



Billie Eilish

Billie Eilish Pirate Baird O'Connell (/ˈaɪlɪʃ/ *EYE-lish*^[1] born December 18, 2001) is an American singer-songwriter and musician. She first gained public attention in 2015 with her debut single "Ocean Eyes", written and produced by her brother Finneas O'Connell, with whom she collaborates on music and live shows. In 2017, she released her debut extended play (EP), *Don't Smile at Me*. Commercially successful, it reached the top 15 of record charts in numerous countries, including the US, UK, Canada, and Australia.

Eilish's debut studio album, *When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?* (2019), debuted atop the US *Billboard* 200 and UK Albums Chart and was one of the year's best-selling albums. Its single "Bad Guy" became the first by an artist born in the 21st century to top the US *Billboard* Hot 100 and be certified Diamond by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA). The next year, Eilish performed the theme song "No Time to Die" for the James Bond film *No Time to Die*, which topped the UK Singles Chart and won the Academy Award for Best Original Song in 2022. Her subsequent singles "Everything I Wanted", "My Future", "Therefore I Am" "Happier Than Ever", and "Your Power", each peaked within the top ten in the US and UK.

Eilish's second studio album, *Happier Than Ever* (2021), topped the charts in 25 countries. She wrote and performed "What Was I Made For?" for the fantasy film *Barbie* (2023), which became her second number-one single in the UK and earned her a second Academy Award. Her third album, *Hit Me Hard and Soft* (2024), was met with critical acclaim and spawned the US top-five singles "Lunch" and "Birds of a Feather", with the latter becoming her first number-one on the *Billboard* Global 200.

Eilish has received many accolades, including two Academy Awards, nine Grammy Awards, nine American Music Awards, twenty Guinness World Records, seven

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Eilish in 2022

Born	<div>Billie Eilish Pirate Baird O'Connell</div> <div>December 18, 2001</div> <div>Los Angeles, California, US</div>
Occupations	<div>Singer-songwriter • musician</div>
Years active	<div>2015–present</div>
Works	<div>Discography • songs recorded</div>
Mother	<div>Maggie Baird</div>
Relatives	<div>Finneas O'Connell (brother)</div> <div>Brian Baird (uncle)</div>
Awards	<div>Full list</div>
	<div>Musical career</div>
Genres	<div>Pop • alternative pop • electropop</div>
Instruments	<div>Vocals • ukulele • guitar • piano</div>
Labels	<div>Darkroom • Interscope</div>
	<div>Billie Eilish's voice</div>

MTV Video Music Awards, four Brit Awards, and two Golden Globe Awards. She is the second artist in Grammy history to win all four general field categories—Record of the Year, Album of the Year, Song of the Year, as well as Best New Artist—in the same year. Eilish is also the first person born in the 21st century to win an Academy Award and the youngest ever two-time winner.^[2] She was featured on *Time* magazine's inaugural *Time* 100 Next list in 2019 and the *Time* 100 in 2021.^[3] According to the RIAA and *Billboard*, Eilish is the 26th-highest-certified digital singles artist^[4] and one of the most successful artists of the 2010s.^[5] She was honored as one of the *BBC 100 Women* in December 2022.^[6] Eilish has a history of political activism, focusing on climate change awareness, women's reproductive rights, and gender equality.

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On the concept behind *Bury a Friend*
Recorded April 2019

Website billieeilish.com (<http://billieeilish.com>)

Signature



Early life

Billie Eilish Pirate Baird O'Connell^{[7][8]} was born in Los Angeles, California, on December 18, 2001.^[9] She is the daughter of actress and teacher Maggie Baird^{[10][11]} and actor Patrick O'Connell,^[12] both of whom are also musicians and work on Eilish's tours.^{[13][14][15]} Eilish is of Irish and Scottish descent.^[16] Her middle name, Eilish, was originally meant to be her first name, while Pirate was to have been her middle name. After her grandfather William Baird died while her mother was pregnant, her parents decided to name her Billie, after him.^[7] She grew up in Los Angeles's Highland Park neighborhood.^{[17][18]}



Eilish with her mother, Maggie Baird, in November 2018

Eilish and her older brother Finneas were homeschooled by Baird, a decision their parents made to spend time with them and give them the freedom to pursue their interests.^{[12][15]} Baird taught Eilish and Finneas the basics of songwriting.^[19] Eilish said her brother and mother inspired her to get into music.^[20] Their parents encouraged the siblings to express themselves and explore whatever they wanted, including art, dancing, and acting.^{[13][19]}

Eilish started playing the ukulele at age six. She performed at talent shows and joined the Los Angeles Children's Chorus at age eight.^{[21][19][22]} She wrote her first "real" song at age 11 for her mother's songwriting class. The song is about the zombie apocalypse, inspired by the television series *The Walking Dead*, from which she took script lines and episode titles.^{[23][20]} Eilish took some acting auditions, which she disliked, but she enjoyed recording background dialogue for crowd scenes and worked on the films *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, *Ramona and Beezus*, and the *X-Men* series.^[19] Eilish also took dance classes until 2016, when a growth plate injury ended her dance career and she focused on recording music.^{[24][25][21]}

Career

2015–2017: *Don't Smile at Me*

In 2015, 13-year-old Eilish began working on songs with her brother Finneas, who had been writing and producing for several years and had his own band.^{[25][21][14]} The first songs they recorded together were called "She's Broken" and "Fingers Crossed", the former written by Finneas and the latter by Eilish. "We recorded them and put them out on SoundCloud, just for fun", she recalled.^[26]

On November 18, 2015, Eilish released the song "Ocean Eyes". The track was written, mixed, and produced by Finneas, who had originally created it for his band the Slightly's before deciding it would be a better fit for Eilish's vocals.^{[14][27][21][25]} He gave it to Eilish when Fred Diaz, her dance teacher at the Revolution Dance Center, asked them to write a song for choreography. The siblings uploaded the song to SoundCloud, where Diaz could access and download it.^{[25][21][28][29]} The song received several hundred thousand listens in two weeks, and Finneas's manager, Danny Rukasin, reached out to him to discuss Eilish's potential. Rukasin felt she could achieve significant success with Finneas's help.^[34]

In January 2016, Finneas and his manager arranged a deal in which Apple Music signed Eilish to A&R company Platoon, specializing in packaging emerging artists before they get a major-label contract.^{[32][13][31]} Eilish then got a publicist, who connected her to the luxury fashion brand Chanel, and a stylist, both of whom helped shape her image.^[13] On March 24, 2016, a music video for "Ocean Eyes" directed by Megan Thompson premiered on Eilish's official YouTube channel.^[35] "Ocean Eyes" and Eilish received praise and promotion from various media outlets and marketers, including radio stations and music supervisors such as Beats 1, KCRW, BBC Radio 1, Zane Lowe, Jason Kramer, Annie Mac, and Chris Douridas.^[39]

On June 23, 2016, Eilish and Finneas released "Six Feet Under" on SoundCloud as her second single.^[40] A homemade music video for the song was released on June 30, 2016.^[41] It was directed by Eilish and edited by her mother, Maggie Baird.^[41]

In August 2016, Justin Lubliner, who had noticed Eilish's talent in 2015 when he first heard "Ocean Eyes", signed her to Darkroom and Interscope Records.^{[30][42]} He developed her rollout as an artist, taking inspiration from the model of hip hop artists such as Travis Scott and Chance the Rapper, not relying on one big single and focusing on creating a "persona and distinct aesthetic".^[24] Darkroom and Interscope Records re-released "Six Feet Under" and "Ocean Eyes" as singles for digital download and streaming on November 17 and 18, 2016, respectively.^{[43][44]} On November 22, 2016, a dance performance music video for "Ocean Eyes" was uploaded to Eilish's YouTube channel.^[45]

On January 14, 2017, Eilish released an EP with four remixes by Astronoomy, Blackbear, Goldhouse, and Cautious Clay for "Ocean Eyes",^[46] and another EP for "Six Feet Under" featuring remixes by Blu J, Gazzo, Jerry Folk, and Aire Atlantica.^[47] After the success of the "Ocean Eyes" remixes, Eilish released "Bellyache" on February 24, 2017.^[48] A video for the song was released on March 22, 2017, directed by Miles and AJ.^[49] Eilish released "Bored" on March 30, 2017, as part of the soundtrack to the Netflix series 13 Reasons Why.^[50] A video for "Bored" was released on June 26, 2017.^[51] In March of the same year, Apple Music showcased Eilish at the South by Southwest music



Eilish performing in August 2017

festival.^{[32][36]} On June 30, 2017, Eilish released "Watch".^[52] Eilish released another single, "Copycat", on July 14, 2017,^[53] and announced the release of her debut EP, *Don't Smile at Me*.^[54] Eilish later released "Idontwannabeyouanymore" and "My Boy".^{[55][56]} On August 11, 2017, Eilish released *Don't Smile at Me*.^[57] The EP was a sleeper hit, reaching number 14 on the US *Billboard* 200.^[58] Eilish embarked on the Don't Smile at Me Tour throughout October 2017 in support of her EP.^[59] Eilish released "Bitches Broken Hearts" through SoundCloud on November 10, 2017.^{[60][61][62][63]}

Eilish's team worked with Spotify, which promoted her on its most popular playlist, "Today's Top Hits".^[13] *The Baffler* described Eilish's sound as fitting into the "streambait" genre consisting of largely "mid-tempo, melancholy pop" influenced by Lana Del Rey, whose "singing style, bleakness, and... hip-hop influenced production"

shaped the aesthetic.^{[64][13]} Eilish's commercial success expanded with her Spotify promotion.^[13] In September 2017, Apple Music named Eilish their Up Next artist, which followed with a short documentary, a live session EP, and an interview with Zane Lowe on Apple Music's radio station Beats 1.^[65] That month, the live EP, *Up Next Session: Billie Eilish*, was released. On December 15, 2017, Eilish released her collaboration with American rapper Vince Staples, "&Burn", a remix of her single "Watch". It was included on the expanded edition of *Don't Smile at Me*.^{[66][67][68][69]}

2018–2020: *When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?*

In February 2018, Eilish embarked on her second headlining concert tour, the Where's My Mind Tour, which concluded in April 2018.^[70] "Bitches Broken Hearts" was re-released worldwide on March 30, 2018.^[71] For Record Store Day 2018, Eilish released "Party Favor" on a pink 7-inch vinyl, along with a cover of "Hotline Bling", by Drake, as the B-side.^[72] Eilish collaborated with American singer Khalid on the single "Lovely", which was released on April 19, 2018, and added to the soundtrack for the second season of *13 Reasons Why*.^[73] She released "You Should See Me in a Crown" in July 2018.^[74] The same month, Eilish performed at the Mo Pop Festival.^[75]

On the day of release for her single "When the Party's Over",^[76] Eilish was featured in *Vanity Fair*'s "73 Questions" rapid-fire questionnaire video series by Joe Sabia, who revisited an interview from October 2017. The resulting video was a side-by-side time capsule of both interviews showing her growth in popularity over one year.^[77] She signed a talent contract with Next Management for fashion and beauty endorsements in October 2018.^{[78][79]} She was placed on the 2018 Forbes 30 Under 30 list in November of that year,^{[80][81]} and released the single "Come Out and Play" in November 2018, which was written for a holiday-themed Apple Inc. commercial.^[82] In early January 2019, *Don't Smile at Me* reached 1 billion streams on Spotify, making her the youngest artist to top 1 billion streams on a project.^[13] That month, Eilish released "Bury a Friend" as the third single from her debut album *When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?*,^{[83][84]} along with "When I Was Older", a single inspired by the 2018 film *Roma*, which appeared on the compilation album *Music Inspired by the Film Roma*.^{[85][86]} In February, Eilish partnered with YouTube on a documentary miniseries, "A Snippet Into Billie's Mind".^{[32][87]} "Wish You Were Gay", her fourth single from the album, was released on March 4, 2019.^[88]

When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go? was released on March 29, 2019.^[89] Spotify launched a "multi-level campaign behind the album", creating a multimedia playlist and "new product features" that Spotify said "allow for vertical video content, custom assets, and editorial storylines, all with the goal of creating more meaningful and engaging context for [Eilish's] fans."^[32] In Los Angeles, Spotify set up a "pop-up enhanced album experience", which included different artwork and a "multi-sensory" experience of each track for fans.^[32] The album debuted atop the *Billboard* 200 as well as on the *UK Albums Chart*, making Eilish the first artist born in the 2000s to have a number-one album in the U.S. and the youngest female ever to have a number-one album in the United Kingdom.^{[18][90]} Upon the album's debut, Eilish broke the record for most simultaneously charting Hot 100 songs by a female artist, with 14, after every song from the album, excluding "Goodbye", charted on the Hot 100.^[91] The fifth single from the album, "Bad Guy", was released in conjunction with the album.^[92] A remix of the song featuring Justin Bieber was released in July 2019.^{[93][94]} In August, Bad Guy peaked at number-one in the US, ending Lil Nas X's record-breaking 19 weeks at number-one with "Old Town Road".^[95] She is the first artist born in the 2000s and the youngest artist since Lorde (with "Royals") to have a number-one single.^[96]



Eilish at Pukkelpop Festival in 2019

Eilish began her When We All Fall Asleep Tour at Coachella Festival in April 2019,^[97] with the tour concluding on November 17, 2019, in Mexico City. In August 2019, she partnered with Apple Music for Music Lab: Remix Billie Eilish, part of Apple Stores' Music Lab sessions during which fans deconstruct her song "You Should See Me In A Crown" and learn how to create their own remix on Apple devices and GarageBand.^{[98][99]} On September 27, 2019, Eilish announced her Where Do We Go? World Tour.^[100] The tour began in Miami on March 9, 2020, and ran for two more shows on March 10 in Orlando and March 12 in Raleigh before Eilish ended the tour prematurely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The tour was set to conclude in Jakarta on September 7.^[101]



Eilish in 2020 with her brother and collaborator Finneas O'Connell

On November 7, 2019, Jack White's Third Man Records announced that the label would release an acoustic live album of Eilish's performance from the record label's Blue Room, exclusively sold on vinyl at Third Man retail locations in Nashville, Tennessee, and Detroit, Michigan.^[102] On November 13, 2019, she released her next single, "Everything I Wanted".^[103] On November 20, 2019, Eilish was nominated for six Grammy Awards, including Record of the Year and Song of the Year for "Bad Guy" as well as Album of the Year and Best New Artist. At age 17, she became the youngest artist to be nominated in all four General Field categories.^[104] In the same month, Eilish was crowned 2019's Billboard Woman of the Year.^[105]