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Standing on the precipice of adulthood, Brynn Cartelli chronicles growing up in real-time on her aptly titled full-length debut album, *OUT OF THE BLUE* [Elektra]. The 20-year-old Massachusetts-born and New York-based singer, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist vividly depicts the complexities of relationships, leaving home, and finding purpose. The music can be so intimate it feels like she’s whispering to you, only until her showstopping vocals kick in and stir your senses into overdrive. Brynn makes the kind of pop music you can practically see unfold in front of you—in hues of blue.

Blue embodies a myriad of meanings and emotions, running the gamut from sadness, sympathy, and sensitivity to inspiration, intuition, and imagination. We also typically associate it with either the sky or the sea, suggesting endless possibility. “In terms of the creative process, *OUT OF THE BLUE* is such a spiritual phrase,” she notes. “I don’t understand where songs come from. They just happen. However, there are so many versatile meanings to the color blue. When something is in the distance, it’s far off in the blue of the ocean or the skies. Blue is sadness, but it’s also spirituality and hope. This is my first album, and it’s my baby blue.”

Hailing from Western Massachusetts, Brynn went from playing open mics and coffeehouses to making history as *“the youngest champion ever on NBC’s The Voice*.*”* Upon winning Season 14, she dove headfirst into writing and recording music of her own *(in between attending high school)*. She gained traction with “Last Night’s Mascara” and toured with Kelly Clarkson and Maroon 5. Emerging as a powerhouse, she earned a nomination at the *People’s Choice Awards* and performed on television staples such as NBC’s *TODAY*, *The Kelly Clarkson Show*, and the world-famous *Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade*. Her debut EP, *Based On A True Story*, arrived to widespread acclaim in 2021. *American Songwriter* hailed it as a *“marvelous debut*,*”* and *UNCLEAR* christened it *“a perfect collection of songs for your story arc*.*” Sweety High* raved, *“The collection of six raw, personal and stunning songs shows Brynn and her talents at their very best*.*”*

Meanwhile, she carefully pieced together *OUT OF THE BLUE*. Crucial life events bookended its creation as she started the process during high school and finished by the time she settled in to her life in New York, where she’s now attending college. Along the way, she experienced a flurry of emotions.

“I wanted to make a record about the beautiful feeling of growing up and moving on for yourself,” she says. “Sonically, it’s a New York East Coast pop album. From the beginning, I drew on the inspiration of the looming move. I love where I’m from, but I didn’t think it was my world anymore. Some friendships and relationships were safety blankets for me, so I finally let go.”

She initially teased the album with fan favorites such as “Gemini,” “Girl Code,” “Convertible in the Rain,” and “Secondhand Smoke.” *People* applauded the latter as *“empowering*,*”* while “Lucky To Love You” figured prominently in NETFLIX’s *Love Is Blind*.Opening up her world, the single “Boy From Home” hinges on her softly fingerpicked guitar as piano chimes in the background. At the climax of the chorus, she laments, *“Here I am finally miles away from a life I used to know. I wish that I didn’t have tears down my face, crying about a boy from home*.*”*

“The lyrics detail exactly what happened,” she admits. “I got a text from a boy back home just as I was getting ready to meet with my new friends in NY. I was so upset from seeing the text that I canceled everything and shut myself in my room. It was so dramatic,” she laughs. “Writing this record, I realized what I was running from and broached deeper topics with the complicated situations I was dealing with. It’s very true to what I was going through, and even when I think I’ve grown past some of the feelings, the songs still find ways to be relevant in my life.”

A glimmering piano melody sets the tone for “Play With Fire.” Anchored by thick rock-inspired production, her robust delivery echoes on the refrain, *“So it’s not my fault you wanted to play with fire*.*”*

“I was taking the blame for certain things in my life,” she goes on. “I over-rationalize my feelings to the point of saying, *‘Oh, I think it’s me who caused all of this’*. I can be so destructive without noticing. I was thinking of someone I was in a relationship with being with someone else, and I wasn’t liking it. It’s a sassy song, and I wanted it to sound big.”

*OUT OF THE BLUE* culminates with the tearful finale “Leader.” Her vocals crack with raw emotion over stark piano. She holds nothing back, *“But I’m honored you think I’m stronger than I am. You paint me as your leader even when it’s washed away, even when I say I need ya, when I say I’m not okay*.*”*

“I was at a really low point,” she sighs. “I think your creative brain knows the truth quicker than you do. Whenever I locate the breaking point of this one situation, I go to *‘Leader’*. I needed to say what I did, but it wasn’t planned.”

Ultimately, Brynn might just be the voice you need to hear. “When I make music, I want to inspire the girl living in Massachusetts, Vermont, West Virginia, and all of these little places where they think they won’t be able to do the things they want, because of where they are,” she leaves off. “I want to be someone people look up to like, *‘If she can do it, I can’*. I’ve grown so much since writing these songs. I’m more comfortable, and it’s magical to feel like myself. All I want to do is make more music and create my world.”

**BOILER**

Brynn Cartelli’s music can be so intimate it feels like she’s whispering to you, only until her showstopping vocals kick in and stir all of your senses into overdrive. The 20-year-old Massachusetts-born and New York-based singer, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist went from playing open mics and coffeehouses to making history as *“the youngest champion ever on NBC’s The Voice*.*”* Upon winning Season 14, she dove headfirst into writing and recording music of her own *(in between attending high school)*. She gained traction with “Last Night’s Mascara” and toured with Kelly Clarkson and Maroon 5. Emerging as a powerhouse, she earned a nomination at the *People’s Choice Awards* and performed on television staples such as NBC’s *TODAY*, *The Kelly Clarkson Show*, and the world-famous *Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade*. Her debut EP, *Based On A True Story*, arrived to widespread acclaim in 2021. *American Songwriter* hailed it as a *“marvelous debut*,*”* and *UNCLEAR* christened it *“a perfect collection of songs for your story arc*.*” Sweety High* raved, *“The collection of six raw, personal and stunning songs shows Brynn and her talents at their very best*.*”* Standing on the precipice of adulthood, she chronicles growing up in real-time on her aptly titled full-length debut album, *OUT OF THE BLUE* [Elektra]. She vividly depicts the complexities of relationships, leaving home, and finding purpose. Brynn makes the kind of pop music you can practically see unfold in front of you—in hues of blue.