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NACHLEUCHTEN

THE EDITORIAL



BESTAND:

HA SOOYOUNG

rom Twelve to One

A retrospective on the budding career of Korean soloist, Yves

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THE LIFE OF YVES



Ha Sooyoung, or as she's known professionally, Yves, is a Korean singer-songwriter. She was born in Busan, Korea on May 24th, 1997.

In 2017, Yves was revealed as the ninth member of the twelve member girl group LOONA.

She rose to fame as a member of group LOONA and the subunit yyxy. In 2023, she left the group and the next year she debuted as a soloist.

Since her solo debut, Yves has released three albums, LOOP, I Did and Soft Error.



Yves

November 28th 2017

The Beginning of Yves

Yves released her solo single with Loona under Blockberry Creative on November 28th, 2017. The eponymous EP features two songs with drastically different vibes, New and D-1.



1. NEW

New is bold, especially for an opening track. The electropop song has a sound that is not typical in K-Pop. Against the song's strong beat, Yves sings about facing hardships and not backing down. I find the song to be quite meaningful. The message is a simple but powerful one. She can and will face any challenge and come out on the other side "new".



2. D-1

Following New, we are met with a much softer and cooler song, D-1. Like a lot of Yves' future songs, this song has a lot of synthpop influences. The song itself is a very intimate one, compared to the previous track. It is very reflective and sounds. It feels like the precursor to the events of New. The calm before the storm. And its just that, a calm, cool, soft sound that is easy on the ears.

Another shape of me found inside of me
My face in the mirror, I ask myself who it is
- New (translation from Genius)



Loop

May 29th 2024



LOOP: The Second Coming of a 4TH Generation Icon

In June of 2023, Yves and the other members of LOONA had their contracts with the abusive company, Blockberry Creative, terminated. Almost a year later, in March 2024, Yves signed onto PAIX PER MIL. Just two months later, she debuted as a soloist. Released on May 29th, 2024, the tracklist features Diorama, LOOP, Afterglow, and Golden totaling in 12 minutes and 5 seconds.



1. Diorama

The opening track for this album is by far the best. I am heavily biased in saying this as it is my favorite of the album. The song's dreamy R&B beat alone makes it one of Yves's best songs. To me, this song symbolizes one thing: Starting back at square one. She confronts her own expectations, presumably about the beginning of her new solo career.



2. LOOP

The album's title track, also named LOOP, is a gorgeous mixture of house music and dance pop with a beautiful blend of Yves' vocals and the flow of Lil Cherry's rap. The beat tends to be repetitive but it fits with the theme of the song. If I had to recommend one Yves song to a person, it would be this one. I don't know what Ha Sooyoung laced this song with but its unique sound is enough for me to keep it on a LOOP.

Maybe I can get lost in you
Just tell me how to think, babe, yeah
The thought and the scent, yeah
This scene and my vision, baby
- Diorama

3. AFTERGLOW

Afterglow pushes and pulls itself between pop punk themes and an airy sound, with a punchy instruments and light vocals. It does a very good job of showing the conflict of wanting to enjoy the moment and hurting because you know it will all end, or "fade away", soon. There isn't much to say about this song that it hasn't already said for itself.





4. 금붕어

Yves closes the EP with 금붕어 or Goldfish. This track is the only one that is fully in Yves's native language, Korean. The song is a soft one. Calm, slow, acoustic. She comforts the fans who have been there since day one, expressing gratitude. I don't listen to this song often, but when I do it's always the same way. Late, rainy, lonely nights where I need a little emotional boost. This song may not be my favorite, but I can still recognize that it is severely underrated and unknown.

I'll just watch you. Yes, it's okay to cry. I'll wipe your tears. You don't need to worry.
When your heart is stilled, then you can tell me. I'll just listen.
- Goldfish (translation from Genius)



I Did

November 14th 2024

SPACE TO GROW

Yves released her second EP, I Did, in November of last year. With it she continues to push the boundaries of K-Pop. The 5-track album and it's 7-track deluxe version both leans heavily into experimental sounds and unconventional structures with electronic, hyperpop and alternative influences.



1. Viola

Viola is the opening and title track to I Did. With hyperpop, alt pop, and pop R&B elements, it immediately sets the tone for the rest of the album. This track is especially ear catching because of its intro. This song opens with a pitched audio clip of Charli XCX saying 'let's get dumb and break shit' followed by a repetitive beat heard throughout almost the entirety of the song. The song's repetition throughout adds a sense of tension followed by release. It is a mixture of hyperpop and alt pop. The internal struggle described in the lyrics of this song are very interesting. In Viola, Yves explores these of mental conflict and personal space, showing a more vulnerable side to her fans. She conveys a yearning a for personal space and internal peace against a wave of emotional chaos.

In your eyes that you can't handle it and pretend to be a fool
of this world
Look at me numb from behind my collapsed stage
- Viola



2. Hashtag

Hashtag is one of my personal favorite tracks, not just in this album but from Yves's discography as a whole. The song has contemporary rhythm and blues influence and it shows. This fully English song is about the trouble of navigating a modern world while trying to be authentic in a world that is anything but. Yves evokes both resilience and anger in her vocals as she describes attempting to navigate digital complexities.

3. Gone Girl

Gone Girl is another R&B song by Yves but the overall vibe is very different. It mixes energetic rhythms with emotional weight. She speaks of shedding her past self and stepping away from a world that no longer aligns with who she is. To me, this song represents her departure from her former K-Pop group LOONA.

4. TikTok

Tik Tok is another track that I absolutely adore. I adore it so much in fact, that is was one of my most listened to songs of 2025. This track was a few months prior to I Did as a single, on August 30th 2024. The song contemplates how time slips through your fingers and the feeling of holding onto something that are meant to fade away.

Hands on the wheel-la, drivin' down the highway
I'm fine with it taking a while, yeah, yeah
Chasing the sunset, freedom's calling my name
Fed-up times are in the past, yeah
- Gone Girl



I Did: Bloom

January 17th 2025

5. BIRD

Bird is the first of two additions on the Deluxe version of I Did. This song leans into that classic Yves vibe: sweet vocals over an alt pop/soft rock sound. This contrasts with the songs heard earlier which mostly had electronic and R&B influences. BIRD is a song about resilience after the end of a relationship. It illustrates the difficult process of choosing yourself and growing alone after a painful experience.

6. See You In Hell

See You In Hell is final track of the I Did: Bloom. It is a raw emotional track presented to us in full English. It has a heavier alternative rock sound that I have ever heard from Yves and I love it. It is about knowing a person you once loved but now want to never see again, unless it is in Hell. The lyrics detail different moments in the relationship before revealing that the partner cheated. A few of the lines in this song lead me to believe that this track is about a woman, which makes sense as Yves has hinted several times that she is queer. I'm sure she would come out if not for the surprisingly conservative views of most Koreans.ngs heard earlier which mostly had electronic and R&B influences. BIRD is a song about resilience after the end of a relationship. It illustrates the difficult process of choosing yourself and growing alone after a painful experience.



But you're the one who cheated on me behind my back
I love you, baby, but it's late now, I want you dead
I'll go to hell in twenty years and I'll see you there
- See You In Hell



Soft Error

August 7th 2025

DECODING YVES.EXE: THE SOFT ERROR



2. White Cat

White Cat was pre-released on July 24th, of 2025, about a month ahead of the release of 'Soft Error'. It is one of two title track as well as the opening track of the album, and immediately sets the tone. The song has a rich electronic production and a humming baseline that sound lovely when paired with Yves's vocals. It mixes glitchy electronic and dance-pop elements together in a way that always gets me moving.

3. Soap

Soap is the second title track on this album. The song is a collaboration between Yves and British artist, PinkPatheress. The song cleverly samples Rebecca Black's 'Sugar Water Cyanide'. Soap is a fusion of electropop and UK garage. These elements combined with the layered vocals and the rhythmic pop come together to make the collab of the century.

I don't hear you shout, who's gonna need it?
I don't need a prob, but you've been wanting
Crying won't scare me now, I discipline, you keep it
Can't seem to find out, woke up in my freedom
- Soap

4. Aibo

Aibo has a light, alt-rock flavor that isn't really in any other song on this EP. The song features Mexican indie-pop artist Bratty. The bilingual nature of Aibo adds a unique flair to the project.The beat feels very bold, with a brisk pacing. This track is an unapologetic one, with the lyrics reflecting on the autonomy as well as the narrative of self-assertion.



5. Do you feel it like i touch

This song has soft but electronic vocals over a quiet beat. It is quite experimental, with layered synths and a glitchy rhythm. This song tackles the emotions behind wanting physical touch but it being just out of reach. The song explores the uncertainty, tensions, and yearning that come with those emotions in a contemplative manner.

Do you feel it like I touch?
Can you say without a hush?
You've been holding on too much
Is it more than you can tell?
- Do you feel it like i touch

6. Study

Study is another unique song on Soft Error. It is extremely experimental with a pitched voice repeating 'Let me try, try' over and over again for the entirity of the song. The second portion of the song features the lines "Wasn't a breakdown, It just didn't arrive" layered over the original lines.



7. Mom

The closing song for the album is Mom. It is a warm and gentle end to a chaotic EP. Despite the electronic distortions this song is a very human one. Almost an ode to the nurturing presence in her life.

Let me try, try
Let me try, try
Let me try, try
-Study



Soft Error: X

October 15th 2025

1. Ex Machina

Ex Machina is the title track and sole addition to Soft Error's deluxe version 'Soft Error: X'. Notably, Yves helped with the writing and composition of 'Ex Machina'. The song is an exploration of the connection or lack thereof between humans and machines. It describes many feelings. Wanting to start over, wanting to be understood by someone, and wanting someone to understand. I'll admit, I didn't like this song much at first but it is such an earworm, that I was forced to love it.Something about this track is so overwhelmingly emotional to me it is almost haunting.



Do you get me, yeah?
Do you get me from the other side? (Other side)
Do you get me, yeah?
Do you get me from the other side? (Oh, oh)
- Ex Machina

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