

SINGLE REVIEWS | Issue 1

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No Cash Refunds [I Need You](#)

When the time comes that the face of popular punk, Johnny Lydon once Johnny Rotten the face of the Sex Pistols, is advertising British butter then you know it's time for the music press to stop comparing the value of a new musical genre and scene to the impact that punk has on culture. It's OK to be accomplished, and want to make it big. Although Blur and Oasis will never be forgiven, Nirvana is never forgotten. But don't panic, No Cash Refunds is more spine-chilling than nice, fuelled by a trip-hop backbone and a groove; I Need You is the bare truth, with studio harmonies that croon "*You're So Needy*" the voice of London singer and songwriter billie-angela. In the case of the latest track All Your Dreams, with lyrics and an ironic and observational rap, we hope there will be no comment until we can ask them ourselves. (NR)

No Cash Refunds - [bubblegum gf](#)

Charlie Newton by day, daydream pop wizard No Cash Refunds by night, if you are a fan of Arlo Parks or Easy Life (or just a human being), bubblegum gf is bound to make you bob your head whether you like it or not.

Like the single, I Need You, Grimsby's finest No Cash Refunds bubblegum gf is stuffed with a lo-fi indie-pop swagger. With its catchy chorus and stylistically janky chords, it's clear to see the Easy Life inspirations in this track. However, what they put down, No Cash Refunds runs with, creating a daydream-esque bedroom pop gem that will keep you moving and grooving throughout its two-minute and 57-second duration. Charlie's effortless vocal delivery steals the show as he changes smoothly and cleanly between rapping and singing throughout; showcasing his strong vocal technique and confidence in his ability and stylistic choices.

I think No Cash Refunds sums up my thoughts about this track with the line *"I just can't pretend that I do not like you my bubblegum girlfriend"*. While this track isn't something I would usually gravitate towards, I just cannot turn it off, which is perhaps the best compliment I can give. With unnamed singles waiting in the wings, I would implore you to give it a listen. If he keeps producing tracks like this, No Cash Refunds is definitely in for an easy life. (HH)

Let's hear your thoughts:

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Spirit Oil - [Veins](#)

Spirit Oil's debut single release *Veins* is the song I didn't know I needed on my playlist this Autumn. Released on 1st September, this single shows that ACM Guildford's SpiritOil is here to rock your socks off, so be there or be square!

Veins is a slick yet emotive alternative rock banger which simultaneously conveys the promiscuous attitude of The Darkness alongside all of the unapologetic swagger of the White Stripes and Royal Blood with its bawdy, riffy choruses and driving, drum and vocal-led verses. Singer Cameron Day's voice harks back to British indie hit factories such as Alex Turner and his ferocious bass playing is underpinned tremendously by drummer (bless him) James Starkey. All of this dark deliciousness is topped off by jagged and awkward guitar lines, which juxtapose the smooth and controlled bassline and drum beat but could not be more effective in filling the higher frequencies in this song.

I implore you to go and see this hard-hitting alt-rock duo. If opportunity is a revolving door, SpiritOil has blown the door off its proverbial hinges with *Veins*. They certainly make quite a lot of noise for half of a band. (HH)

