

# POP FLASH.



Too much of a good thing feels just fine when the rest of the world is as bleak as it's been lately. So, when [Carly Rae Jepsen announced](#) to the quarantined masses last Friday morning that a surprise collection of more pop bops was on the way from their fav, it immediately registered as fantastic news. Following up on the same timeline she used for her last album cycle, [Jepsen dropped the B-side collection](#) to her 2019 record, *Dedicated*, on the one-year anniversary of the original album's release date.

Perhaps this release wouldn't feel as rote if she hadn't followed this exact same formula for [the one-year anniversary of E•MO•TION](#), and unlike that cult-classic record, *Dedicated* didn't quite have a career-altering, critical-darling impact. But that doesn't mean there aren't a lot of sparkling, left-field jams on both B-sides that will have fans just as excited as her once-massive hit "Call Me Maybe." And the pop star release schedule has been strained in 2020 due to the impact of a global pandemic, and with Lady Gaga and the Dixie Chicks both pushing big releases, there was a Carly-shaped-hole in the listening calendar — *Dedicated* B-sides slots there just fine.

— Caitlin White, Uproxx Pop Critic on Carly Rae Jepsen's newest release, a collection of B-sides that serve as a companion to her 2019 *Dedicated* album.



## NUMBER ONE STUNNERS



## MEGAN THEE STALLION FT. BEYONCÉ

Don't mess with the queen. After initially debuting at the No. 2 slot on the chart, Beyoncé's assist on the remix for Megan Thee Stallion's unrelenting rap hit "Savage" is officially the No. 1 song in the country. Released digitally in mid-May and initially edged out by the Nicki Minaj-assisted remix of Doja Cat's "Say So," both songs mark record-breaking moments for women topping the *Billboard* chart, which has still historically been dominated by men. But now that the "Savage" remix is in the top spot, chances are it might stay there for a while — it's that good.

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## BUBBLING UNDER



## NOAH CYRUS

Last fall, Noah Cyrus started to release music that differed from the electronic-pop and hip-hop that she had initially burst onto the scene with. “July” and “Lonely” took the bluesy folk influence of her dad’s country roots and blended them with her stunning alto vocals and a songwriting sensibility that was impossible to ignore. It was a bit of a left turn for Cyrus, and a turn that she’s continued to take with the bulk of her new work. Culminating in an EP appropriately called *The End Of Everything* that came out earlier this month, fellow backsliders will love the tongue-in-cheek title of “I Got So High That I Saw Jesus” — and fans of Dolly Parton will love the melody and charm of this straight-faced country ballad. The whole EP is worth a listen, and Noah is an artist who shouldn’t be dismissed simply because of the fame of her sister or her father.

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## REMEMBER WHEN

### 'DEDICATED' by CARLY RAE JEPSEN



Though she's stolen her own thunder by putting out a whole new album of material, it would be remiss not to mention that May 17, 2019 marked the release of Carly Rae Jepsen's *Dedicated*, the much-anticipated follow-up to her cult classic, *E•MO•TION*. Though it wasn't necessarily the same level of cult classic as that 2015 record, it's still full of the kinds of pop bops that are essential listening during hard times. Jepsen has been one of the most consistent artists in sound, personality, and timing when it comes to the up-and-down pop landscape, and there's absolutely something to be said for that consistency. When we need her, she always delivers.

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"Maisie Peters is making the best observational pop of 2019!"  
THE LINE OF BEST FIT

"Fast rising pop star already making waves."  
**DORK**

# MAISIE PETERS

See what the buzz is about.

Watch her new video for The List.

**WATCH NOW**

## LOVE LETTERS



## ARIANA GRANDE & LADY GAGA

Ariana Grande is on just about everyone's hit song these days – just ask Justin Bieber. But her first collaboration with Lady Gaga ended up being the stuff of magic, and moonlight, and yes, rainstorms. The second single off Gaga's massive return to dance-pop, "Rain On Me" fuses house music backbeats with two killer verses from each pop queen, and an undeniable earworm hook. There's so much resilience and heartbreak and acceptance in these three minutes, it's so easy to fall in love with both of these pop icons all over again. Oh, and the dance party music video? Required quarantine watching. Get your platform boots on and learn some choreo honey, I already know you've got nothing better to do — neither do I.



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