Questions sent: Sunday, 1 November 2026

Questions for Siobhan Cotchin

Congratulations on the release of your new single! How does it feel to have out now that it's out?

Thank you so much! It feels incredible to have this song in the world. I've worked extremely hard to create this next chapter and this is the first step into this era. A lot of time, love and joy went into creating this track and I feel very grateful for the whole team that brought it together with me.

Have you had a chance to look back upon the song and appreciate all the hard work you put into it?

I feel like I've been so focused on actually getting the song out and doing the content and PR side of things that I haven't had a whole lot of time to look back and appreciate the journey. Thinking about it now though, it was such a joy to create and feels the most authentic I've ever been. I really honoured myself and what I truly wanted with this track and all the music to come. I'm really proud of myself for staying true to me.

Did you learn anything new about yourself during the process of producing the song?

I've learnt that trying to be anything but yourself never works for long. When we were in the studio recording 'Top Shelf', I really wanted to honour my vision and gut feelings and I feel like we achieved that. The last record ('Redemption Arc') and this new era have been the most authentic because I let myself just create for the sake of it rather than worrying about what everyone else would think.

How much of yourself has changed in the lead-up to the song and how did your personal experience influence the depth of the lyrics in it?

I think I have grown a lot from writing this song to now releasing it, particularly in my approach to dating. To be honest I've given up because I've realised I'm happiest when I'm protecting my peace from people who don't match my energy. I've been focusing on my friendships and doing things that fill my cup rather than looking for validation in people that don't actually know me. I'm my best, most 'Top Shelf' self when I listen to my gut and pour my energy into things that fulfil me.

Tell me about 'Top Shelf', what is the song about and what did you want to say with this song?

'Top Shelf' is about a moment of clarity I had after one too many failed dates and far too long spent on people who didn't fill my cup (some of them barely managed a splash). I realised that I deserve so much better and am worth a whole lot more than settling for whoever happens to be in front of me. Like the name suggests: I'm top shelf. The good stuff. The bottle you have to ask the bartender to get the little ladder for. Of course, realising your worth is easier said than done, you can't just decide it once and be cured, unfortunately. Believe me, I've tried. I'm still on that journey, but this song feels like a step in the right direction. It's become my personal mantra for surviving modern dating, and honestly, I hope it becomes everyone's as well when braving the dating world. Let's face it, being sure of yourself and knowing exactly who you are is hot. If people are intimidated by that, they're not for you, put them back on the bottom shelf where you found them and keep browsing.

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Does the song still represent what you wanted to say at the start of the creative process?

100%. The process of writing the song with Francesca De Valence was so easy; she really understood my vision and the story I wanted to tell. She also really encouraged me to write with humour, something I hadn't really explored in my writing previously. I'm such an unserious person so I feel like I'm showing my listeners a side of me that they only see when I spam post memes on my story or in person.

What was your creative process like for your song and was it any different to how you worked on previous material?

My process for co-writes usually goes as follows; I overshare to my fellow writer about my horrible love life until we find something worth ruminating on. This method proved itself to be successful with 'Top Shelf', Francesca and I approached the lyrics as a conversation you would have with your friends after a terrible first date. It came together pretty effortlessly; we had a strong concept and knew exactly what we needed to say.

Was there any material left off your song that you wanted to include but didn't for any reasons (lyrically, sonically, or story wise)?

There was an extra verse that we ended up scrapping, for no other reason than because the lyrics didn't add anything new to the story, I was kind of just saying the same thing as I was in the other verses.

What message do you hope to convey to your audience through the release of your new song?

I hope it encourages people to not settle for less and move through the world (particularly the dating realm) with the confidence that they are 'Top Shelf'.

Other question

What do you have coming up next?

The band and I are playing at Mojos December 12th to celebrate all things 'Top Shelf', with special guests Abbe May, The Forever Party, plus a DJ set from Dolce Diva! It's going to be a hoot. After the launch, I'll be going straight into planning the next release….