

#GIRL CRUSH★

Shout speaks to singer-songwriter **Maisie Peters** about music, finding inspiration, and working with **Ed Sheeran!**

Could you tell us about your new album?

I've been writing it for basically all my life and it pretty much chronicles the experiences and feelings and emotions of myself and my friends from being teenagers to young adults. It's got 14 songs (my lucky number seven doubled), which range from stadium pop bangers to quiet, soft acoustic numbers that feel like something 14-year-old me would love!

What are your favourite tracks from the album?

Love Him I Don't is special – it feels like everything I love about music and song-writing in one song. The emotion in *Volcano* is so intense, and it really captures a specific feeling that can be hard to put into words.

Where do you get the inspiration for your music?

From my own life, the lives of my friends, other music, books I'm reading, words I see that I think are cool! I'm also inspired by things people say in conversation to me, even if I end up taking it and writing something completely different to the situation around it.

What first got you into music?

I started writing songs when I was really young after hearing **Taylor Swift** sing *Love Story*, and then I just wrote all the time!



I busked a lot in Brighton and used to just set up my little busking amp and play covers and originals for hours and hours! I covered tracks by **Justin Bieber** and Disney. It taught me so much about performing.

How's the journey to the first album been?

It's been a lot of work, but also the time of my life and one of my favourite ever eras. Writing this album felt completely natural, I barely remember doing half of it!

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How has it been to work with **Ed Sheeran** and get signed to his label?

A dream! **Ed** is the nicest, most generous, talented person and anyone who works with him will tell you that! He's been a big part of this album, from writing three of the songs with me, to giving advice on finishing and developing it. It's been amazing to learn from him and I'm so grateful to have had his support and belief.

What advice would you give a young musician?

Keep writing and performing and writing and performing until you figure out how to make something you really truly love and think everyone else should love too. That's when you know you're on the right track, I think. Make music you want to listen to over and over again.

MAISIE'S DEBUT ALBUM!
You Signed Up for This is out on August 27th.