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# POP LIFE.



Lana Del Rey is one of those generation-defining artists that has produced a collection of albums that double as grandiose artistic statements and markers of the progression of her fans' lives. Her fusion of morose Old Hollywood glamour, romanticized Americana nostalgia, and the classics of English literature into one singular aesthetic has anchored a sprawling discography that covers everything from jazz and surf rock to trip-hop and baroque pop. Stretching across nine major-label studio albums — *Did You Know That There's A Tunnel Under Ocean Blvd* dropped last month — Del Rey's discography has expanded and evolved to include more mature versions of the characters and personas she introduced on her first couple of records. Whether she's playing a troubled starlet, a jaded mistress, or an intensely reflective all-American songwriter, it is Del Rey's masterful songwriting and hauntingly languid vocals that ground each role.

Del Rey boasts six career Grammy Award nominations (including an Album of the Year nod for 2019's *Norman F\*cking Rockwell!*) and a Golden Globe nomination for Best Original Song ("Big Eyes," 2015). Her songwriting straddles the line between universality and hyper-specificity by transposing her explorations of love, lust, fame, and America through cinematic production and allusions to familiar cultural touchstones like "Yosemite" or "Blue Jeans." Del Rey's attention to the lyrical, sonic, and aesthetic moods of her art has made her one of the most acclaimed, beloved, and criticized artists of the 21st century — and she has the stacked catalog to back it all up.

Following the release of *Did You Know That There's A Tunnel Under*

*Ocean Blvd*, Uproxx has ranked \_\_\_\_\_ Rey's best songs of her career so far.

Kyle Denis — *The Best Lana Del Rey Songs, Ranked*

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

**Skrillex** borrowed **Frank Ocean's** extravagant ice skating rink, after he replaced him for weekend two of Coachella.

**Grimes** is promoting the use of her voice for AI tracks as long as they split royalties with her.

**Charli XCX** is joining the cast of a cult-classic horror film reboot.

**Blackpink** got emotional while wrapping up the second of their two headlining Coachella performances.

**Adele** did not hold back about her thoughts on musicals.

## NUMBER ONE STUNNERS



## SZA

SZA has officially earned her first chart-topping song on the *Billboard* Hot 100, as the vengeful fantasy hit, "Kill Bill," jumps from No. 4 with the assistance of a Doja Cat remix. The song's past peak had been at second place, proving that it benefitted her to keep holding on. And SZA's album, *SOS*, is still going strong in the top five of the *Billboard* 200 Albums chart. It really is her year — and an incredibly well-deserved one.

LISTEN



## BUBBLING UNDER



## FIFTY FIFTY

FIFTY FIFTY is a rising K-Pop girl group that is taking over with their new “Cupid (Twin Version)” hit song — which recently marked their debut in both *Billboard's* Hot 100 and the Global 200 charts. The track's themes of struggling to find the love they want carry over into the music video, where the four members, Saena, Aran, Keena, and Sio, find themselves seeking advice from fortune tellers and dancing by red and pink colored backdrops.

“A hopeless romantic all my life / Surrounded by couples all the time / I guess I should take it as a sign,” Aran sets the tone in the opening lines before the group unites for the chorus, underlining how “skeptical” they are of Cupid.

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## CHECK OUT



## ED SHEERAN — 'SUBTRACT' SIGNED CD



Ed Sheeran is gearing up for the release of his album *Subtract*, which drops May 5. You can pick up an exclusive signed copy of the album [here](#).

PICK IT UP

## REMEMBER WHEN



# iTUNES' ANNIVERSARY

This week, twenty years ago, Apple added the iTunes Store for Mac users in the US. Songs were available to purchase for 99 cents. In the early internet age, it was the only legal digital spot for material from all five major record labels at the time of its launch. As most know, this significantly changed the music industry, pushing it forward into the streaming era that rules today.

They've also celebrated sale milestones, with a Michigan teenager being the person to buy the billionth song in 2006: Coldplay's "Speed Of Sound."

## LOVE LETTERS



## ETHEL CAIN

Ethel Cain has been in my common weekly rotation since 2022's *Preacher's Daughter* dropped, counting down the days for even more music. An excellent live performer, after watching her sold-out show in

Brooklyn last fall, it further cemented "American Teenager" is one of the most powerful recent songs — even if Cain doesn't completely understand its popularity, as lyrically, it's quite a depressing portrayal of the effects of war. (The single recently celebrated its first birthday also.)

Still, compared to the rest of the album with other personal favorite tracks like "Thoroughfare," "A House In Nebraska," and "Western Nights," it's quite tame and positive-sounding in terms of the larger conceptual story.

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