

LILY WILLIAMS BIO

Lily Williams is a singer-songwriter, composer, and multi-instrumentalist based in sun soaked Southern California. Her vivid lyricism and transportive melodies tell stories of young love, heartbreak, a fear of the unknown, grief, loss, and a journey to find peace. Raised in London, she grew up playing classical piano and clarinet inspired by her mother. Inspired by her father, she became hooked on the songwriting of **The Beach Boys**, **John Denver**, **Billy Joel**, and **Carol King**. This classical style of songwriting combined with both orchestral and jazz influences merge together to create her own dreamy and whimsical soundscapes that blanket listeners in a uniquely cozy, immersive experience. There's a warm, nostalgic feeling to the songs that reflect Lily's personality, as she says of herself, "I'm the type of person that starts missing something before it's even ended." All of these elements come together cohesively in an intimate yet relatable story on her 2023 debut project, ***How The Story Ends***, out via Atlantic Records.

The first time Lily visited California was on a family road-trip down the West Coast. "My siblings and I were allowed to choose one CD for the month-long vacation," she explains, "and my parents chose the other two." Lily chose a copy of **Taylor Swift's Red**, while her parents opted for a **John Denver** CD and **The Beach Boys' Greatest Hits**. "These three albums ended up being truly formative for me and I still know all the words to this day," she smiles. Lily planned to attend college in England and major in classical piano. However, after stumbling upon the Berklee College of Music website, she wound up in Boston. Here, she honed her talents, creating long-lasting friendships with producers and writers that she still works with today.

Stuck in London during the pandemic, Lily began writing her debut project ***How The Story Ends***. It's one story told through ten songs over the course of two years! After posting some of her unreleased demos online during 2021, Lily swiftly attracted a growing audience of loyal listeners. "I Hope You Think Of Me" sparked attention on TikTok and became the first single for the project. On its heels, "July (Later On)" inspired 150K-plus unique "Reels" on Instagram over the summer of 2022, amassing over 3 million Spotify streams. Tallying over 10 million streams independently, her authentic and unique style has endeared a growing fanbase. She landed a deal with Atlantic and continued to write and record, developing a distinct signature style and assembling ***How The Story Ends*** in the process.

"The chords are often jazz-influenced from my time at Berklee," she notes. "The genre is definitely singer- songwriter, but there's a classical undercurrent because of the way that I play the piano. My love for classical music seeps into my melodies and chord choices."

This vision emerges in the title track "How The Story Ends." The orchestration could've been pulled from the score to some long-lost Golden Age romance as her voice flutters in and out of focus with an admission, "*I don't regret how the story ends.*"

"Subconsciously, it sums up the whole project," she reveals. "The thing that I love about the title track is that it tells the story of the whole 10-song project within its three verses. The first verse talks about having a crush and falling in love with your best friend, the second verse then talks about being madly in love and not wanting it to end, and the final verse talks about that love falling apart. In this way, the story arc of each song on the project follows the story arc of the title track!"

"I like the idea that the listener gets to choose how the story ends" she leaves off. "Though the project ends in heartbreak, I love the way the last two songs reflect a glimmer of hope. The last

song, especially, provides the hope that even when everything falls apart there is always a little good left to find. I would love for the audience to take away that feeling of hope from the project. It's a reminder everything will be okay."

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