtain seemingly accidentally fell from the ceiling. A handler walked onto the stage to usher Olivia off, while segments of 'traitor' and 'good 4 u' were stuck on repeat. Could it be that the VMAs had a stage malfunction? Then the lights dimmed, and a large blue curtain took the focus, and 'get him back' could be heard on the speakers. Olivia stepped through the curtain with 12 dancer clones as the singer seamlessly transitioned into performing the more upbeat song - it looked like the 'malfunctions' had been planned all along!

MUSICAL INFLUENCES

Having learned piano at nine years old and later guitar at 12 for the Disney show *Bizaardvark*, Olivia has had a lot of musical influences throughout her life. Grunge and the '90s decade have been a major influence, but so have country and pop. Surprisingly, one of her favourite bands of late has been Rage Against The Machine. She even called the political rock outfit her "favourite band right now". "I would just play it over and over again on my way to and from the studio," she explained. The singer-songwriter Lorde has also been inspirational to Olivia, "I remember hearing 'Royals' on the radio," she said. "I was like, 'Wow, you can make a song about anything that you're feeling.' It doesn't have to be this breakup song. She wrote an album about what it was like to be 15 in the suburbs and feeling lost."





MADE OVER

With fashion becoming a tremendous part of Olivia's brand, it's no surprise that she was invited to Givenchy's Spring/Summer 2023 presentation at the exclusive Paris Fashion Week. Making her appearance in a white silky slip, platform heels and a neutral jacket draped over her shoulders, Olivia was the embodiment of elegance. Also in attendance at the show were Doja Cat and Paris Jackson, daughter of singer Michael Jackson, and models Georgia May Jagger and Karlie Kloss. Olivia's frequent stylists, Chloe and Chenelle Delgadillo, explained how they dress their clients, including Olivia, and how their style may change over time: "We really try to enhance their personality and the direction that their current art is in," they explained, "It's important to keep their vision alive and we're all about supporting their vibe that they're trying to give to the world."





THE GRAND TOUR

Playful and energetic on stage, Olivia had come into her own in her performances since her first in 2021. "My first two performances ever were the Brits and SNL, and so I think I felt definitely not prepared for that," she explained. "I think going on tour and night after night being surrounded by so much positive, good energy, I think gave me the confidence and also just repetition and practice to be more comfortable. I think I'm definitely more comfortable on stage now than I was a year ago." She is looking forward to touring *GUTS* in 2024, and had written the record with an entertaining live experience for the fans in mind, "I think there's a lot of fun songs," she said. "I wrote the album with a tour in mind, so I think they're all songs I wanted people to be able to scream in a crowd."

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ISN'T IT IRONIC?

Alanis Morissette and Olivia have crossed paths several times - with each one being a memorable moment for Olivia. "I look up to her so much and I just think she's the coolest person and the most amazing songwriter and it was such an honour to meet her," Olivia said of an interview between the two for *Rolling Stone*, "She gave me dating advice too, which I think is so cool. To get dating advice from Alanis Morissette, like that's pretty iconic." Olivia had previously taken to the stage in Toronto in September 2022 to induct Alanis into the Canadian Songwriters Hall Of Fame. "My life was completely changed. Alanis' songwriting was unlike anything I'd ever heard before and I haven't heard anything quite like it since. And that voice - fierce and tender and sometimes funny and playful. I became hooked for life," said Olivia of Alanis' music.



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BREAKING OUT OF THE BOX

Olivia had spoken before in interviews about her issues with finding her own identity and adhering to societal expectations and authenticity, so it's no surprise that these ideas can be seen so thematically in *GUTS*. "I think everyone can relate to being put in a box in some sense," she explained. "Something I always grappled with, especially when I was younger, is feeling like I couldn't be angry or express dissatisfaction or complain for fear of being ungrateful. It was drilled into me, and it caused a lot of problems. I had all this anger bubbling up inside me - especially when you're a teenager, and you're confused, and you feel like the world is out to get you, and you're so insecure. I'd have dreams where I was going crazy. I felt like I could never be like that in real life."





EMERGING FROM THE COCOON

Olivia has grown a lot since the debut of her first album, calling herself a "different person" altogether. "I look back at her and I think, 'Aw. She did well.'" she affirmed. "I think she would be really happy with who she is." Key to her transformation has been in gaining new life experiences, "I'm a big believer in just taking a step in any direction. Even if you're not sure where it's gonna lead," she said on trying new things. The only way you're gonna gain confidence is through experience. This record was sort of like that for me. It was kind of just me grappling with mistakes I've made in my life or things that I wish I didn't do and things that I thought were really embarrassing in hindsight. But growing from things like that is the only way you're gonna figure out who you are in this world."

PULLING OUT ALL THE STOPS

Olivia will be joined on her *GUTS* tour by The Breeders, PinkPantheress, Chappell Roan and Remi Wolf, who she all describes as being "super inspired" by. "I just love their work so much. I'm so excited. The show's going to be really fun. I'm planning everyone in my head just screaming and dancing along to all these incredible artists, and I feel so lucky that they're coming along with me. It's going to be a great time," she said. As is with tradition from her *SOUR* tour, Olivia will, of course, be doing some covers on her second stint on the touring circuit. "Doing covers of people's songs is so much fun. It just makes each show so special and unique." The *GUTS* tour will cover 77 shows across North America and Europe, with some venues having been upgraded and additional dates added due to unprecedented demand.



ALL THEY WANNA DO IS HAVE SOME FUN

Sheryl Crow first met Olivia when she presented her with *Billboard's* Woman of the Year award in 2022 and complimented her artistry, "Whether you're a teenager living through it right now, or [Olivia]'s taking you down memory lane, her songs have a visceral power to them that touches your core". Olivia thanked Sheryl in response, "I found so much strength from the female songwriters and artists who have come before me and paved the way and opened doors for so many young women like me... Sheryl, I am such a massive fan of you and your songwriting, and I'm so grateful that you're here, it really means the world." Olivia and Sheryl later performed Sheryl's hit 'If It Makes You Happy' in a cafe in Nashville in September 2023, before the two then joined Stevie Nicks and Peter Frampton on stage at the 2023 Rock & Roll Hall of Fame performing the same song.



THE HU



HUNGER GAMES

THE BALLAD OF SONGBIRDS & SNAKES



THE EARLY SONGBIRD CATCHES THE WORM

Following in the footsteps of some of her musical heroes such as Taylor Swift and Lorde, Olivia was invited to pen an original track for *The Hunger Games* prequel: *The Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes*. Director Francis Lawrence sat down with Olivia to watch an early screening of the film, where much of the plot is driven by protagonist Lucy Gray (played by Rachel Zegler) and her showmanship and captivating songs. As Olivia sat down to write the song, she found herself inspired by Lucy Gray, and ended up writing 'Can't Catch Me Now'. "One of the last scenes was very inspiring to me. I don't know how to describe it without giving too much away! It's an overhead shot of a bunch of birds in the trees, and something very important just happened," she said. "That was playing in a loop in my head over and over, and I was like, 'I want to write a song that captures what that feeling is.' That was the goal."





GET HER BACK!

Olivia embarks on her second-ever world tour for GUTS in February 2024, starting in her home state of California. The 77-show tour will move to Europe in April 2024 with Dublin, Ireland, and end with Lisbon, Portugal on 23 June. Olivia heads back to the US from 19 July onwards with a stint in Canada as well, but with such a large gap in-between her Europe and North American dates, could a second Glastonbury set be on the cards? In 2024, Glastonbury takes place between 24 and 30 June, leaving Olivia plenty of time to grace Worthy Farm once again before heading back home for the final leg of her tour. With her first set at the famed festival receiving overwhelmingly positive comments, Olivia may be looking to take to a bigger stage this year or even headline one of them herself...

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