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THE LOOP

LA Stories
Year 13 Cracks America

Can We Talk About RACHEL?

The Soul Of SW9
Portraits of Brixton

Start Your Engines
F1 Steps Up A Gear

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From Us xx

We might be a school magazine but we are much more. Each quarterly will bring you the latest in music, fashion, culture and more with stories researched and written by our very own students. It's our way of sharing the talent of Global Academy by showcasing the work of each up and coming creative.

We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoyed making it.

LOIS & LIBS

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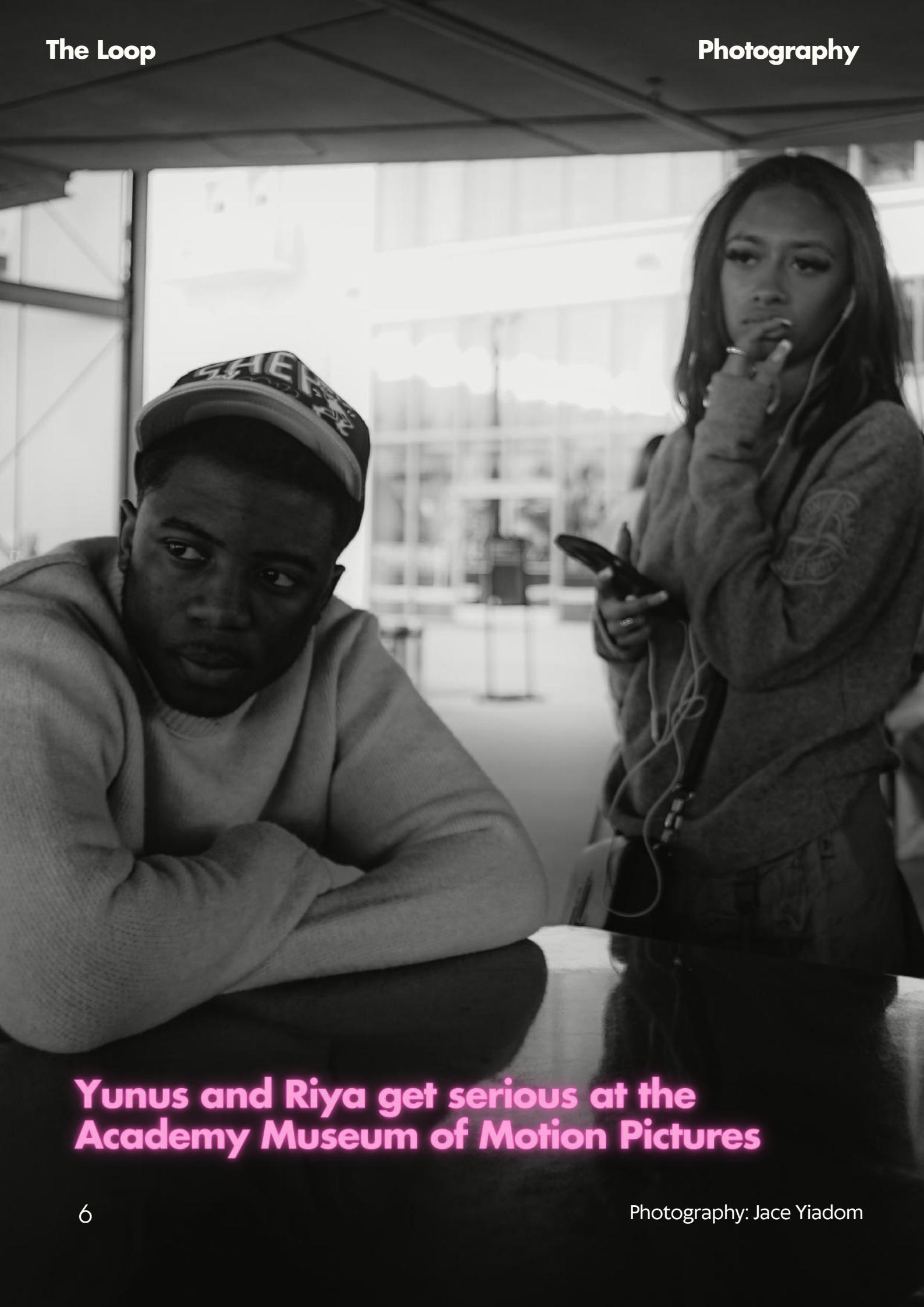
LA Stories



...a taste of Year 13's trip to Los Angeles

Photography by Jace Yadom

Photography: Jace Yiadom



Yunus and Riya get serious at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures

Photography: Jace Yiadom

Checking out film sets on the Warner Bros. studio tour...



Photography: Jace Yiadom

Joe takes in the view at The Academy Museum of Motion Pictures...



Photography: Jace Yiadom

Patrick considers his options at Universal Studios, Hollywood...



Photography: Jace Yiadom



Theo's not sharing...

Photography: Jace Yiadom

Can We Talk About...

RACHEL?



Rachel Chinouriri might not yet be a household name, but OPHELIOS JORDAN is positive that anyone that hasn't been living under a rock will have already run into at least one of her songs...

This South London singer-songwriter is a fresh voice in the world of Indie music. With her genre-blending style and unique storytelling she is an artist that deserves far more traction.

RISING STAR

Rachel has cracked the code of authenticity x stardom, gaining a loyal fanbase; everyday listeners love her, and she also has admirers within the Hollywood elite.

Oscar nominated actor, Florence Pugh, appeared in her music video for Never Needed Me, as did Sophie Turner and Kendall Jenner. And it doesn't stop there THE Adele even sent her a bouquet of roses, praising her artistry and promising to attend a show.

BIG BREAK

Famous fans aside, Rachel's 'made it moment' was her recent performances supporting Sabrina Carpenters Uk arena tour. The TikTok aftermath has been explosive. Crowds fell in love with

rachelchinouriri



...hits such as All I Ever Asked and Can We Talk About Isaac?

MORE THAN MUSIC

But be in no doubt, Rachel isn't just here to make songs, she's here to make a difference.

This February she took stage at the Omeara, London Bridge, as part of War Child's charity concert. She dedicated her song Robbed to the cause, speaking passionately about its themes of loss and resilience.

And this is what sets her apart; her ability to connect, whether through lyrics, performances or acts of service. She's not just another indie artist wishing for a hit – she is the moment, the change she wants to see, and she has something to say.

So can we talk about Rachel?

Yes please.

Trust us we're going to be doing that *a lot.*

rachelchinouriri

My Island Home

VARISHA JEYA-PRASAD's sun-soaked love letter to Sri Lanka...

There's this feeling when I get onto the Sri Lankan soil-a sense of just belonging, and no other place in the world could ever give me. The moment the warm sun kisses my skin and the salty breeze from the Ocean wraps around me,I know I am home...

Sri Lanka is not just my motherland but where my soul finds peace. Golden beaches stretching along the coastline and lush green hills in the middle of the island-home to beauty everywhere. But what makes Sri Lanka my happy place isn't just because of the scenery, but the culture, the people, and lessons my parents learned from growing up around it all shaping me to be the person I am today.

A day spent in Sri Lanka, from the sparkle of a stranger's smile, taught me that every market vibrates with vitality, The spices of our curries, the sweet heaven sent taste of a ripe mango and fruits, the comfort of home-cooked meals-these make me feel lucky to be born into such an intensely traditional, yet loving, culture.

When I'm in Sri Lanka, I appreciate just what I do have: a family, a heritage, the simple things that make life pleasant that I may not appreciate when in London, as It's so easy to forget in the hustle and bustle of the world, but here, time slows down just enough for me to recognise what truly matters in life, the laughter shared over a cup of tea, the sound of the ocean waves at dawn, the rhythm of traditional dance-these are the moments that stay with me.

No matter where I go, Sri Lanka will always be my happy place. It's where I feel most myself, where my roots run deep, and where I am reminded of the beauty in my culture and the strength in my identity.

Photography: Varisha Jeya-Prasad

Ramadan Mubarak

MARIAN AHMED explains Islam's holiest month

The holy month of Ramadan is an opportunity for Muslims to celebrate together as a worldwide community.

Ramadan commemorates the time the Holy Qur'an was sent down from heaven *"as a guidance for men and women, a declaration of direction, and a means of salvation."*

THE CRESCENT MOON

The holy month begins and ends with the arrival of the crescent moon. This year Ramadan began on the 1st of March and is set to end between 29/30th.

Many Muslims will try to regain religious focus by reading as much of the Qur'an as possible and renouncing worldly habits such as listening to music, gossiping and being greedy.

IFTAR

In Ramadan it's common to have a meal, Suhoor, just before dawn and a another, Iftar, which breaks the day-long fast as the sun sets .

Iftar traditionally begins with water, 3 dates (this can vary, but has to be an odd number) then prayer, before a more substantial meal.

RAMADAN IN LONDON

London is one of the best places to observe Ramadan, even though England isn't a Muslim country. Mosques across the city hold Iftar events, inviting the community to eat together

These open Iftar events are always fun and a chance explore and reconnect with your faith.

EID-AL-FITR

At the end of Ramadan, signalled by the return of the crescent moon, Muslims are rewarded with a festival called Eid-al-Fitr, which means 'happiness at breaking the fast.'

During this festival of light, Muslims decorate their homes and attend Eid prayers at their mosque, which begin from 5am. Later in the day we wear our best clothes and gather with our families to enjoy a special Eid meal.

Image: DeepAI

My Happy Place

By Simona Madzirova

Where is your happy place? That was the question my class was asked this morning to start this article. But here's the problem with that question; it assumes happiness comes from a specific place, something external you turn to when life gets too much. But if you rely on outside factors like holidays, hobbies, or even people to bring you happiness, you're only getting temporary satisfaction. True happiness isn't something you find; it's something you create.

Our minds are programmed to focus on negativity - the constant "what ifs" that spiral into stress, worry, and self-doubt. But the truth is, all of that is just an illusion; a reality we've created in our own heads. If we have the power to create a negative reality, then we also have the power to create a positive one. It all starts with our thoughts.

The way we think influences everything, from our emotions to our actions, so by shifting our mindset we can take control of our own happiness.

If you constantly think about the worst-case scenario, you'll end up living in constant fear and anxiety. But if you train yourself to think positively by focusing on gratitude, possibilities and the good in every situation - you'll start to see life very differently. Your thoughts influence your words, your words influence your actions, and your actions shape your reality.

Of course, it's not always easy. Some days your mind will try to pull you back into old habits of overthinking and self-doubt.

The key is catching yourself when those negative thoughts begin to creep back in and actively choosing to replace them with better ones. Instead of thinking, "I'm not good enough," tell yourself, "I am improving everyday!" Instead of "What if everything goes wrong?", ask yourself, "What if everything goes right?" At first, it may feel forced, but over time, your brain will adapt.

And suddenly, you no longer need a 'happy place' anymore because happiness follows you wherever you go!

Magic Media by Canva

The Soul of SW9

photgrapher ESRAA MOHAMMED celebraties the buzz and bustle of Brixton's Rec Quarter

I was recently asked to take behind-the-scenes shots for a community workshop with fashion photgrapher Niall Hodson.

The initiative was set up by Lambeth Council in collaboration with Photofusion and Muf Architecture/Art to encourage local talent and highlight the best of Brixton - a place that often gets a bad rap...

These portraits are an attempt to capture the beauty, resilience and cultural richness of this very special part of South West London.

Esraa



Photography Esraa Mohammed



Photography: Esraa Mohammed



Photography: Esraa Mohammed



Photography: Esraa Mohammed



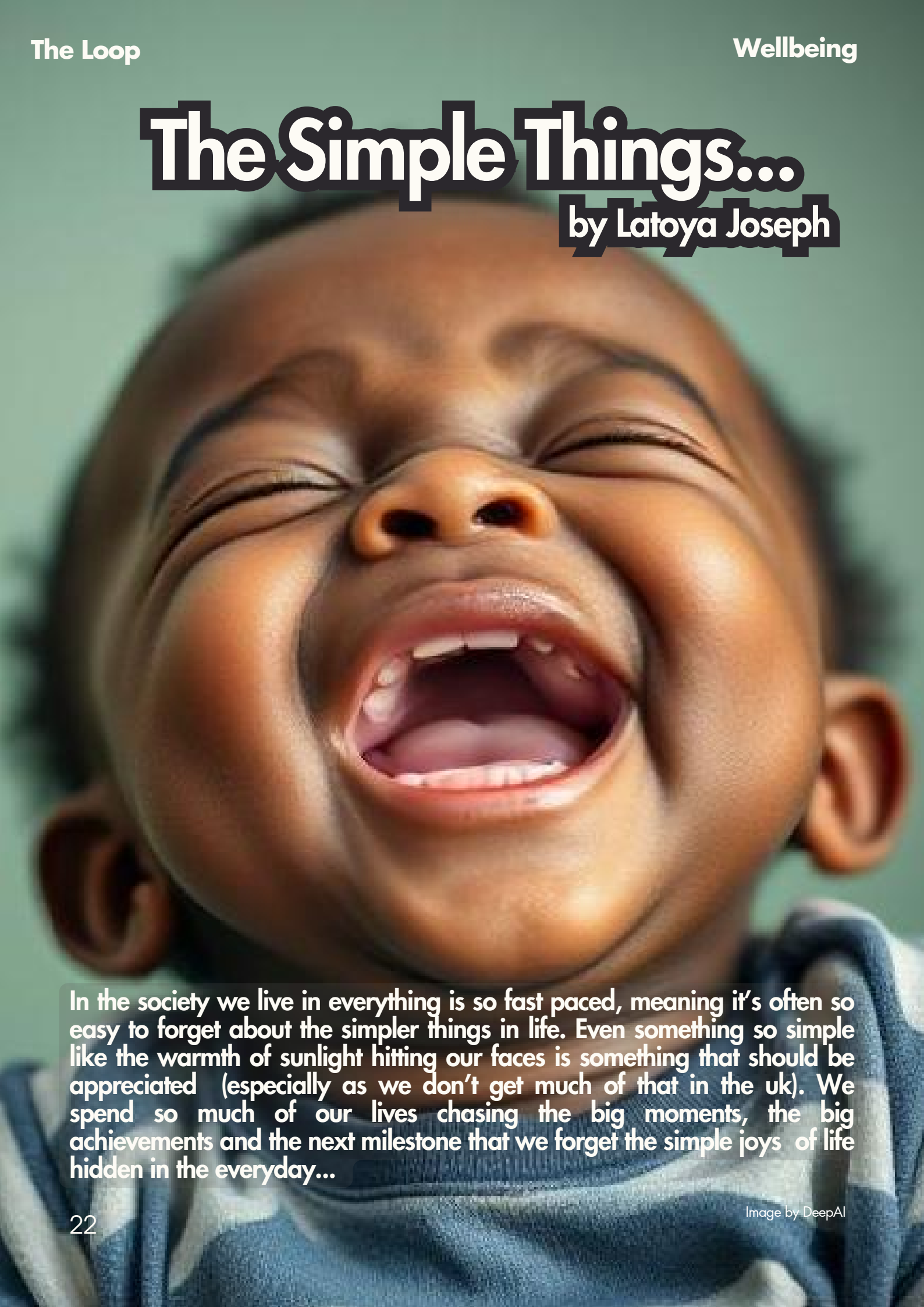
Photography: Esraa Mohammed



Photography: Esraa Mohammed

The Simple Things...

by Latoya Joseph



In the society we live in everything is so fast paced, meaning it's often so easy to forget about the simpler things in life. Even something so simple like the warmth of sunlight hitting our faces is something that should be appreciated (especially as we don't get much of that in the uk). We spend so much of our lives chasing the big moments, the big achievements and the next milestone that we forget the simple joys of life hidden in the everyday...

Image by DeepAI

When I took the time to slow down and actually appreciate the things that may seem minuscule in the grand scheme of life I came to realise that happiness isn't always in the big notable moments.

Sometimes it's the feeling of laying in your freshly made bed. It's an unexpected message from your friend when you need it most. It's the glimmer of hope that better days are coming.



Image by DeepAI

Life moves so fast and it really is easy to get caught up in the whirlwind. However maybe, just maybe, if you slow down for just a minute and take some time to catch your breath, you'll find that it isn't always about the big things.

Appreciate the quiet moments that slip by unnoticed and you may be just be surprised by what you find.

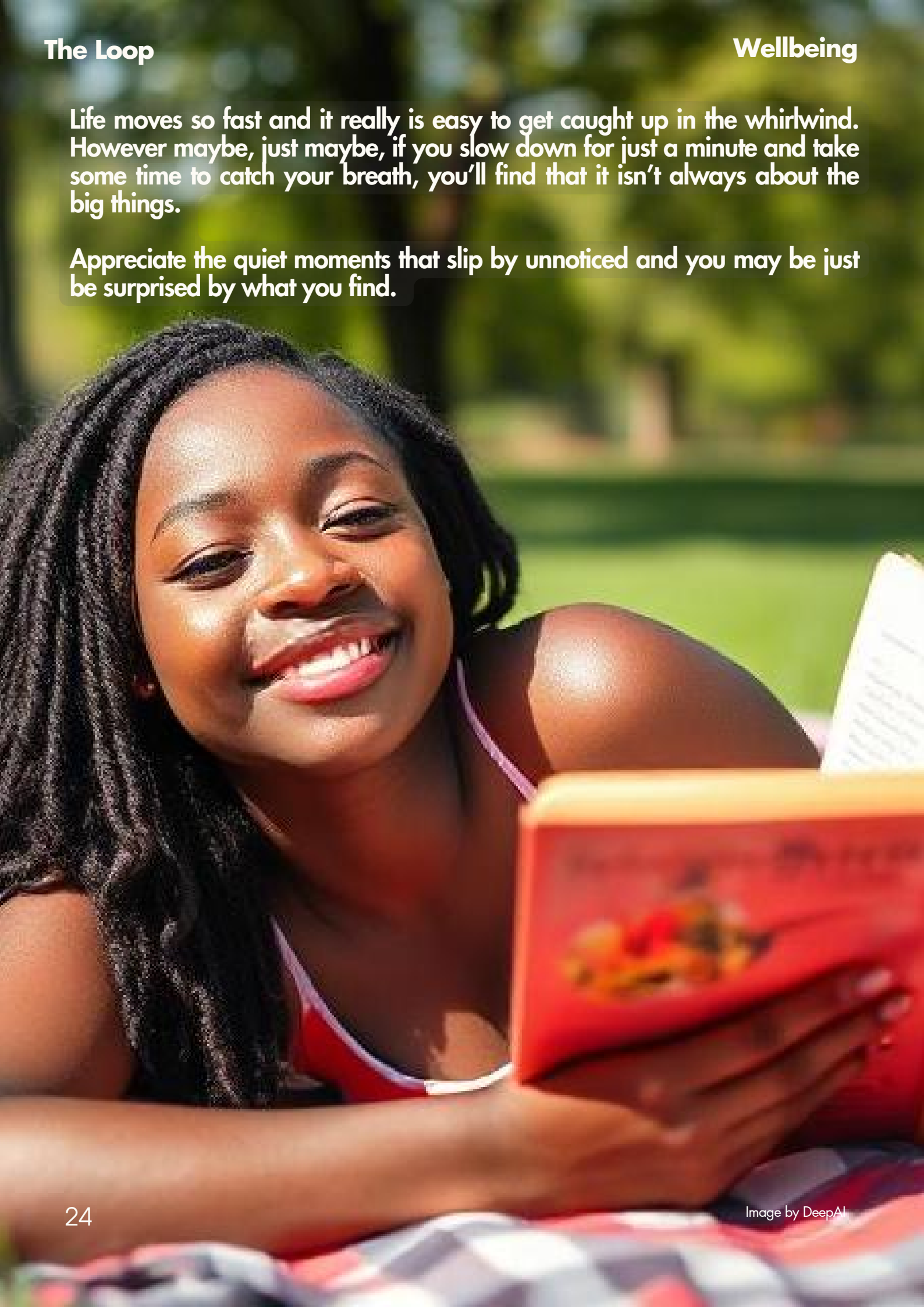


Image by DeepAI

START YOUR ENGINES

HANNAH BRINCAT previews the 2025 F1season...

The winter break is over, the paddocks opening once again and, for the first time in six years, the season starts with the Australian Grand Prix.

Bahrain has hosted the season opener since Covid-19, when a locked down Australia was unable to do the honours. Indeed, there was no Australian Grand Prix at all in 2020 or 2021.

This year's action will consist of 24 rounds, comprising six sprints, five double headers and three triple headers. The season will run from the 14th of March until 7th December, becoming one of the longest seasons in F1 history, visiting 21 different countries which include 12 home races for the drivers.

Last season saw two championship battles; the Constructors, with McLaren vs Ferrari finishing in Mclaren's favour, then Max Verstappen took on Lando Norris in the Driver's Championship. The Red Bull driver came out on top, due to starting the season with the fastest car, and thanks to multiple strateigic mistakes by the McLaren team.

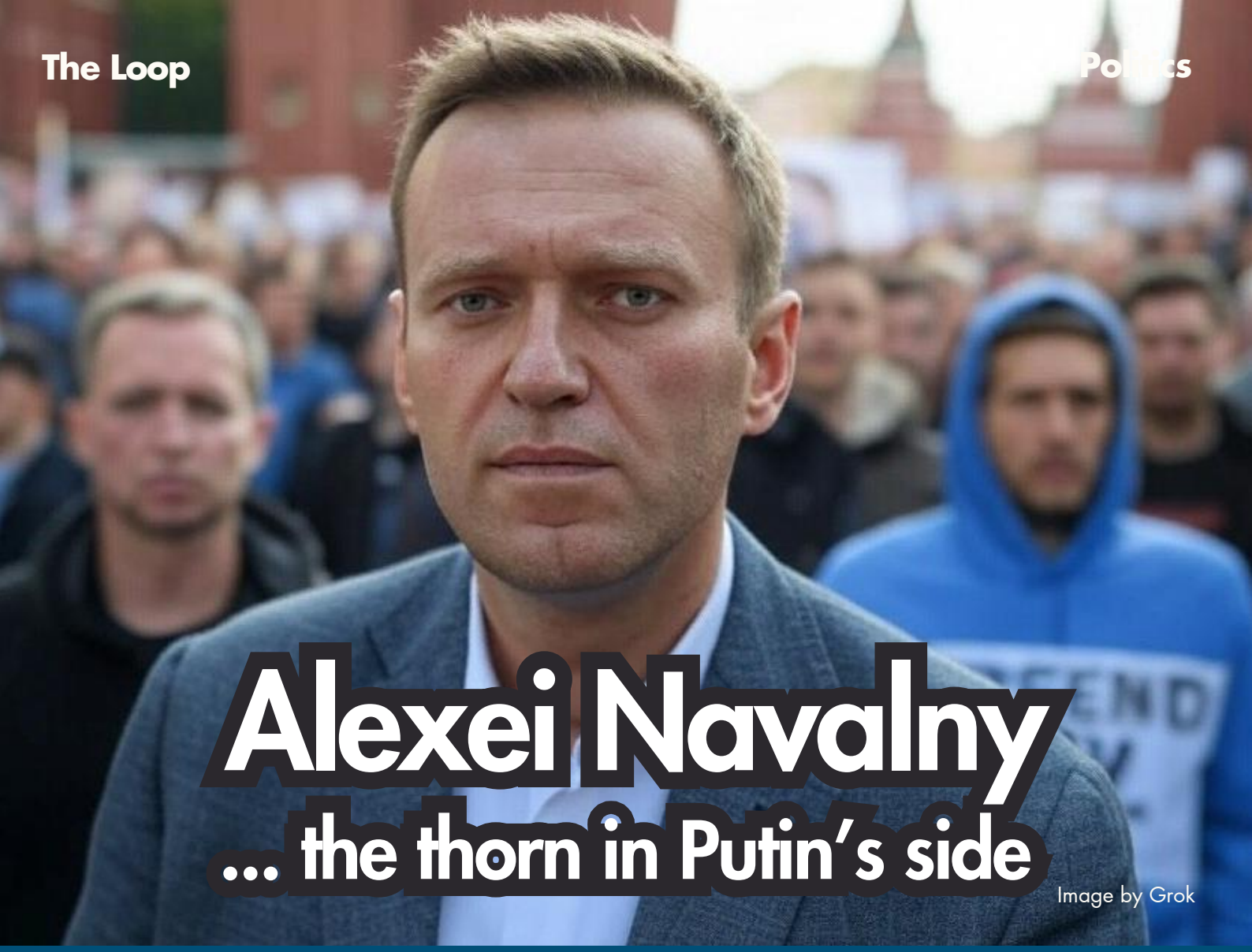
There are multiple contenders this season; Max Verstappen will be looking to set the record of five championships in a row, while seven-time champion, Lewis Hamilton, has his sights set on a record-breaking 8th world championship with his new team Ferrari.

Hot on their heels come Lando Norris, Charles Leclerc and George Russell, all hoping to get their names etched on their first championship trophy.

Mclaren ending Red Bull's dominance in the Constructors' has encouraged other teams to step up their game. Aston Martin will be the team to watch, after recently signing Red Bull's superstar designer Adrian Newey on a record-breaking 30 million pound three-year deal. Newey's got great form, having helped Red Bull to seven Constructors' Championships, Williams to five and McLaren one.

No wonder F1 fans can't wait, 2025 is looking to be the most exciting season yet. So if you're new to motorsport, welcome and strap in. You're in for an incredible ride.

Image DeepAI



Alexei Navalny
... the thorn in Putin's side

Image by Grok

The Russian opposition leader and anti-corruption activist was threatened, poisoned and imprisoned for speaking out against a seemingly unstoppable regime. A year after his suspicious death in a 'corrective colony; JAMIE McCREEDY examines the the life and legacy of, Alexei Navalny, the man whose memory still plagues Putin.

Having grown up in a rural town southwest of Moscow, it would never have been an easy task to compete in a declining Soviet society.

If you didn't live in 'The City' then your path to financial freedom and a good quality of life was slim.

Navalny's parents owned and ran a small furniture manufacturing business.

This kept the family afloat and taught Alexei the value of determination and dedication; he would go on to apply this work ethic to training as a lawyer.

From law, Navalny transitioned to local politics, and was even seen with extreme Right-Wing parties. He insisted dialogue with all factions was necessary to defeat the figure they considered their common enemy - Vladimr Putin.

On December 5, 2011, Navalny led a 6,000-person anti-corruption protest in Moscow, demanding fair elections. The result of this; 15 days in jail for resisting a government official. During his incarceration, Navalny used the internet to spread his message, translating it into English and attracting international attention. On the day of his release, he called for nationwide resistance against Putin's regime, organising a 50,000 strong protest on Christmas Eve - one of the largest anti-government demonstrations in post-Soviet Russia.

ARRESTED

From 2012 until 2017, Navalny faced the full force of the Kremlin's displeasure. He was arrested on countless occasions, but refused to back down, regularly organising and participating in anti-Putin protests.

Navalny's opposition to Putin led him to found a new political party. This bid to challenged the autocratic regime democratically led to a five year suspended sentence, which kept him out of the running when it came to elections. But if this was designed to deter him, it failed. As soon as the sentence expired in 2018, Navalny did the unthinkable… he challenged Putin for the Kremlin.

In the meantime Putin served as Prime Minister under Dimitry Medvedev, as the Russian constitution prevented Presidents serving more than two consecutive terms. In 2020, this rule was revised, and Medvedev resigned, making way for Putin's return to the presidency , potentially for life.

It is worth noting that the former KGB officer is currently Russia's longest serving leader since Stalin, having been in power, both officially and unofficially since 2000.

POISONED

In 2020 now, and Navalny was campaigning in Eastern Russia when he was poisoned with the nerve agent, Novichok - a Soviet-era chemical weapon which has since become the calling card of Putin's secret service.

The poison took effect on a flight, and a video circulated of the politician screaming and crying out for help. Upon landing, Navalny was taken to hospital in Omsk, where his wife was denied access and a crowd of supporters quickly formed, anxious for news of his condition. As they waited, they were informed that he was too ill to be transferred or seen - it was later claimed that he was being cleansed of all traces of Novichok, and with it any evidence of a government-sponsored attack.

The details of how the poison was administered soon emerged, when Navalny duped a Russian FSB agent, Konstantin Kudryavtsev, into admitting his role in targeting the opposition leader during a visit to the Siberian city of Tomsk.

Kudryavtsev said he was part of a toxins unit working to silence Navalny. Others had applied Novichok to Navalny's clothing, specifically his underwear, and he had been sent to the scene afterward to remove all traces.

The same group was also sent to 'deal with' other political activists including Timur, Kuashev,Ruslan Magomedragimov, and Nikita Isayev. They died in 2014, 2015 and 2019 respectively.

RETURN TO RUSSIA

On the 17th January 2021, Navalny returned to Russia after recovering in Germany. The Pobeda Airlines flight was diverted from Vnukovo Airport to Sheremetyevo, after thousands gathered in support of Navalny. This scene had apparently caught the attention of the Kremlin which acted to avoid the embarrassment of its opponent's popularilty as well as his survival.

Navalny was detained at passport control. The initial charge with failing to appear before a parole hearing, this was later changed to suggest he'd breached the terms of a the suspended sentence he'd been handed in 2014 - under circumstances he argued had been invented by Putin.

PUNISHED

Nevertheless, Navalny was found guilty and sent first to prison, where he was repeatedly placed in solitary confinement, and then with fresh charges accusing him of embezzlement, he was moved to a Pokrov, a 'correctional colony' usually reserved for Russia's most dangerous criminals.

At Pokrov, he claimed he was being tortured and went on hunger strike, hoping to gain the world's attention and ultimately, freedom.

Six doctors were arrested when attempting to visit Navalny with a lawyer.
They claimied Navalny had spinal issues and had lost feeling in his hands.

On the 19th of April 2021, Navalny was moved to the prison's hospital for 'vitamin therapy.' Shortly afterwards, according to the Russian authorities, he took a short walk, complained of feeling unwell, collapsed and never regained consciousness.

DEATH

Navalny's death caused pain and outrage in Russia and across world. For the opponent's of Putin's regime, all hope of a democratic future for their country had also been snuffed out.

But they had underestimated his widow.

Yulia Navalnaya had played a huge role in her husband's career, supporting and championing his message. In his posthumous memoir 'Patriot', Alexei Navalny writes; "Yulia is my soulmate. She hates the people who have seized power in our country, probably even more than I do."

LEGACY

Perhaps unsurprisingly, but nonetheless bravely, Yulia has announced an intention to continue Alexei's fight for a free democratic Russia by running for president. She has taken her husband's place as leader of the Anti-corruption Foundation, vowing to speak out against the regime, shining a light on its dark deeds and challenging its methods and abuses of power.

She, like her husband, promises to be a thorn in Putin's side.



Escape Artist

I've been drawing for about two years now and I feel like it's a release from the outside world. it helps me to relax, music inspires me to draw what I feel.

Georgia Blankson-Charles

Spring In Your Step

By Lois Molema

Spring into the new season? We prefer to strut! They say spring is the time for cleaning, new beginnings, ditching those trainers and evolving into a more appropriate shoe.



A kitten heel, they're kind of like the little sister of high heels! Impractical but timeless, and in the newborn period of summer practicality seems irrelevant.

Coach has understood the vision with the seasonal cherries hard to miss and what a better way to introduce the spring!

coach



Matilda Djerf ,a popular fashion influencer, has been seen rocking the heel and blazer combo. I thought we left the oversized blazers in 2023 but paired with a seasonal kitten keel you truly can't escape the glamour of business class.

matildadjerf



Disinformation Generation

Can we still trust our eyes and ears? LILY WISE examines the evidence...

The information we receive on what's happening in the world around us has a huge impact on our thoughts and opinions.

TV news viewing, previously the single most-used platform, is down from 75% in 2023, to 70% in 2024.

CHANGING HABITS

Although the BBC has net positive trust with the public, six in ten UK adults (59%) claim to use some form of online intermediary for their news consumption.

The main difference between using social media over TV for news purposes is that television delivers set news for everyone, whereas on social media the news you receive is largely based on your internet activity.

ECHO CHAMBER

Social media is often described as an echo chamber; whatever you put out on the internet is what you're most likely to get back in the form of a post, clip or even a news article.
For example, if you were to search up 'Why Trump is bad for America?' the first thing that comes up is an article titled Seven reasons why Trump is the worst president ever , but if you were to search 'Why Trump is the best leader for America?' The first article that comes up is the article 8 Qualities of Donald Trump That Make Him a Great Leader.

This is a clear example of confirmation bias, as these searches are phrased in a way to search for evidence which confirms an existing belief. This is something you can't do when watching the news as it only gives information based on facts and evidence.

Image by Grok

Less than two weeks after the online unrest began, people were arrested and jailed for offences related to stirring up hatred on social media.

The arrests demonstrate the severity of spreading false news on the internet and how its influence can be so monumental that it becomes a warning that needs to be reported on trustworthy and reliable news sources to prevent its dangerous impact.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

A.I is a phrase that gets thrown around a lot but what actually is it? It's a program or other piece of software that performs tasks or produces output normally requiring human intelligence.

It doesn't have a mind of its own, so it's trained on huge amounts of information and learns to identify the patterns in it. This can be used to reduce human error or automate mundane tasks to improve productivity.

However, the more sinister side of AI is technology such as deepfakes.

AI has the ability to mimic a person's voice and facial features by adapting audio recordings to make someone say things that they may never have said.

DEVASTATING

It can mimic someone's facial movements from videos of them or a picture of their face. The impact of this technology can be devastating.

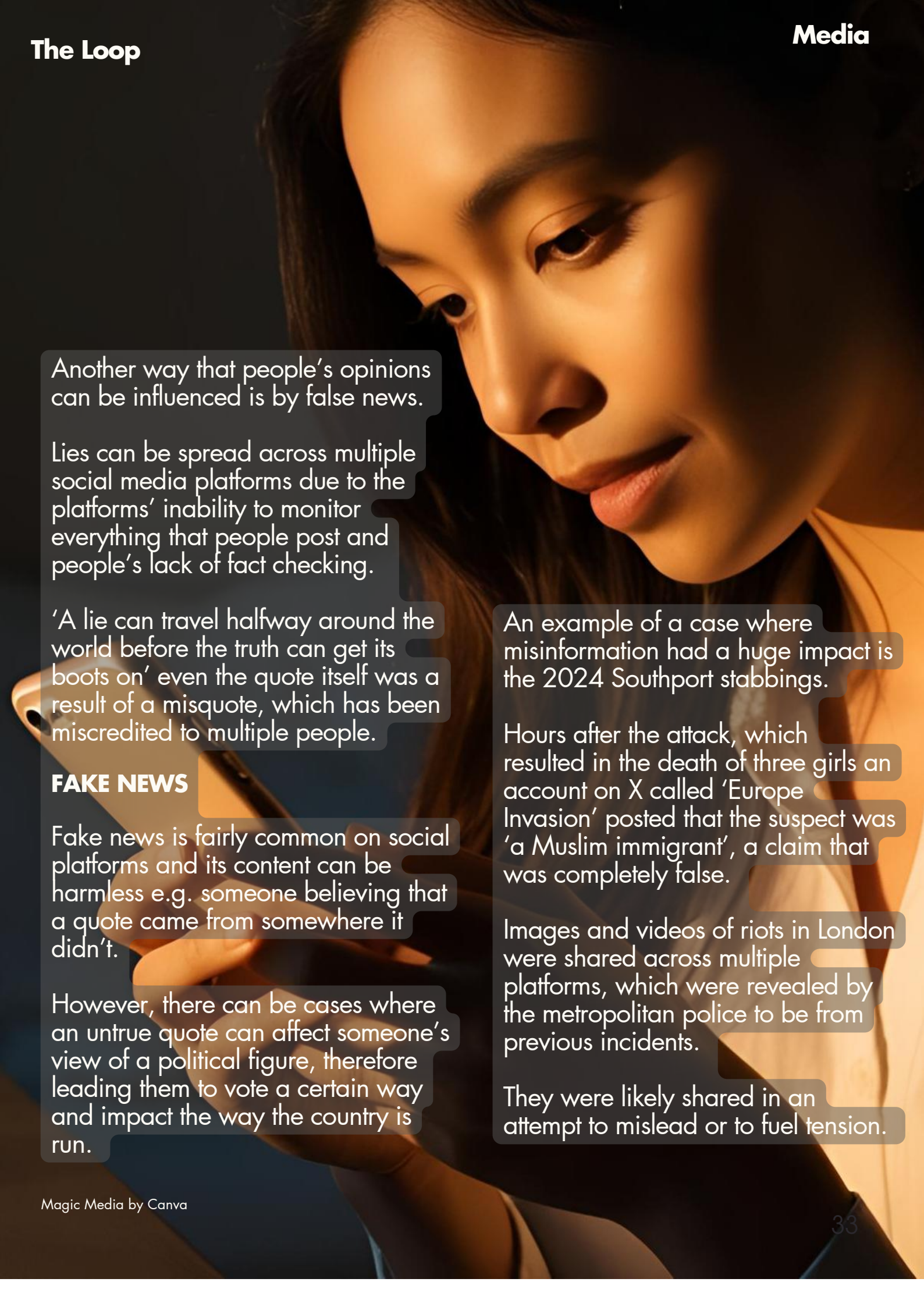
If someone thinks a politician said something that they didn't, they could be misled into voting a certain way.

Additionally, people can easily be tricked into sending money to who they think is their friend or family member through real-time deepfakes; video or audio generated to replicate someone's voice, image and/or movements in order to commit fraud.

BAD INFLUENCE

Another more covert way disinformation is spread is through influencers. Social media platforms allow users to curate their content, and influencers, in particular, craft their posts with clear intention- often tied to generating profit.

Magic Media by Canva



Another way that people's opinions can be influenced is by false news.

Lies can be spread across multiple social media platforms due to the platforms' inability to monitor everything that people post and people's lack of fact checking.

'A lie can travel halfway around the world before the truth can get its boots on' even the quote itself was a result of a misquote, which has been miscredited to multiple people.

FAKE NEWS

Fake news is fairly common on social platforms and its content can be harmless e.g. someone believing that a quote came from somewhere it didn't.

However, there can be cases where an untrue quote can affect someone's view of a political figure, therefore leading them to vote a certain way and impact the way the country is run.

An example of a case where misinformation had a huge impact is the 2024 Southport stabbings.

Hours after the attack, which resulted in the death of three girls an account on X called 'Europe Invasion' posted that the suspect was 'a Muslim immigrant', a claim that was completely false.

Images and videos of riots in London were shared across multiple platforms, which were revealed by the metropolitan police to be from previous incidents.

They were likely shared in an attempt to mislead or to fuel tension.

Magic Media by Canva

While their content may appear relatable, entertaining or inspirational, it is frequently designed to shape perceptions in a way that maximises engagement and income. From food content creators not eating all of the food they post, to fitness influencers perpetuating unrealistic "thinspiration" ideals under the guise of promoting health and fitness, disinformation on social platforms is rife.

MONETISATION

The monetisation of authenticity makes it increasingly difficult to realise that you're actively being marketed a product and when that product is a lifestyle or a person it blurs the lines of what's real and what's fake. When an influencer shares a morning routine that includes a particular skincare product or posts about a supplement, they "swear by," it creates the illusion that these choices are purely personal rather than financially motivated. For followers, the curated content feels like an intimate window into the influencer's life, fostering a sense of trust and connection.

This can obscure their ability to critically evaluate the content they consume, leaving them vulnerable to manipulation.

The persuasive power of influencers highlights how easily disinformation can be woven into everyday media consumption, blending seamlessly with the content people trust and enjoy.

SHAPING PERCEPTIONS

While its effects may appear minor at first, by shaping perceptions or influencing small decisions over time, it can erode self-esteem, distort reality and drive behaviours that have severe impacts on mental health, relationships, and overall well-being.

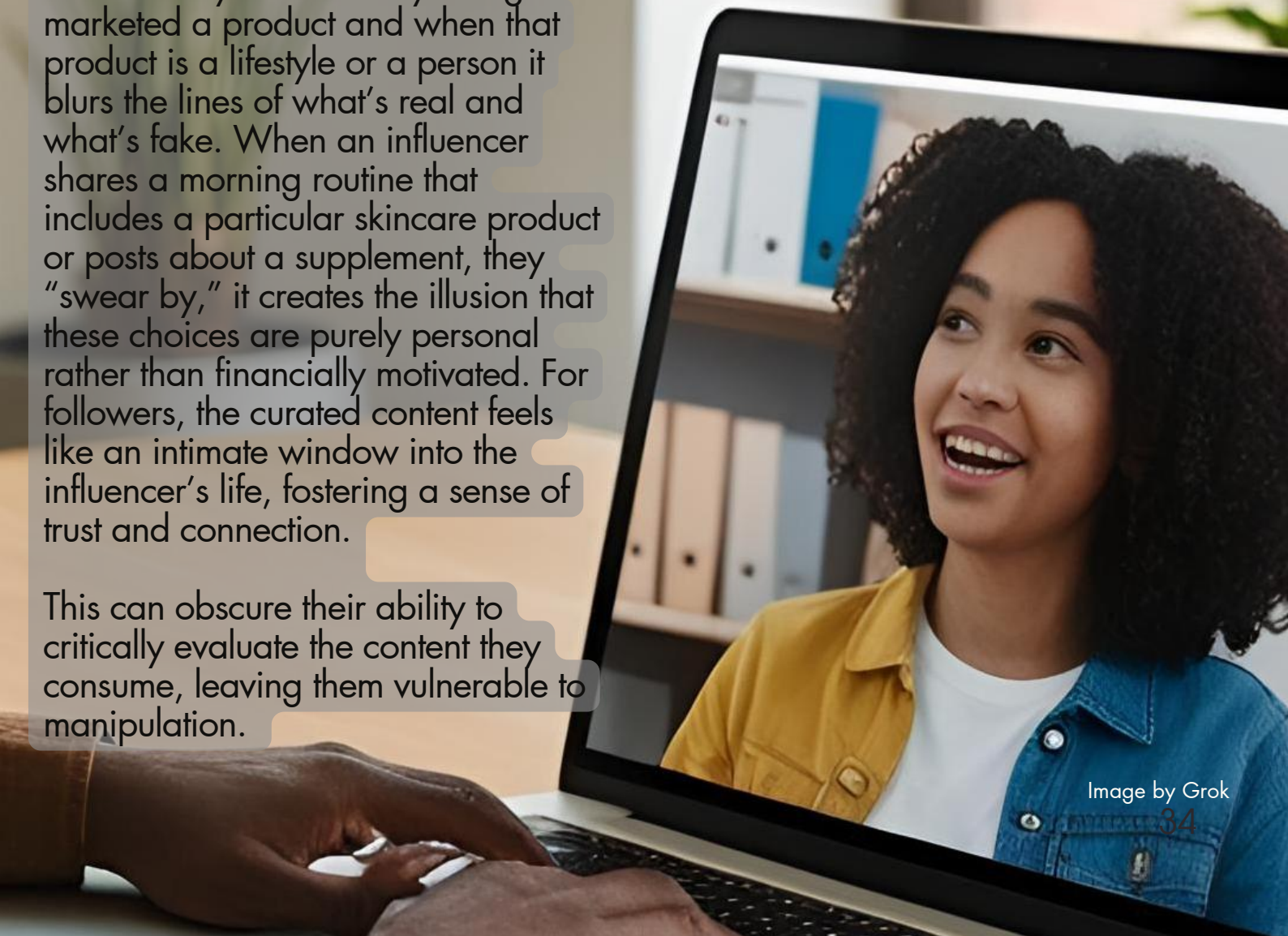


Image by Grok



Although social media means that incorrect information is more widespread, people have been fabricating the truth for centuries. Propaganda was a key political tool in Ancient Rome. One instance saw Octavian lead a smear campaign against Mark Antony to discredit him during the final years of the Roman Republic.

ANCIENT SCANDAL

By portraying Antony as a man corrupted by his association with the Egyptian queen Cleopatra, Octavian painted a vivid image of betrayal and moral decay, leveraging existing Roman fears of foreign influence and declining traditional values. Octavian justified the need for war by framing it not as Roman against Roman, but Rome against Cleopatra and the East.

To the war-weary Romans, this was much easier to accept than another civil war. The weariness to trust what you're being told has always been a prevalent issue it's just the way in which the information is presented that's changed.

COMMUNITY

In Ancient Rome all you had to check the reliability of what you were being told were public speeches, oral tradition, and occasional public notices. You had to rely on your community, but this consisted of a fairly limited number of people.

Social media can contribute to counteracting false news, as the span of references you have access to is much larger.

Magic Media by Canva

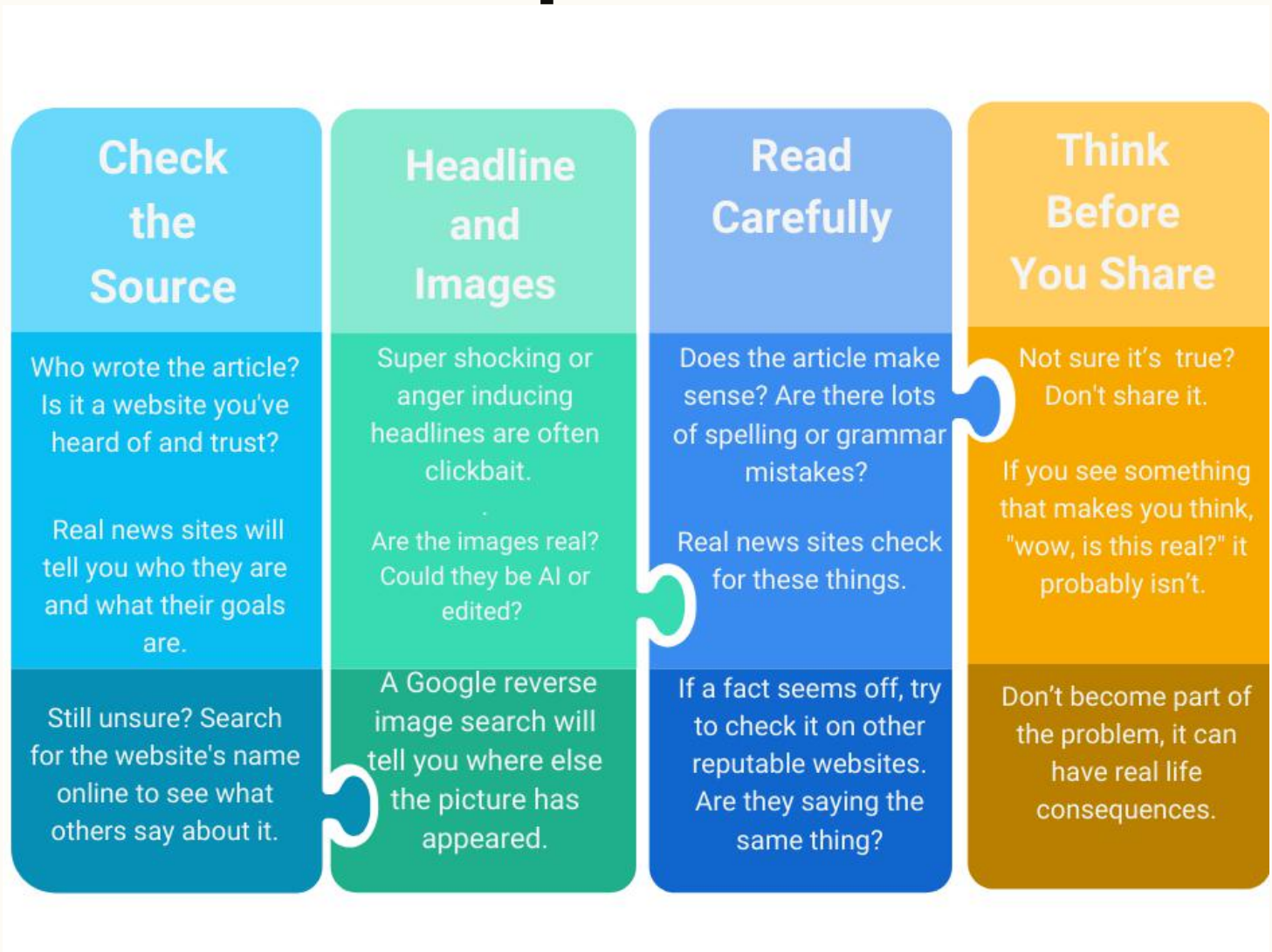
There's also much greater access to many other people and, therefore, multiple diverse perspectives, which can help you to define your own perspective.

So can we still trust our eyes and ears? There's no 'still' about it.

We have never been able to fully trust our eyes and ears as there's always been motivation for people to mislead each other.

As ways of proving the reliability of information advance, so do the ways of falsifying that information. It's up to us as individuals to ensure that we're not a part of the chain of disinformation.

Four steps to TRUTH





The Gender Health Gap

By Jess Williamson

Image by Grok

The NHS has faced significant underfunding in recent years, which has had an undeniable impact on its ability to deliver quality care to some people of this country.

Budget constraints, which have been a concern for years, have led to staff shortages, increased waiting times for treatments, and a decline in the overall quality of services. Many hospitals and clinics struggle to maintain essential services, resulting in patients experiencing delays in diagnosis and treatment.

Links between a person's gender and the quality of care the can expect have also been uncovered - the UK has the 12th largest female health gap in the world.

Common health conditions, affecting 1 in 10 women can currently take more than 7 years to diagnose, and they may need to attend an average of 10 doctor appointments before they're referred to a specialist.

LATE DIAGNOSIS

Females are being diagnosed later than men in over 700 diseases, and only 2.5 percent of health funding goes to women's reproductive health.

Studies on issues affecting male reproductive biology gets more research and funding, meanwhile PMS affects 90% of people with a uterus and is still classed as a 'women's issue' rather than a common and sometimes devastating health concern.

Image by Grok



Image by Grok

Menstrual products literally have *one job*, and yet they were not tested with real blood until 2023, and only now are concerns about possible toxins present in some products being taken seriously.

Gender equality in the NHS is a crucial topic that has recently come more to light. This encompasses various aspects of diagnosis, treatment, and overall healthcare provision.

INCLUSION

Despite a greater emphasis on inclusion, disparities still remain, and affect the way different genders experience healthcare services.

Underfunding and staff shortages have led to immense pressure for healthcare professionals, increasing cases of burnout and job dissatisfaction and further exacerbating existing recruitment and retention problems.

The NHS is at a critical juncture, where the need for investment is more urgent than ever to ensure that it can continue to provide the comprehensive care that the public relies on.

Lastly, the increasing privatisation of certain NHS services has sparked a great deal of debate. Some people are concerned that bringing in private companies could shift the focus from patient care to profit, which goes against the founding principles the NHS.

This raises questions about equality in access to care and whether everyone will get the same level of service.

HURDLES

The NHS is facing significant hurdles these days. Funding cuts, staffing shortages, and the possibility privatisation all contribute to a sense that the system is struggling.

As we look to the future, it's clear that discussions about how to strengthen the NHS, ensuring it continues to meet the needs of the public, are more important than ever.

Fresh from the US

TYLER QUAYE'S pick of the best new artists from the other side of the Atlantic...

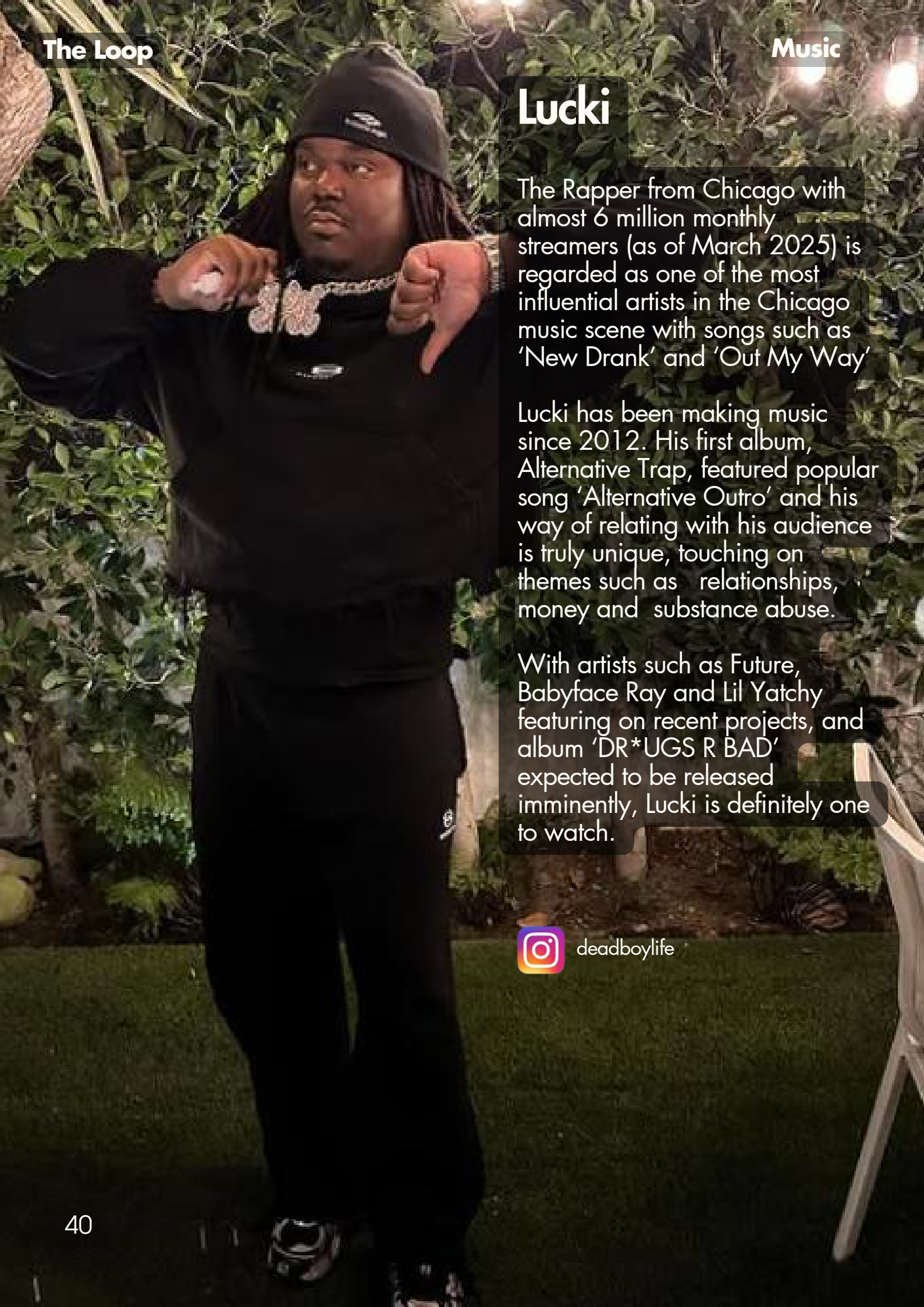
Loe Shimmy

The 26 year old from Florida, whose most popular song is 'For Me' featuring Brent Faiyaz (just under 29 million spotify streams as of March 2025) is one of my favourites so far this year.

- Loe uses his croaky voice to his advantage, with upbeat songs such as 'Top Is Mine' and 'Wok & Minute Maid' as well as slow, calm tunes such as 'No Rush' and 'Leave In'.

With features such as Veeze, Kodak Black and Cash Cobain, Loe Shimmy is top of my Spring playlist.

loeshimmy



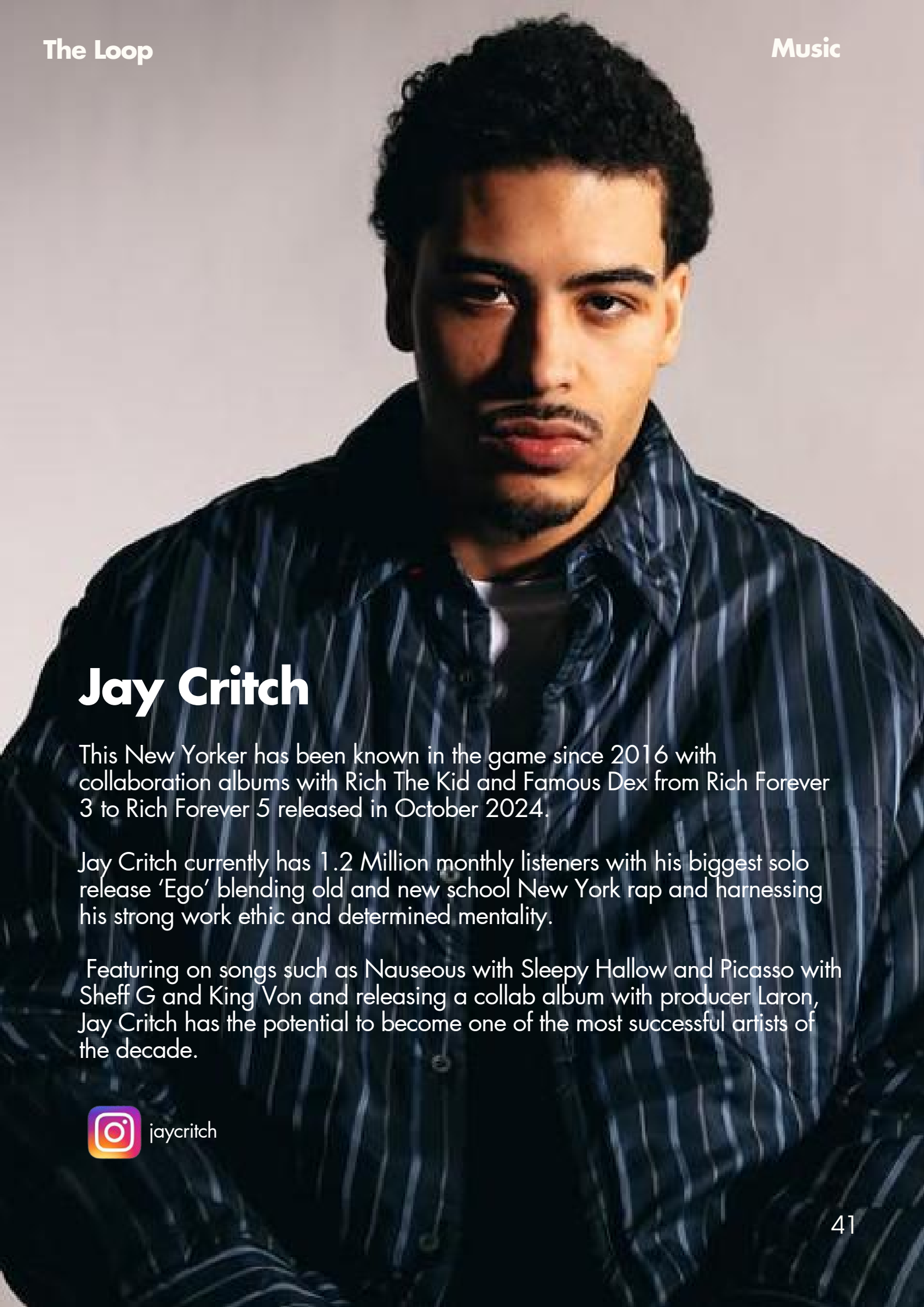
Lucki

The Rapper from Chicago with almost 6 million monthly streamers (as of March 2025) is regarded as one of the most influential artists in the Chicago music scene with songs such as 'New Drank' and 'Out My Way'

Lucki has been making music since 2012. His first album, Alternative Trap, featured popular song 'Alternative Outro' and his way of relating with his audience is truly unique, touching on themes such as relationships, money and substance abuse.

With artists such as Future, Babyface Ray and Lil Yatchy featuring on recent projects, and album 'DR*UGS R BAD' expected to be released imminently, Lucki is definitely one to watch.

deadboylife



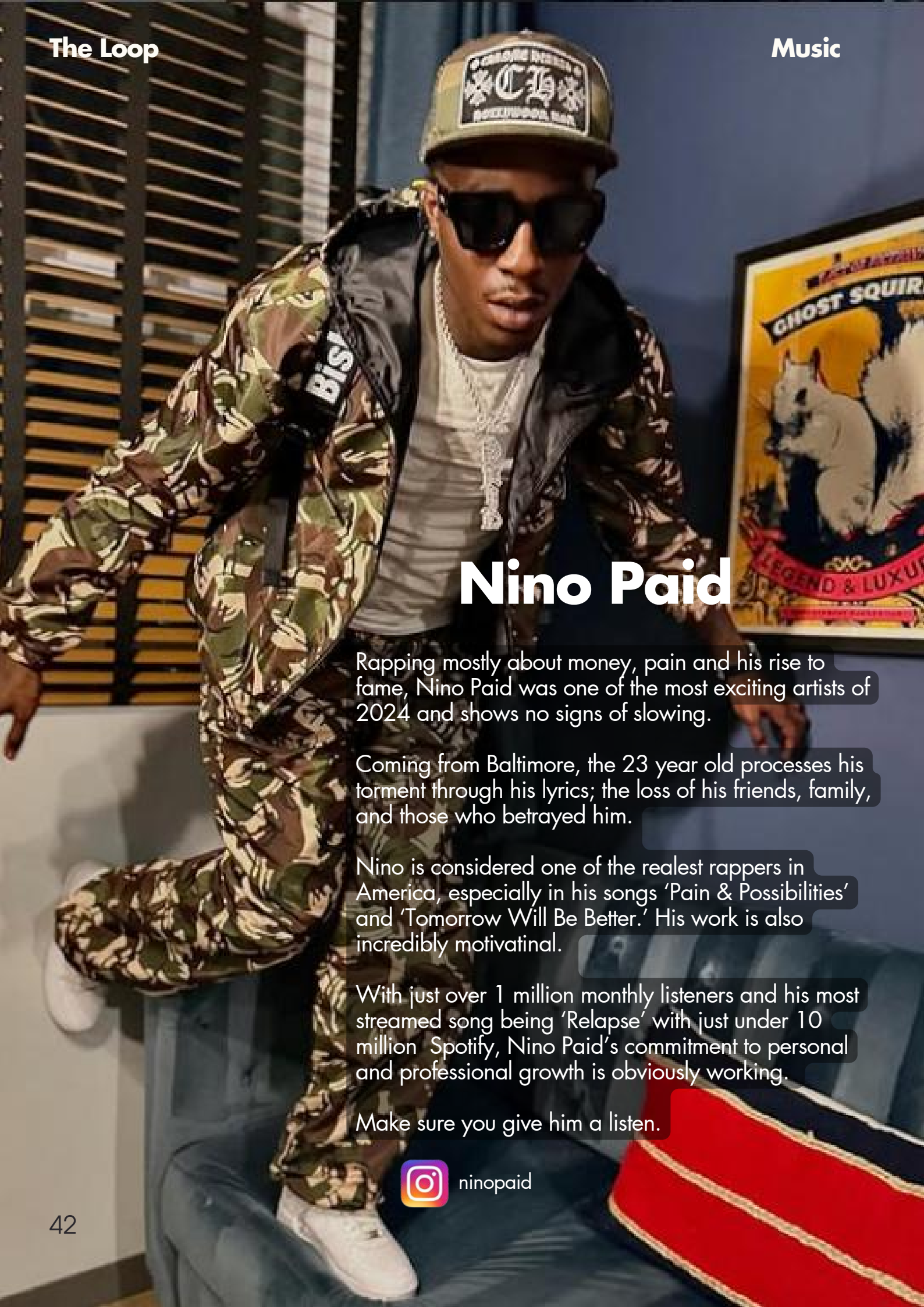
Jay Critch

This New Yorker has been known in the game since 2016 with collaboration albums with Rich The Kid and Famous Dex from Rich Forever 3 to Rich Forever 5 released in October 2024.

Jay Critch currently has 1.2 Million monthly listeners with his biggest solo release 'Ego' blending old and new school New York rap and harnessing his strong work ethic and determined mentality.

Featuring on songs such as Nauseous with Sleepy Hallow and Picasso with Sheff G and King Von and releasing a collab album with producer Laron, Jay Critch has the potential to become one of the most successful artists of the decade.

jaycritch



Nino Paid

Rapping mostly about money, pain and his rise to fame, Nino Paid was one of the most exciting artists of 2024 and shows no signs of slowing.

Coming from Baltimore, the 23 year old processes his torment through his lyrics; the loss of his friends, family, and those who betrayed him.

Nino is considered one of the realest rappers in America, especially in his songs 'Pain & Possibilities' and 'Tomorrow Will Be Better.' His work is also incredibly motivatinal.

With just over 1 million monthly listeners and his most streamed song being 'Relapse' with just under 10 million Spotify, Nino Paid's commitment to personal and professional growth is obviously working.

Make sure you give him a listen.

ninopaid

Babyface Ray

My favourite artist of all time, 35 year-old Babyface Ray had his first release, 'Who Beat Is This' back in 2014. With just under 2 million monthly listeners and 'Ron Artest' featuring 42Dugg being his most streamed song this Detroit rapper makes music for motivation, more specifically motivation to make money.

He cemented himself in the motor city music scene with his 2017 mixtape collab featuring Peezy. The vivid rags-to-riches storytelling in 'Ghetto Wave' still resonates with listeners as do his more laid back tunes like r 'Vonnie Song' , 'Departure at 4:53' and 'Racks N'.

Having featured on songs with Future, Brent Faiyaz and Lucki, Babyface Ray connects with diverse talents even on his album 'MOB' with a feature from Lil Durk. 'Poor Decisions' to 'Shy Kid' are also unmissable

With 4 albums in the last 4 years Babyface Ray's consistency, authenticity and perception have put him at the very top of his game.

babyfaceray

On our way to..
WEMBLEY

The new stadium opened in 2007, replacing the old Wembley, which closed in 2000. This is the biggest stadium in England at 90 thousand seats, and is Europe's second largest after the Nou Camp.

Whether in its new or original form, Wembley's name is synonymous with magical moments. DARCEY SLATER has picked her top five...

White Horse Final,1923

This FA Cup final between Bolton Wanderers and West Ham United was played on 28 April 1923 at the original Wembley Stadium in London.

The official attendance was 126,000 fans, but it's believed that over 300,000 were in attendance. With no room in the stands, fans spilled over onto the pitch delaying kickoff for 45 minutes.

After the match, officials and players asked fans to leave the pitch, mounted police were brought in to disperse the crowds.

A photograph of the scene captured a grey horse (looking bright white in the monochrome image). This iconic picture gave the final its famous name.

World Cup - 1966

English football came home for the first time in 1966 after a historic win. England beat West Germany 3-1 in front of 96,924 fans in the stadium and 32.3 million viewers on TV. It was equal at full time, but in extra time Hurst scored twice to settle the score. Kenneth Wolstenholme cried, "Some people are on the pitch, they think it's all over... it is now!"

Live Aid - 1985

The event was organised by Bob Geldof and Midge Ure to raise funds for relief of the 1983–1985 famine in Ethiopia. The most notable performers at the Wembley concert were Paul McCartney, Queen, Phil Collins, David Bowie and Elton John. News reports stated that between £40 and £50 million had been raised, but since then 150 million pounds has been raised as a direct result of the concerts.

Photography: Darcey Slater

Women Euros, 2022

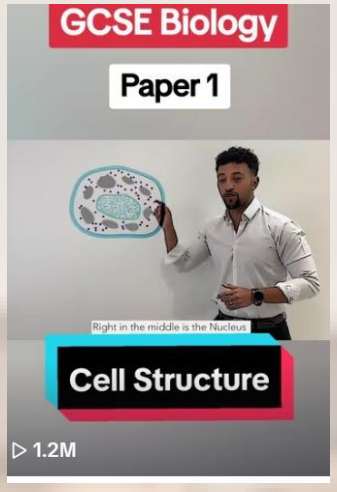
The Lionesses sold out Wembley for the first time at the Women's Euros with an attendance of 87,192. That was a record for a EUROs match for both men and women. The Lionesses were able to bring football home after a 110-minute winner from Chloe Kelly, something no English team has been able to do since 1966 when Bobby Moore was able to lift the World Cup trophy at Wembley.

The Eras Tour, 2023

Taylor Swift broke records playing 8 shows at Wembley Stadium, she surpassed Michael Jackson's bad world record of playing 7 Wembley shows. Selling out all shows with 92,000 people packed into the stadium, it was the best 3 hours of most people's summers. She brought on special guests like Florence + The Machine, Ed Sheeran and Jack Antonoff and sang exclusive songs like London Boy and So Long London

Photography: Darcey Slater

TikTok TUTORS



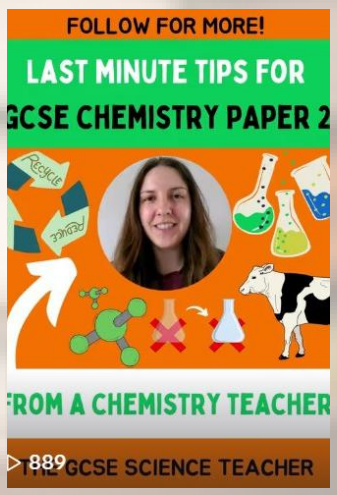
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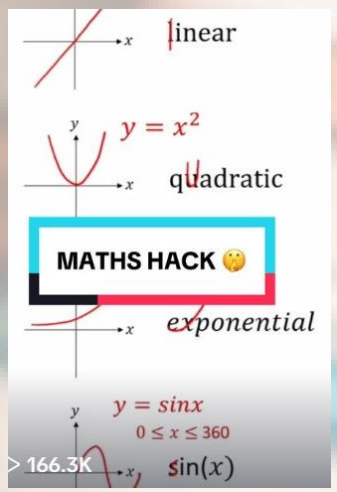
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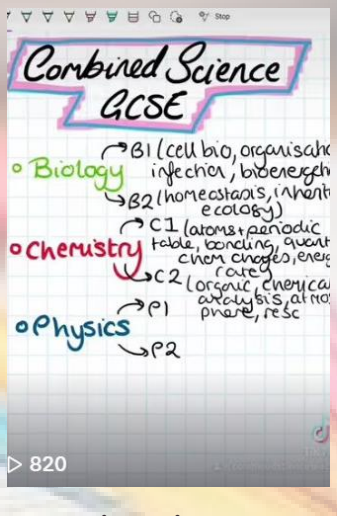
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