



Post Malone

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evil

matter the topic, there's someone with something to share or add to the chat.

You could call it 'discovery'. And what is discovery if not education with a rebrand? Audiences are desperate to learn about almost anything. And while this may not be a new phenomena, it's how they want to be learning that you should take note of. It's not learning as a solution, or means to an end. But as its own joy and entertainment.



But these days the straight A student and the class down look <u>eerly</u> similar.

OK COOL Trend Report 001 Class Is In Session

As any RuPaul fan knows, reading is fundamental. And the internet has given us an infinite amount of required reading. Our worlds are now intertextual and ever-evolving, and the online spaces we occupy are constantly conversing with one another. From TikTok to Substack, the platforms have become our personal tutors. It's here that we're discovering and grappling with the world around us.

But if TikTok is our new search, how has that changed the way people want to have this thirst for information actually communicated to them? It's the TikTok-ification of our education; it's engaging and conversational and makes the exploration of ideas inviting in completely new ways.



learn about literally anything...



Search

- HUNTERLODGE

THE STATS:

THE PEOPLE HAVE SPOKEN.

Each year, we undertake our own major assignment, conducting research interviews and surveys from both our OK COOL community (the coolest kids on the internet themselves) and all of you out there in the world.

Speaking with our global network of *Gen Alpha, Gen Z and Millennial audiences*, we examined the relationship between you, social media and URL spaces, *what it all means in 2024*.

STEP INTO THE LIVING ENCYCLOPEDIA: HOW SEARCH IS BECOMING SOCIAL

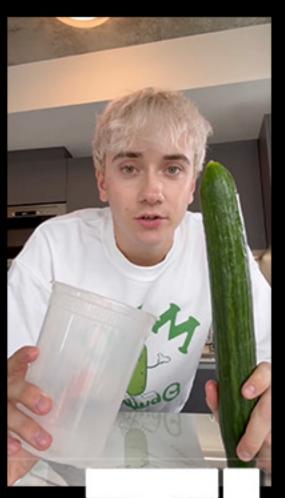
OF GEN Z SAID WHEN "GOOGLING" THEY ARE ACTUALLY SEARCHING ON TIKTOK.

72%

OF YOU SAID THAT TIKTOK HAS INFLUENCED YOU TO LEARN STUFF; cook; listen to new music; try new hobbies; travel; not give a f*ck.

79%

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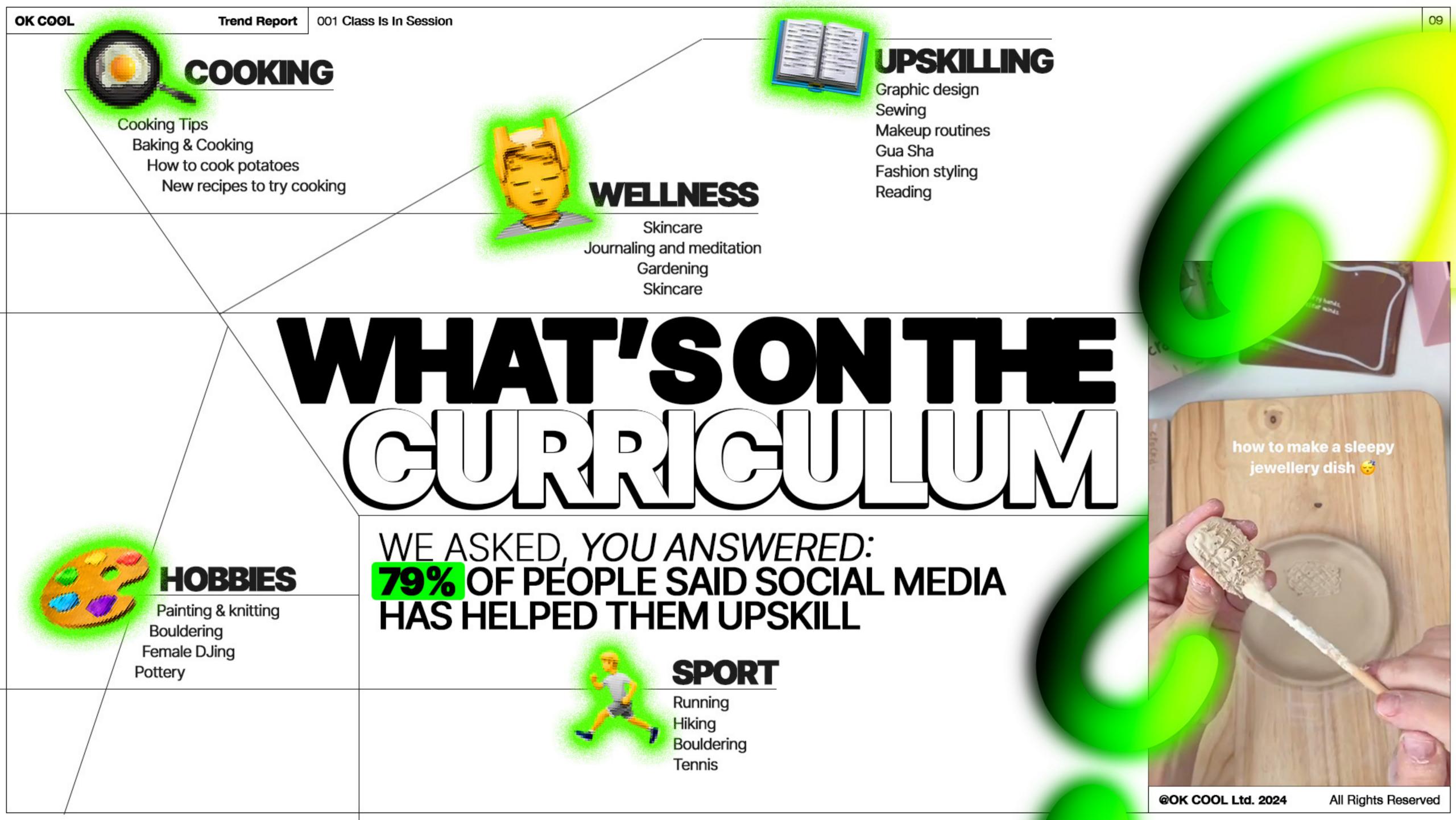
THE INTERNET IS YOUR CHAOTIC ENCYCLOPEDIA

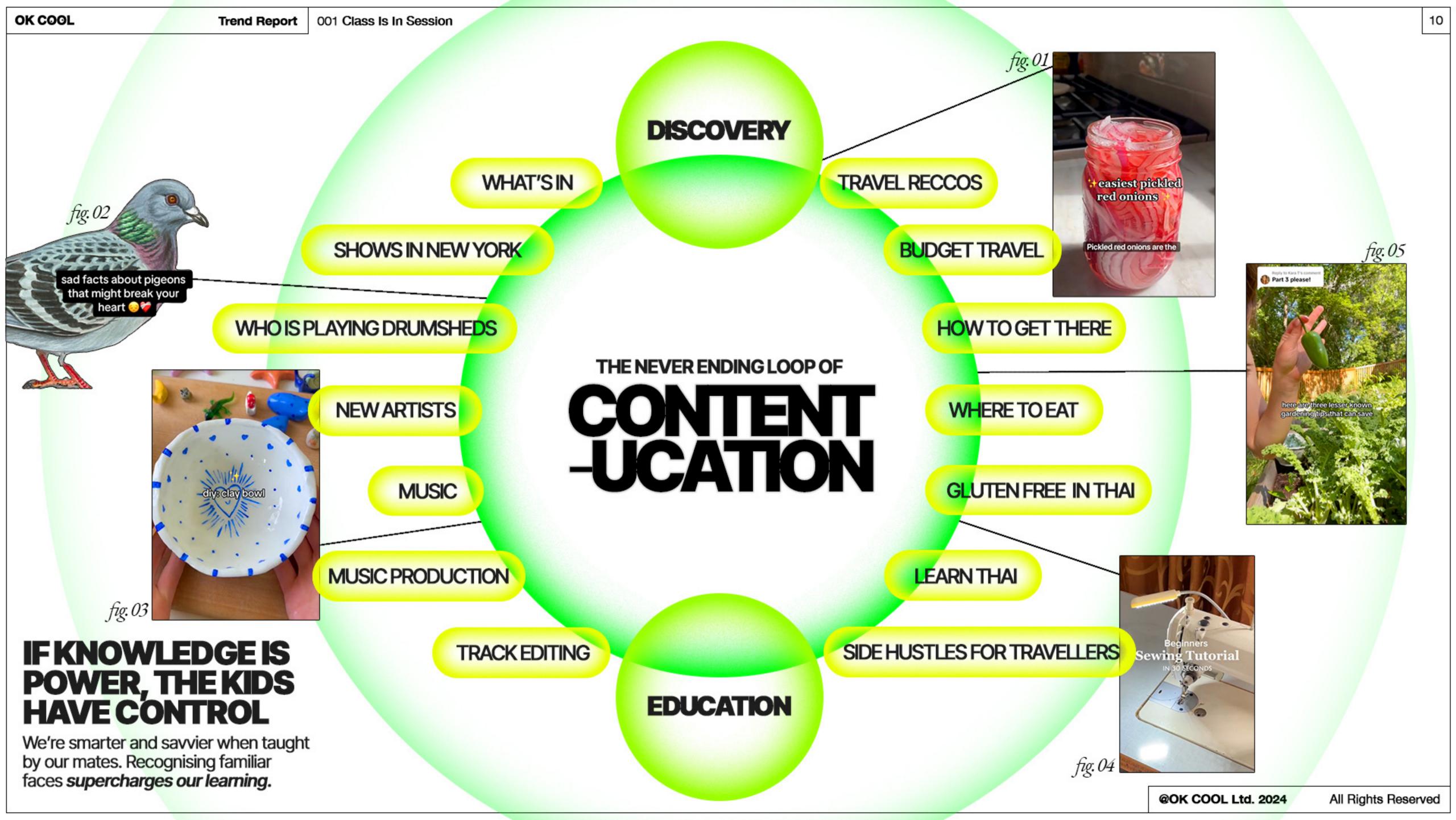
AND THE CONTENT IS GIVING TUTOR

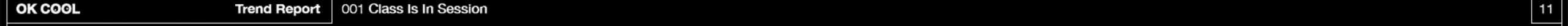








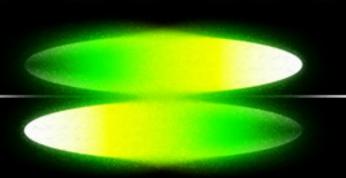




And The Perfect Formula?

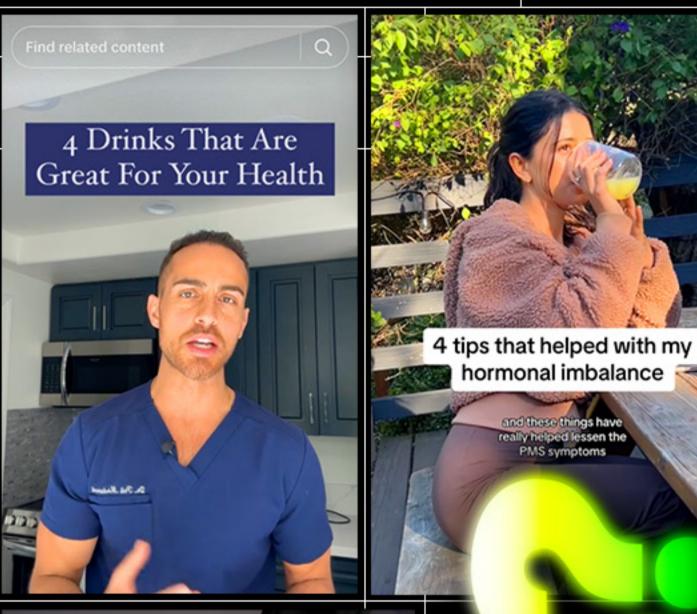
(CHAOTIC)

(DISCOVERY &)



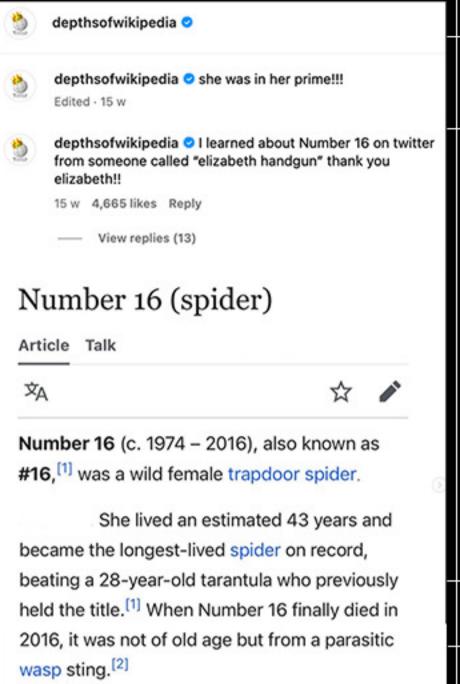
A WORMHOLE OF CONTENT AND EXPERTS ON THE MOST HYPERNICHE TOPICS

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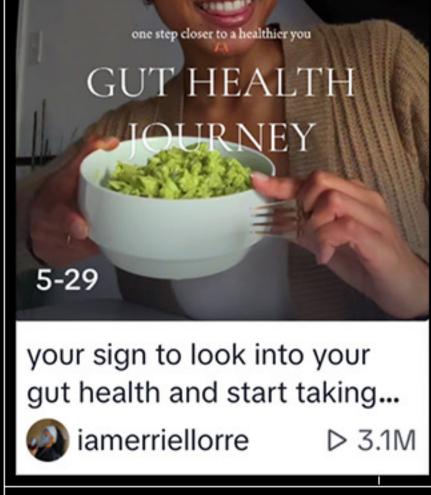
"I'm very into health, but TikTok shows me exactly what I need to be doing, like, internally, like detoxing, just everything to get my mind and body right."

"Getting deeper into fashion.
Learning more about the history,
learning more about the shows,
learning more about the culture
that surrounds it. Like the
problematic people, the good
people, the new designers and
stuff like that."





I fust think it's brilliant



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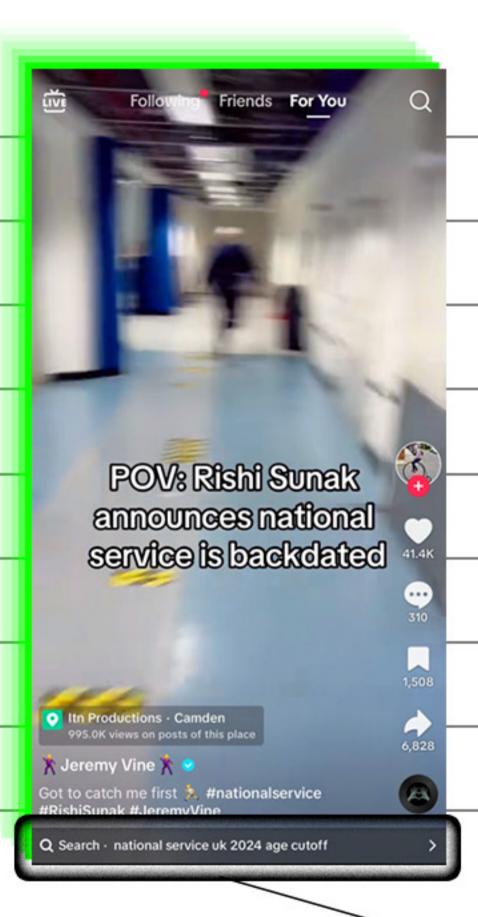
001 Class Is In Session

< Q rishi sunak 18yr old army Search

Step One

Content is introduced to your FYP





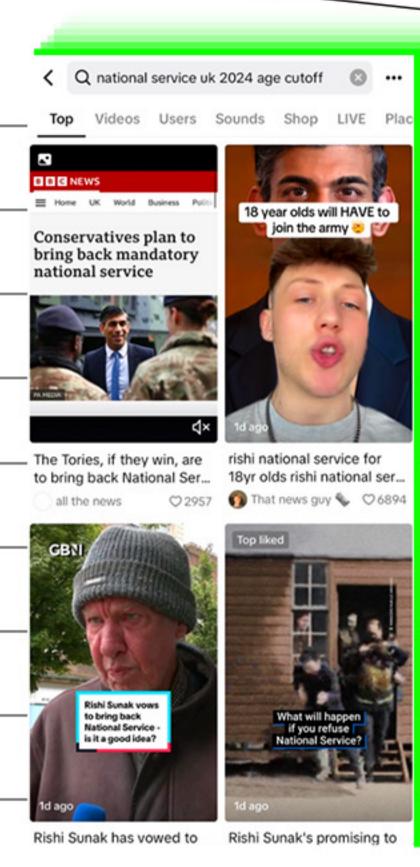
Step Two

Suggested search

bar **introduces you**

to content only on

that topic/question





Step Three

Wormhole of information begins with suggested search bars/content expands

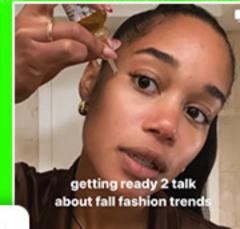
Search • national service uk 2024 age cutoff >

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let me break it down

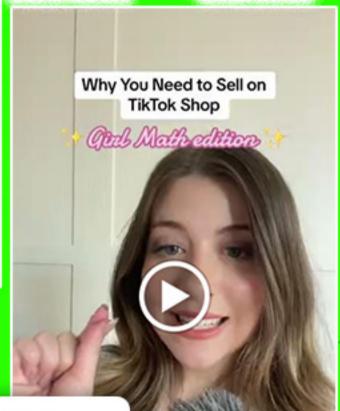
> Essential learning about how waves work



@databutmakeitfashion sharing HOT trending fashion data in numbers through IG



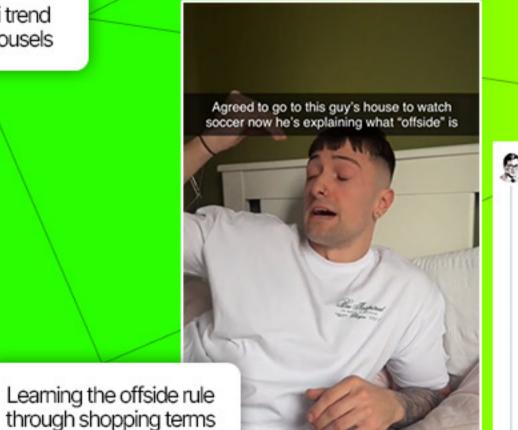
the popularity of lab grown diamonds is decreasing based on a sentiment analysis I ran on over 1,000 online posts referencing "lab prises" or "synthetic" diamonds



TikTok Shop teaching us how to TikTok Shop

CULTED's mini trend report insta carousels

Proof **New York** has the coldest street style



Educational X content and update on menswear

derek guy 📀 @dieworkwear - 11h The first and most obvs is the adoption of a mesh shirt. These will make you look like a delicious Asian pear.

ılı 443K

The internet opened up a world of information.

But only now are users reshaping what that actually looks like. Content is the anti-elitist entry to a world of information and discovery. We're upskilling intellect and realising it's fun AF.

Not RuPaul teaching us how to parallel park?

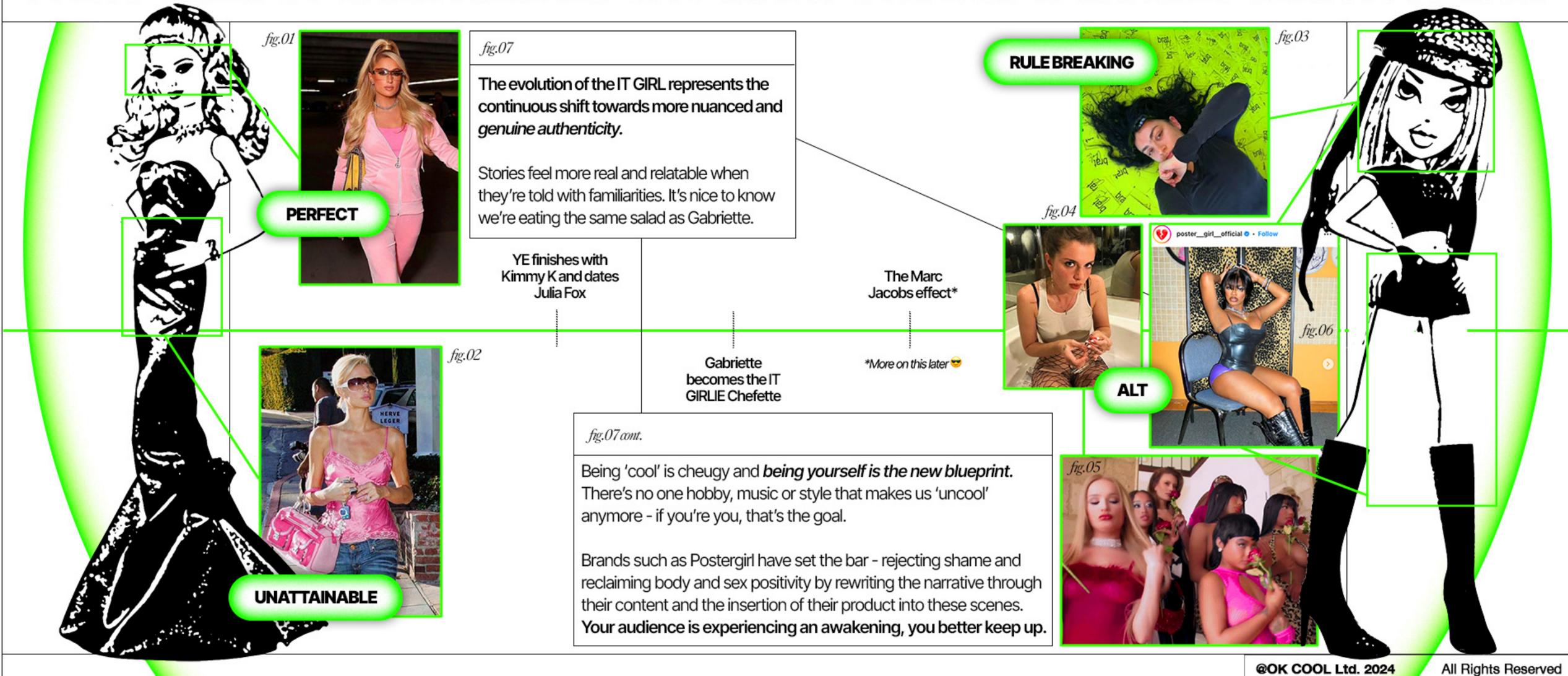
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001 Class Is In Session

The people are reclaiming the power, rewriting the narrative and bypassing the structures and ideals that have reduced or excluded them until now.



THE IT GIRLS OF THE INTERNET SAY WHAT ONCE WAS SHAMEFUL IS NOW CHIC



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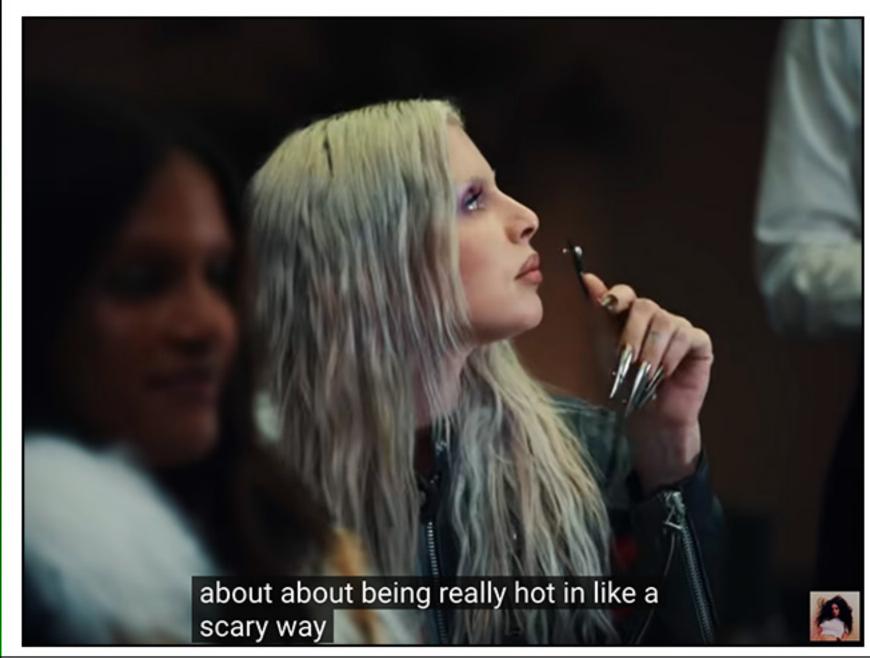
001 Class Is In Session

And now the IT GIRL anthem doesn't come without a philosophical exploration of womanhood in the modern age.

Without a point of view, your art (and content) is kind of nothing. The internet literate understand that the culture today contains multitudes, our discovery is self-referential, and we're as interested in exploring complex ideas as we are gaming.

internets It Girls aren't participating in a meta discussion for 5 minutes at the start?



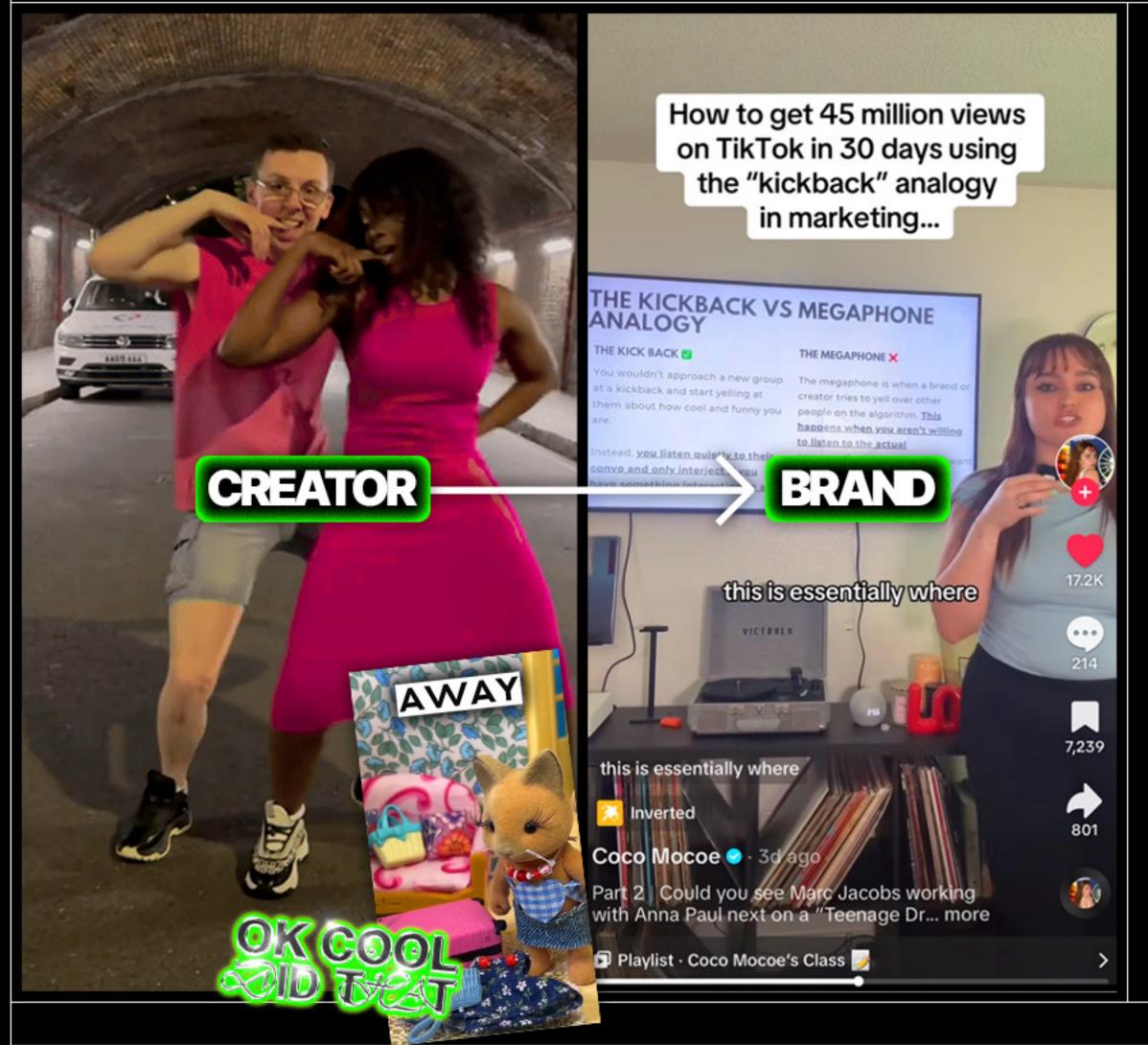




OK COOL Trend Report 001 Class Is In Session

FUCKWITH THE SYSTEM

Don't interrupt just to repeat what's been said. Add something new to the conversation.



Brands should be creating a content personality that does something. The best brands boldly establish themselves through their tone and codes. But when you can't, let the right cast of voices do it for you. The trick is choosing smartly, and this might not be who you expect.

Traditionally, brands would engage with creators that represented their story. The narrative was linear and in favour of the brand. Now, brands are partnering with the TikTok natives, letting them take the reins, allowing the product to fit into their content and lifestyle in a way that works for them and *feels authentic*.

Brands should create social-first content ONLY when their input is authentic, allowing the audience to come to the brand through content that makes sense to them:

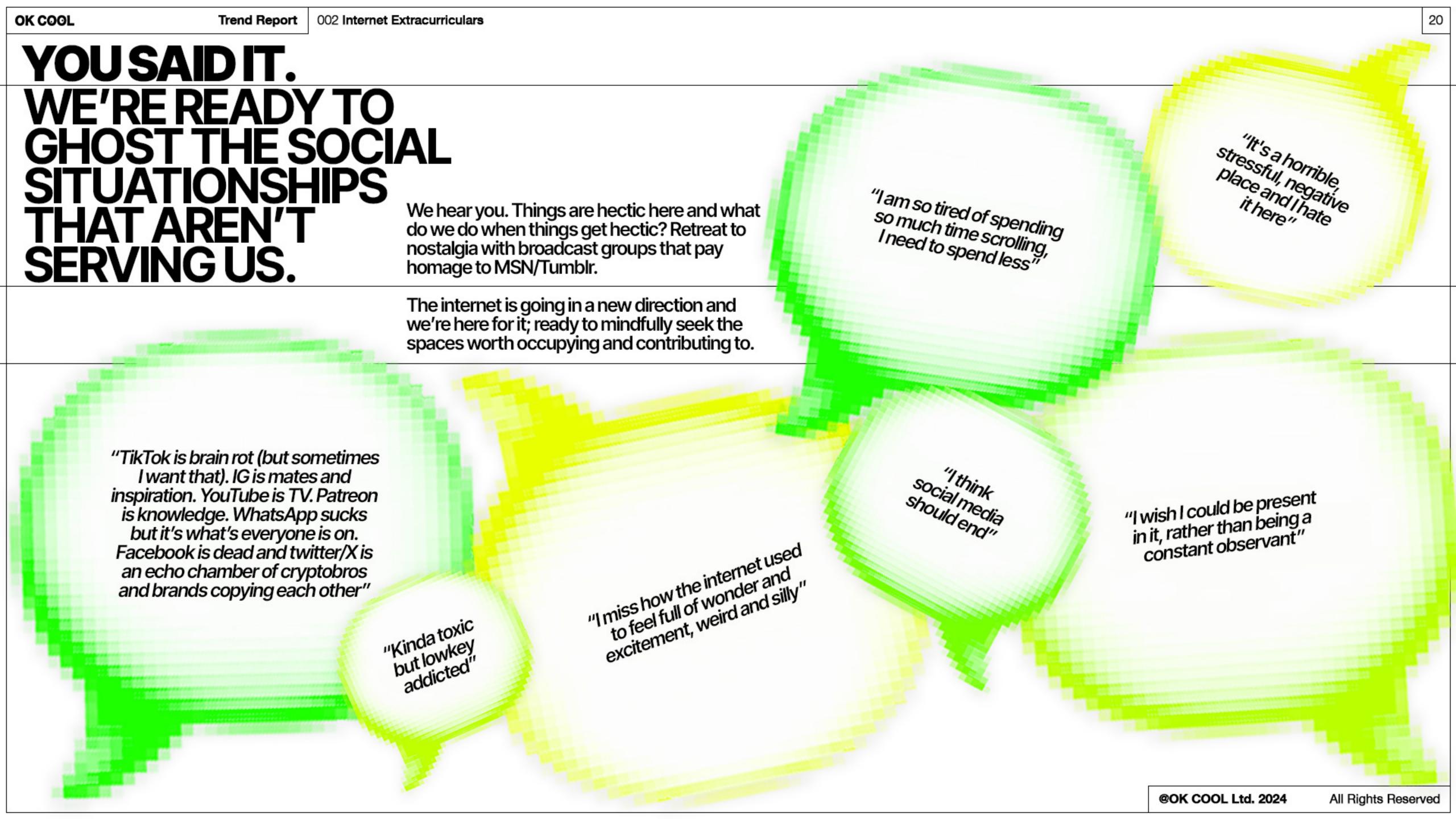
The Kickback Analogy (@cocomoncoe).

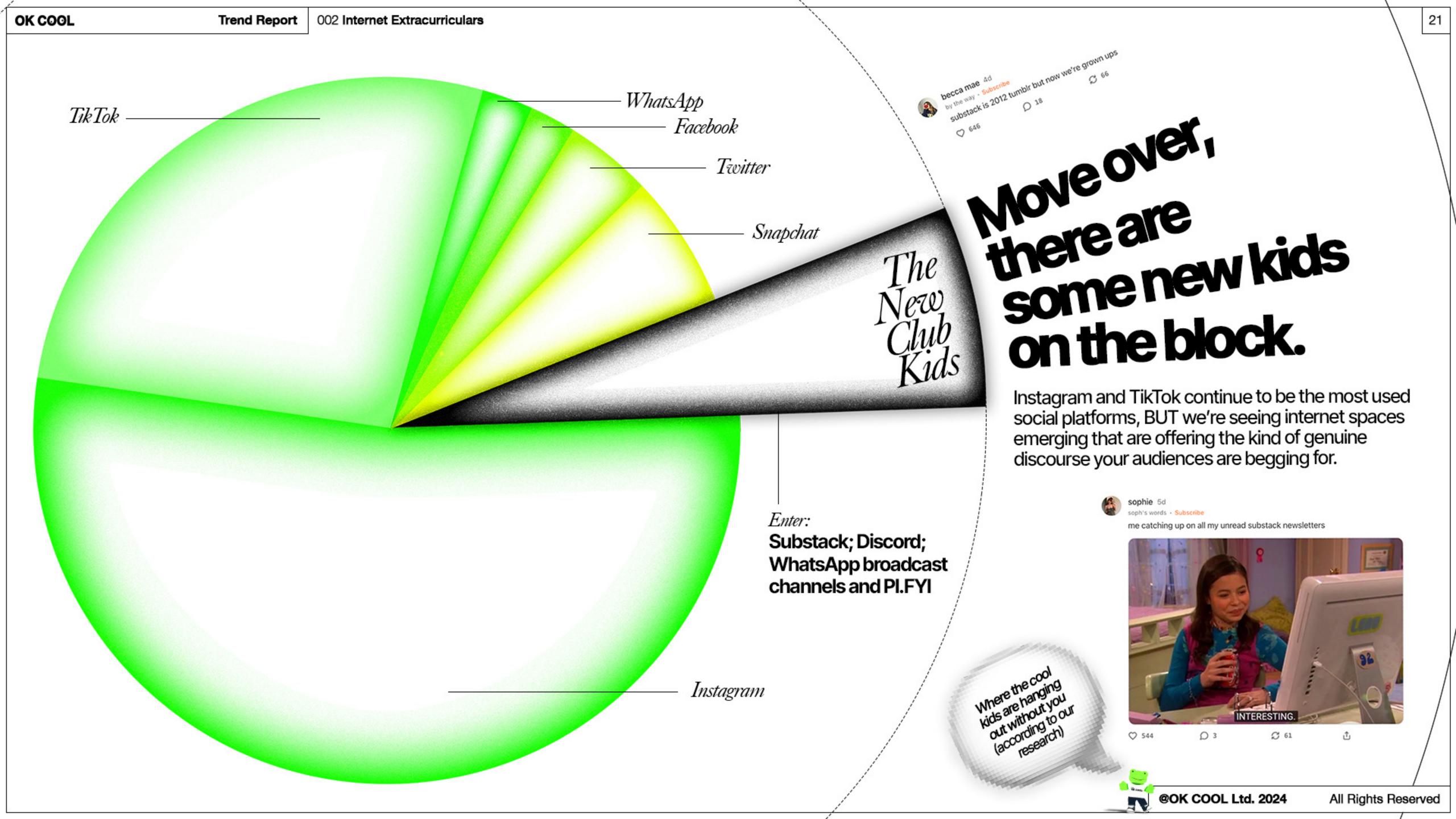
Intersect into the convo only when you have value to add.



Yelling over the content or creators in the FYP.

Substack, Letterboxd, Strava or Discord (to name a few). Our search for originality is sending us further down the rabbit hole. So it's no wonder we're finding ourselves in increasingly weird (and wonderful) spaces. Let's take a wander through the platforms offering the niche salvation we're looking for.





Trend Report 002 Internet Extracurriculars

The return to a fragmented internet;

Discord/Substack

fig.01



Queue the Curpolification of the Common and the Com

fig. 02

TORI Sour to get the 2014 victoria's secret tumblr girl aesthetic

TikTok/Instagram/Snapchat

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Habbo/MSN/MySpace/ClubPenguin



WE'RENG BLOGGIV?! BLAGAIV?! Everyone deserves a rebrand now and then. This year, it's the IT girls and the internet—specifically, our behaviors on it.

We've been living in an overstimulation, chronically online, consistently fed information with no end and we're looking to retreat and *regain control*. So is it any wonder we've retreated to 2012?!

Blogging is back. And where do you find us these days when we need a break from the fyp...

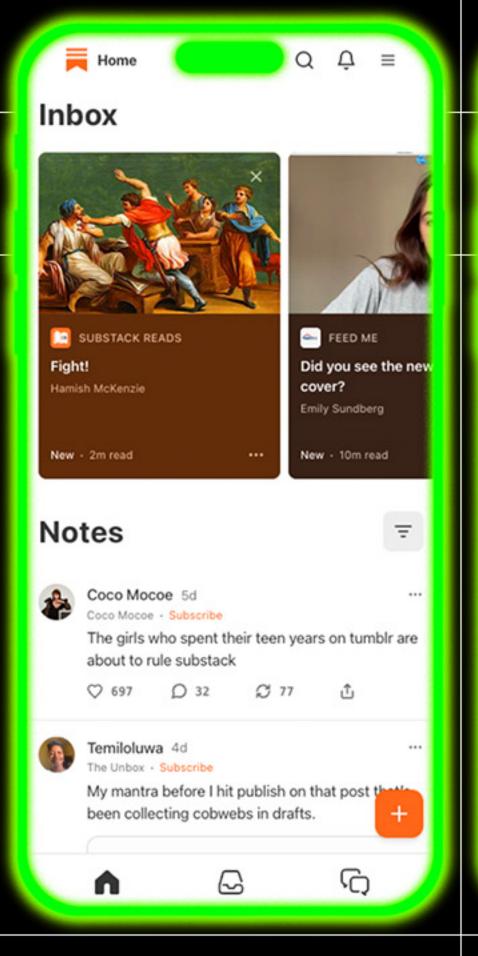
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The chronically online are seeking social circles on Substack, PI.FYI, NoSpace, and WhatsApp Broadcast channels, where peer-to-peer communication reigns supreme. They're the ones dictating what these spaces are - equal parts creative and unexpected.

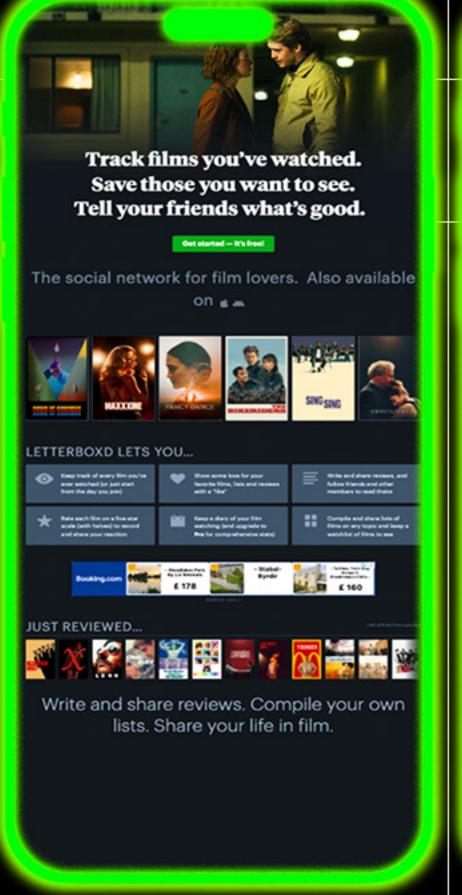
If brands can't play by the rules online, and break their own (the right way 69) in the process, they'll drive audiences away.

con era has

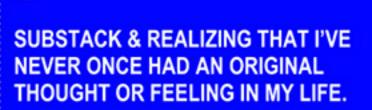
SUBSTACK



LETTERBOXD



PY.FYI



reading a new friends substack and resonating so hard with her post about working to overcome her social anxiety, introversion, and shame to become more comfortable and outgoing, not only did this inspire me that i need to pick up my own substack again, but also that becoming less of a weirdo in social settings is possible for me too

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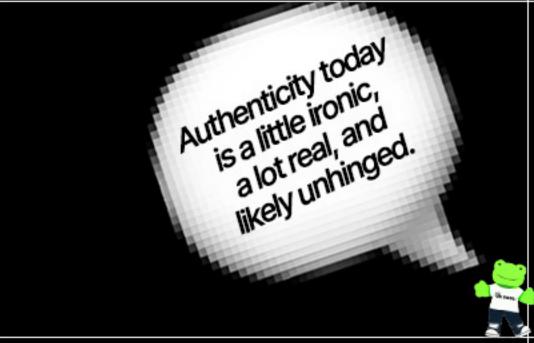
@NORMIEEXGIRLFRIEND

WESTERN, EVANGELICALS, AMEDICAN NOSTAL CIA & NASCAD

Newsletters are back and the culture critics are coming in hard and fast, with an expert for everything and anything.

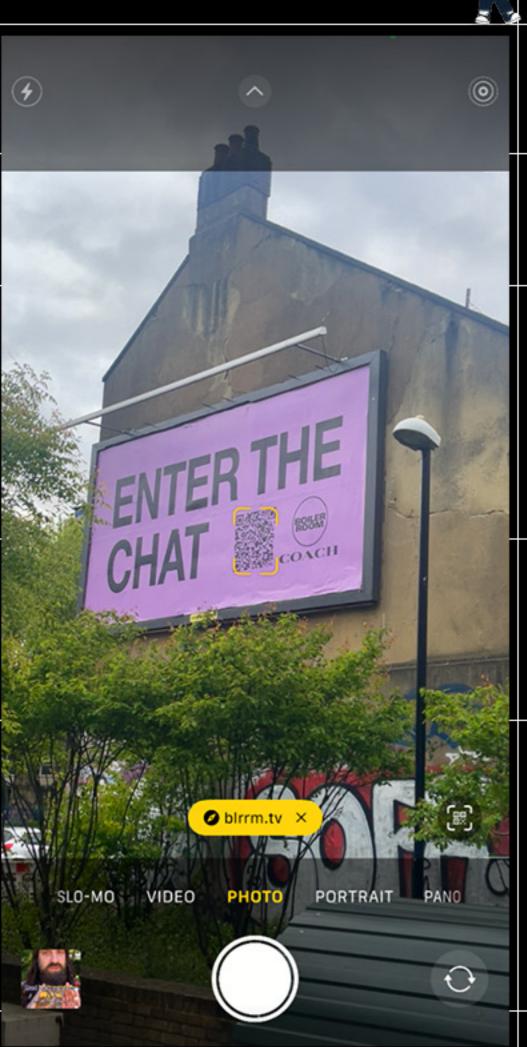
It's a social media platform for film enthusiasts. A space for specific, in-depth convos and deep dives. And the hot takes put X (cough*Twitter*cough) to shame ... PY.FYI is a safe space for sharing any single thought that enters your mind. Keeping things simple; recommendations and questions only.

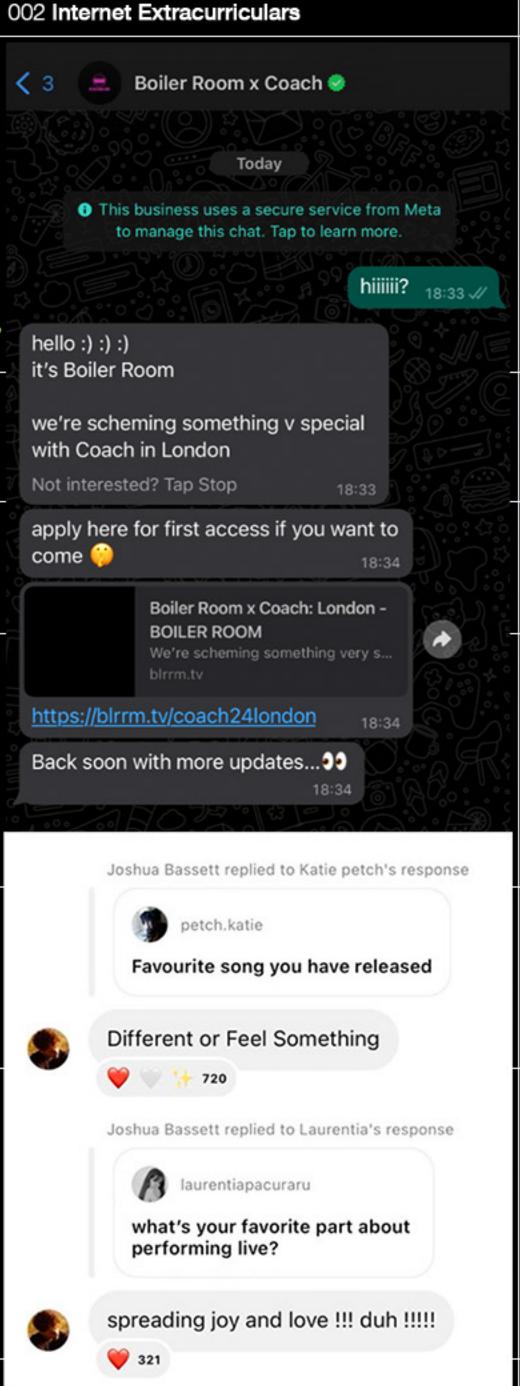


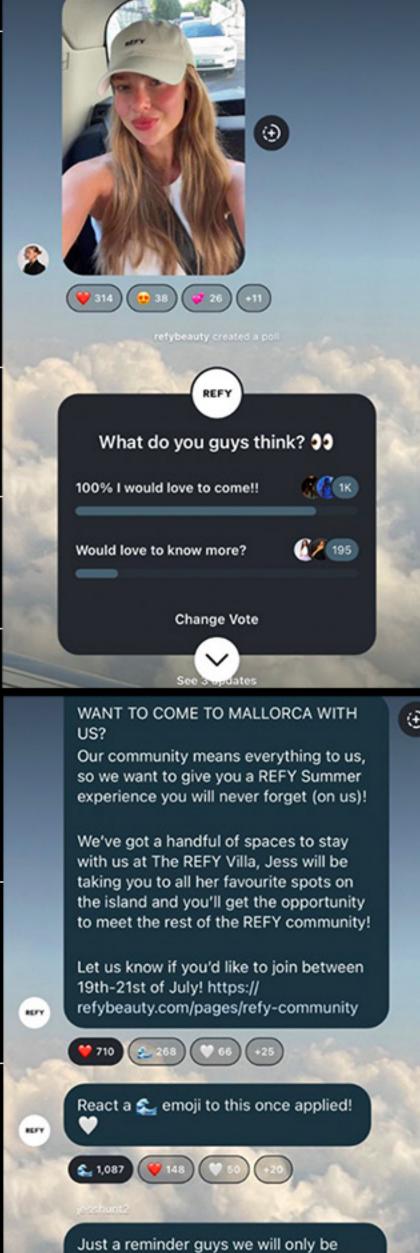


Trend Report

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taking people who are part of this group chat! So make sure if you share this with anyone they're also signed up! Make

sure to tag any of your besties in mine

and REFY's recent t!

WEYE ENTERED THECHAT

And we're not leaving.

In response, the brands, creators and celebrities are also finding new ways to authentically connect with their superfans: on the finstas, group chats and forums.

57% of you said that you are part of an "exclusive internet group"

Personal experiences > social experiences

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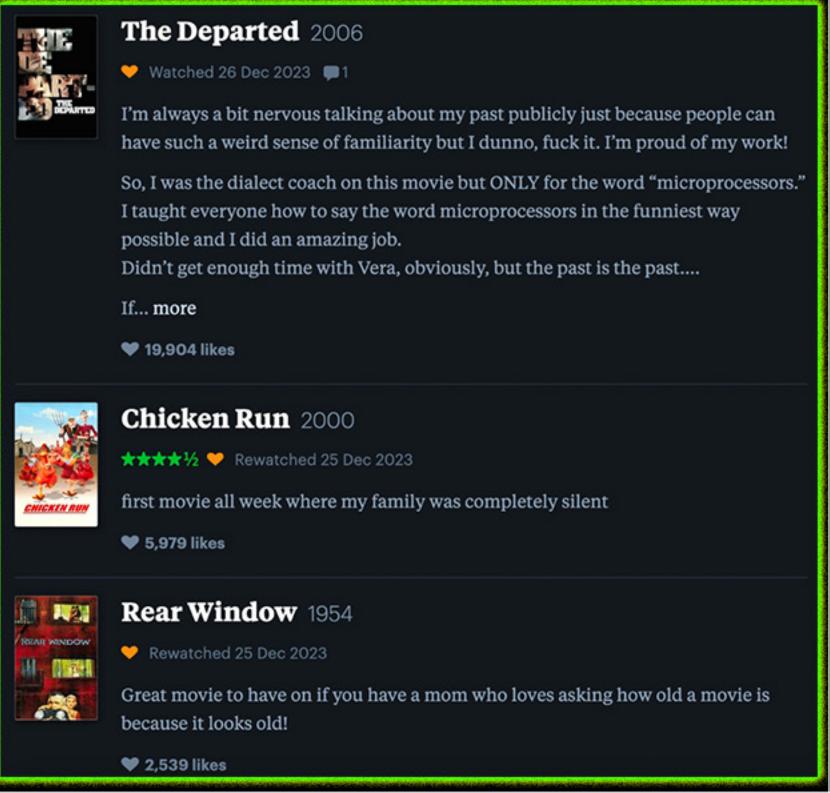
002 Internet Extracurriculars

25

It's education, but like, it's actually fun

Knowledge is power. So it shouldn't be boring. These spaces have allowed users to make it their own, and demand the discourse they want to be a part of.







Substack is the substance we've been looking for. People with something to say, and now the means to say it.

A place for all users' interests, where brands can share secrets and knowledge to their most dedicated divas.

It's the film lover's cinematic universe. A tool for discovery.

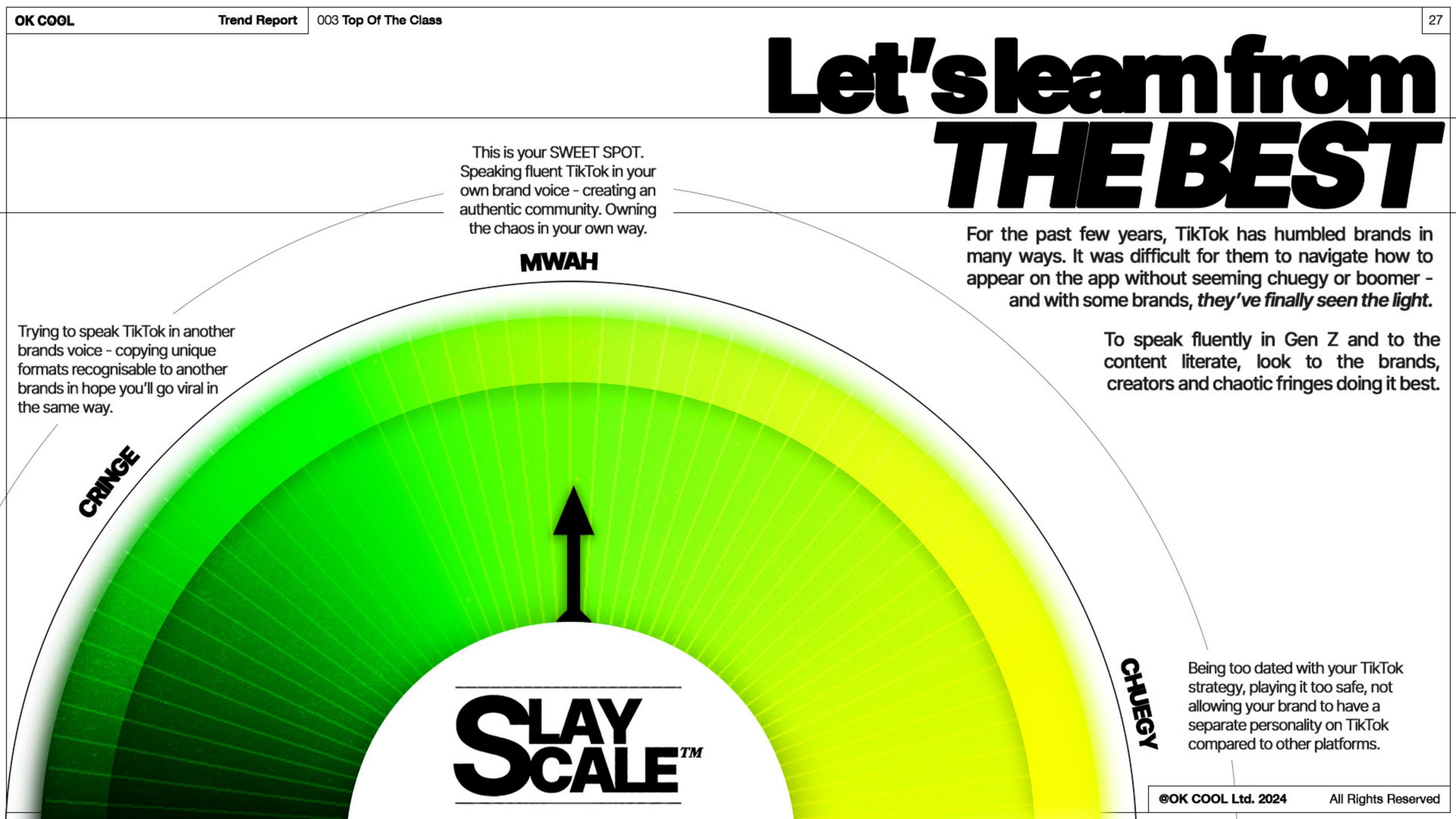
Starting with a movie, but ending with community as you connect and communicate with purpose and genuine interest. Ayo Edebiri gets it.

ChatGPT to do your homework for you? Ew. ChatGPT to help you understand the world around you in a contextual and genuine capacity in language you understand and resonate with? Slay.

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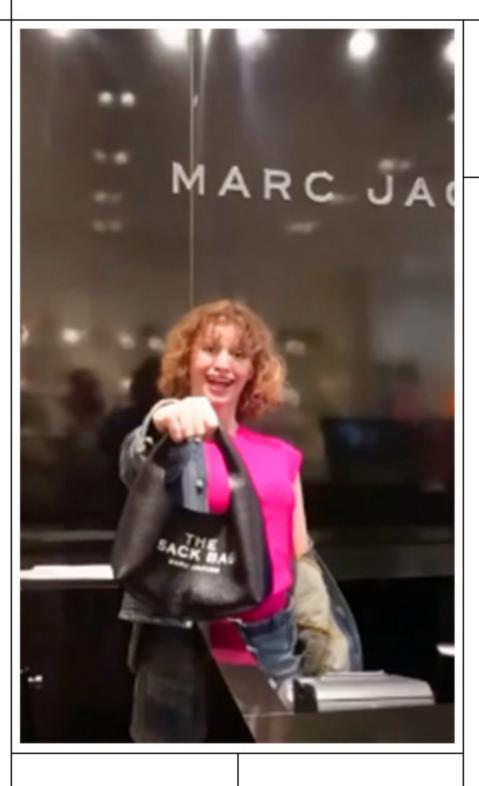
LIKE NO ELSE



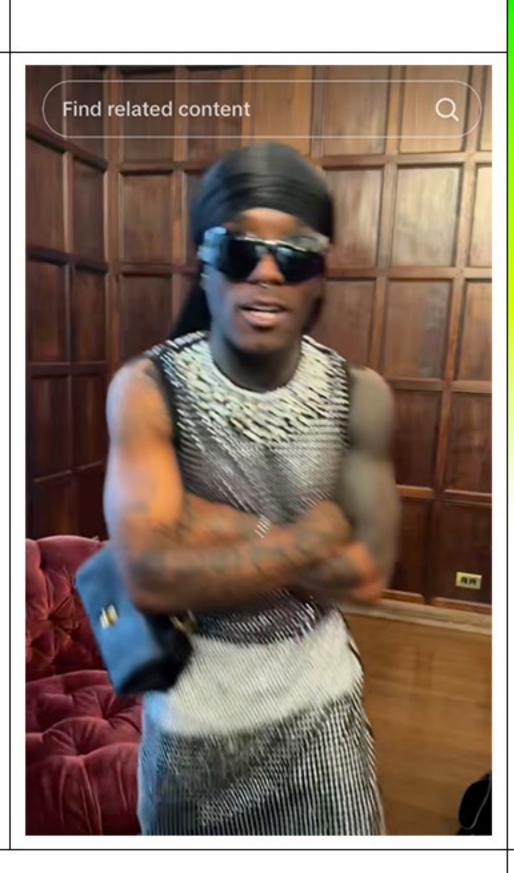
They understood the assignment: CHAOTIC CONTENT 🤝 GENZ

MarcJacobs

Luxury brands are speaking in absurdity, and Marc Jacobs are fluent in it; making them insanely successful on TikTok. Collaborating with Gen Z creators like DJ Mandy, Gina and rumoured to be behind the success of Beabadoobee.

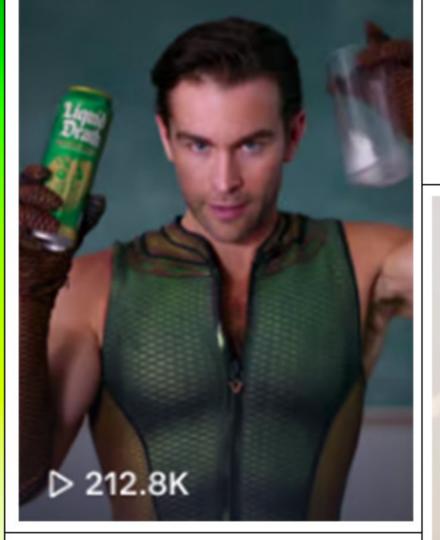


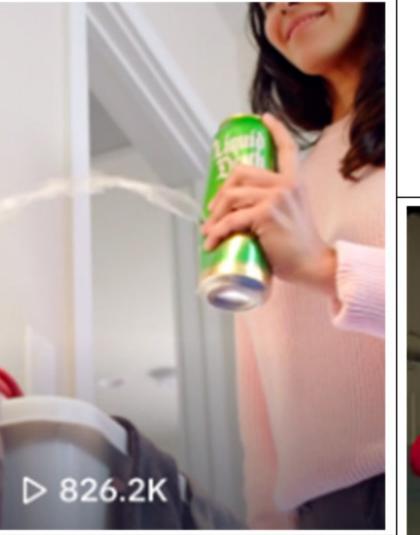




Liquid Death

By blending low-lift, spontaneous content with polished, high-effort studio productions that have a platform native narrative, Liquid Death are able to tell a cohesive and compelling story of chaos.







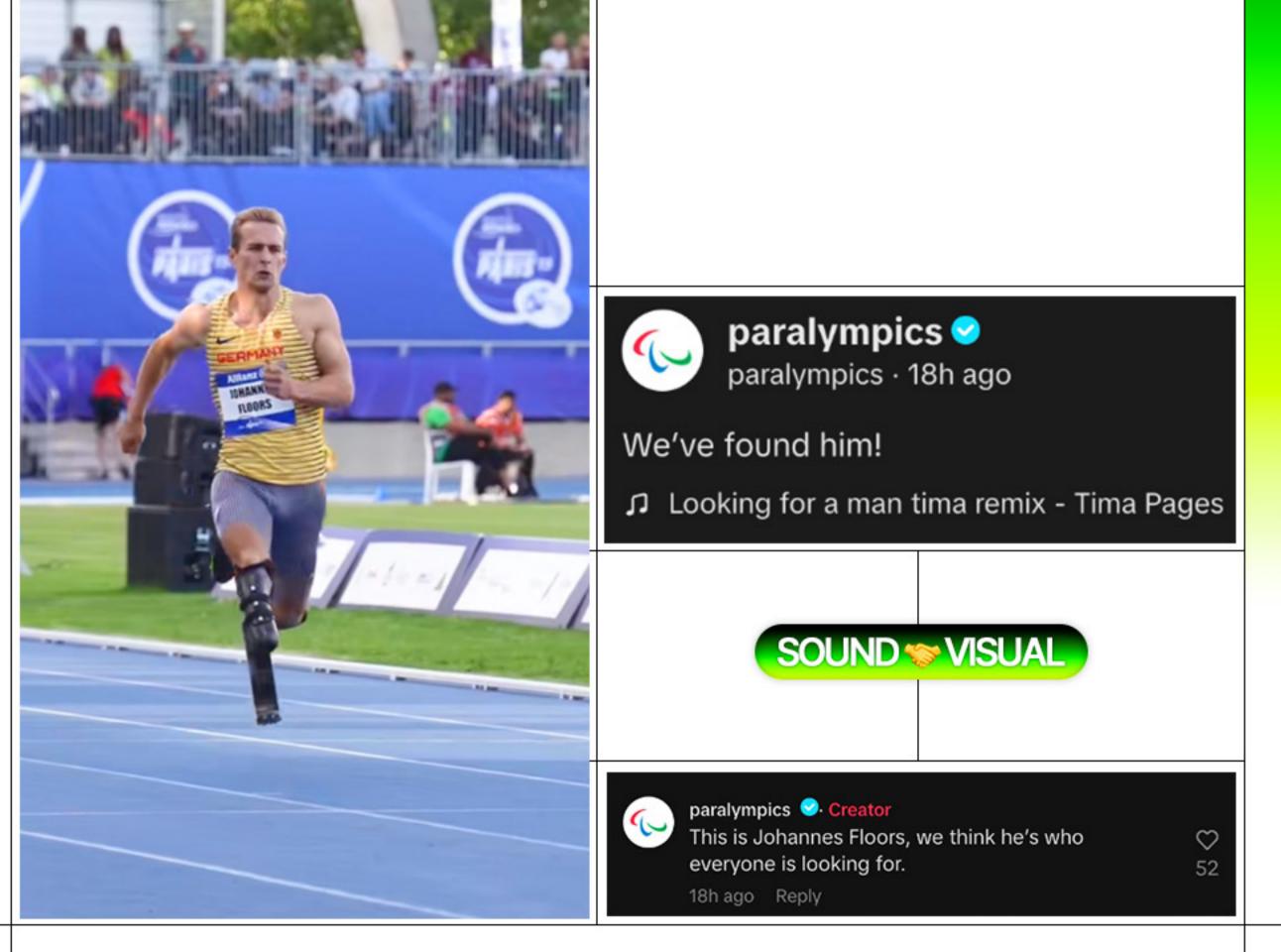
OK COOL Trend Rep

Trend Report 003 Top Of The Class

29

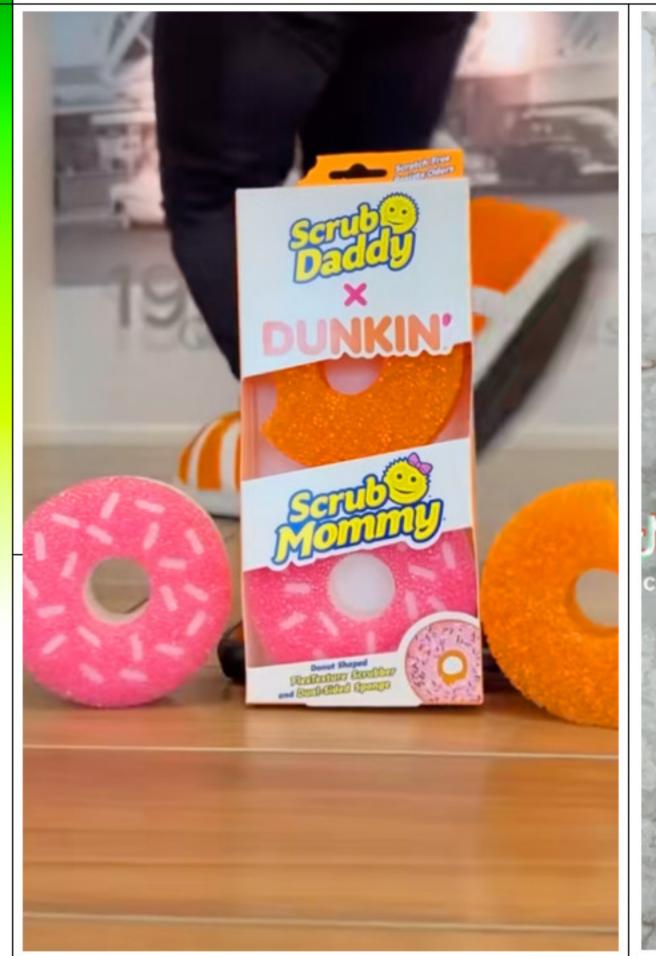
Paralympics

The @paralympics has been popping off on TikTok, driving conversation amongst audiences with a bold comedic strategy, all whilst breaking down stereotypes by bringing the audience in on the joke. It's highly native and hilariously bold.



Scrub Daddy

Making cleaning cool and relevant. Scrub Daddy ATE in 2024, collaborating with everyone from Dunkin Donuts to Benefit cosmetics. They understand we're thrill seekers craving unexpected endings. Collaborations and content needs to be chaos to cut through.

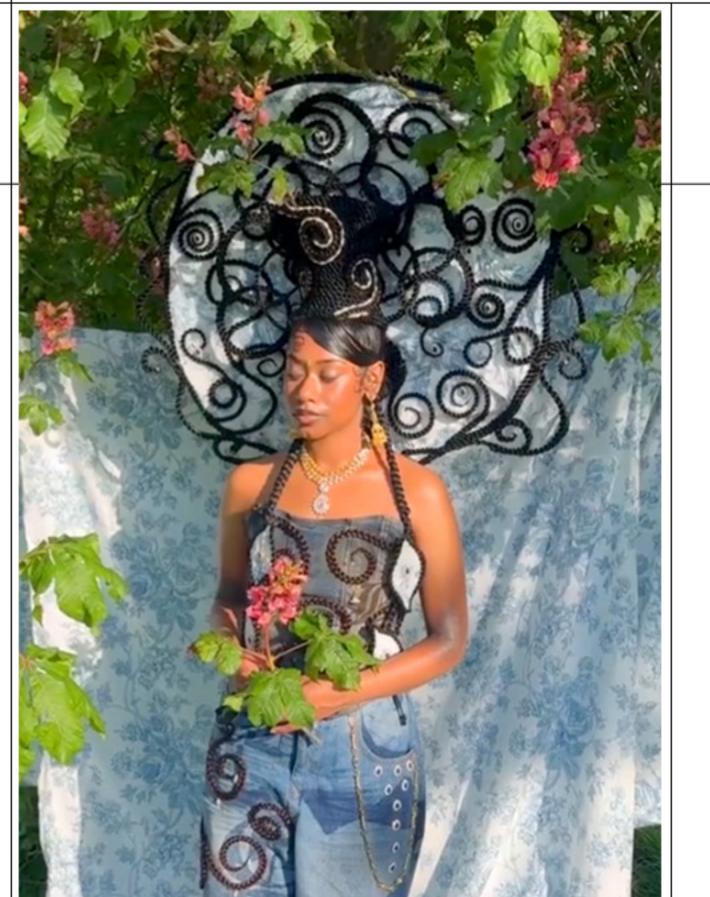




OK COOL Trend Report 003 Top Of The Class

Urban Outfitters % COOL

In their most recent campaign Urban Outfitters allowed their creators to expand their (and the brand's) creative world. By collaborating in a way that gives them the power to think bigger than the brief we see creative that has genuine impact and does the job the brand alone can't do.

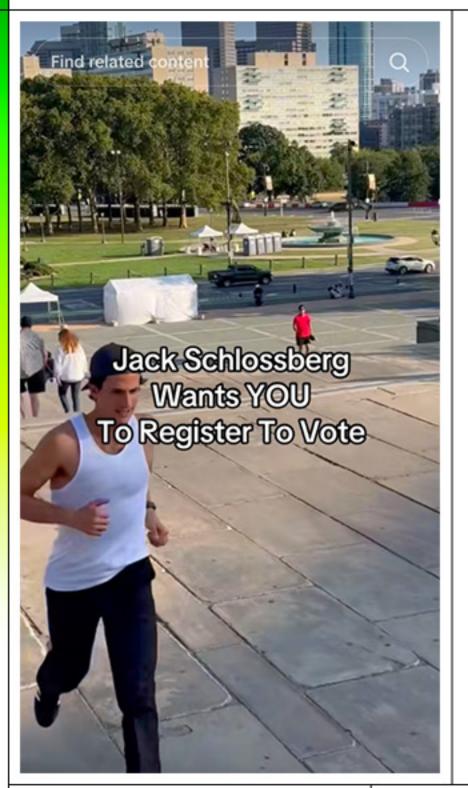


CREATIVE FREEDOM



Vogue is making politics colloquial and culturally cool by hiring JFK's grandson

Vogue is making politics colloquial and culturally cool by hiring JFK's grandson and successful TikTokker, Jack Schlossberg, as a political correspondent. No stranger to the TikTok audience, Jack's job is to discuss politics in a personable, understandable, and organic way.







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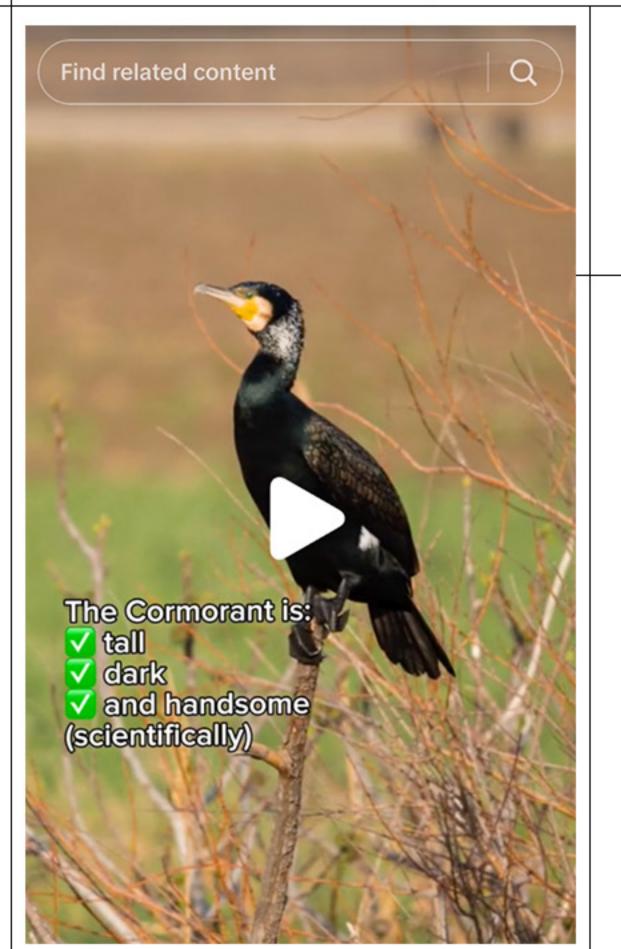
Trend Report

ort 003 Top Of The Class

RSPB

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Who thought learning about birds could be such a vibe? RSPB bird charity are educating us on all things birds through their unique spin on trends and culturally coded content. The language is TikTok fluent and gets that, at the end of the day, we love an unexpected laugh.



EDUCATION + CHAOS = PERFECTION





AWAY learns from their creators by allowing them to bring to life their own content vision inspired by the product. Instead of the product being the main event, it's how it authentically works into content that they already produce. The perfect formula for the perfect collabs.







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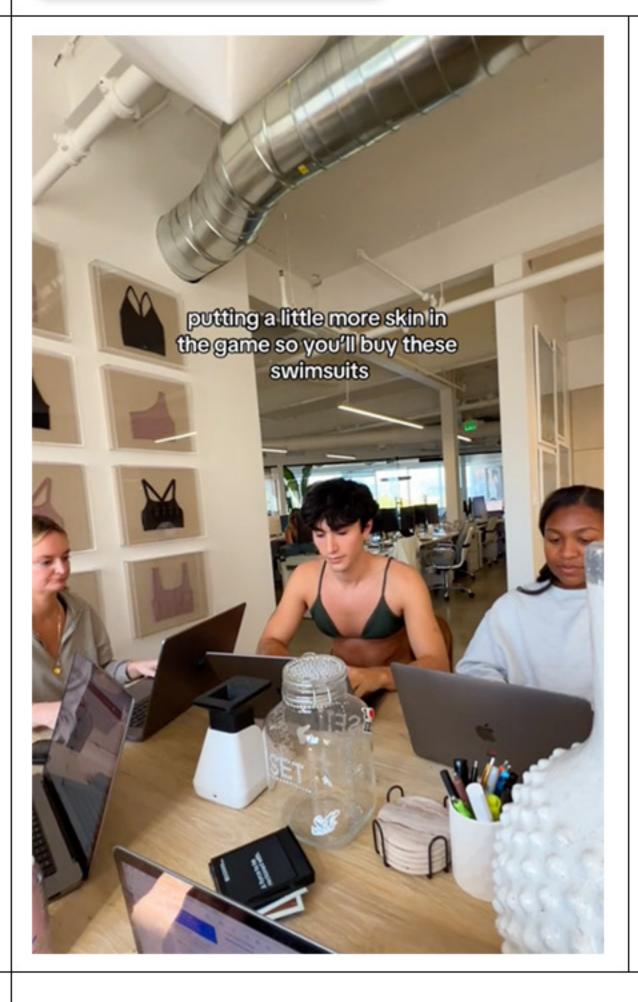
Trend Report 003 Top Of The Class

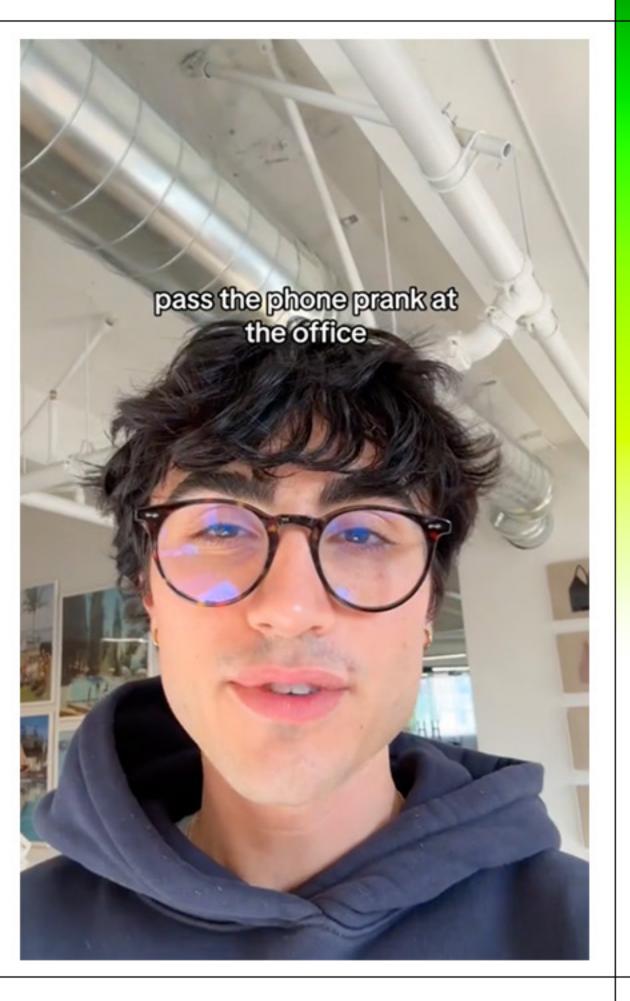
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SETActive

Since pivoting their strategy & hiring famous creator Sam Vicchiollo to direct their content, SET Active have popped OFF on TikTok & their followers have shot up.

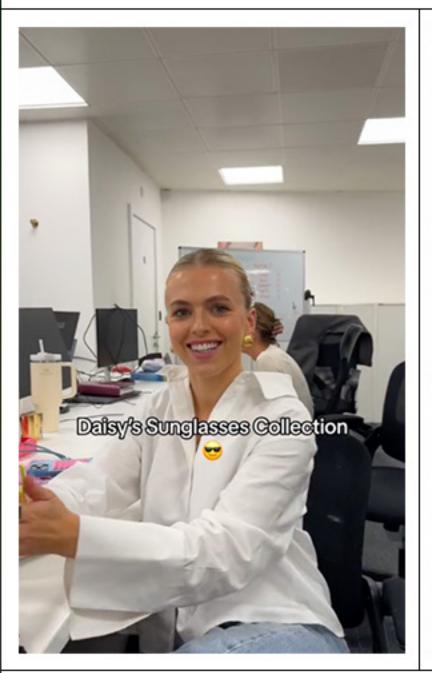
TRENDING SOUNDS

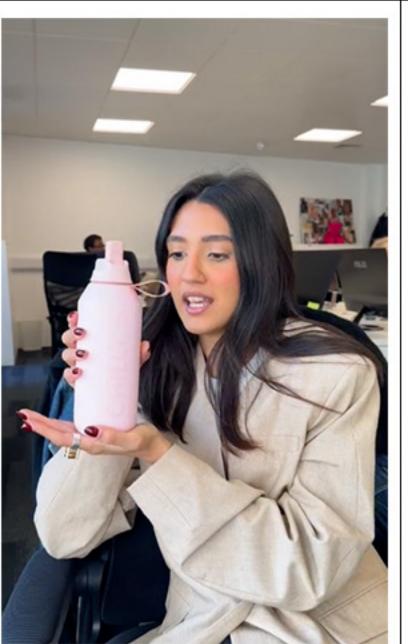




From branded content to creators in their own right.

What started as the brands TikTok channel; a fashion and lifestyle page featuring the office icons, slowly turned into the franchise of Luxegen itself. A strategic marketing tactic allowing them to spearhead different content streams aligned to each office "character's" aesthetic. Creating a brand based cinematic universe.







89	t ▼ This	s is a Saroop ^Q fan account		
		Reply -	♥782	\$
	-	luxegen ♥ · Creator		
		3-5 Reply	♥ 21	∇
	_	View 2 replies		

ORIGINAL CONTENT

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EDUCATING BRANDS101

Be all ears:

Listen to your audience & be involved in the conversation.

Collaborate with community leaders to speak to their people.

Be real, give value, teach them something.

Get loooseee with the creative brief and lean into the creator's niche.

Don't ignore what your people are posting.

Don't be rigid & boring.

Make sure you are agile and prepared to switch it up.

Don't work in isolation:

you need to be listening, watching, and engaging.

Don't be unresponsive to your community.



Audiences are reclaiming the power from brands, teaching them what they want to see.

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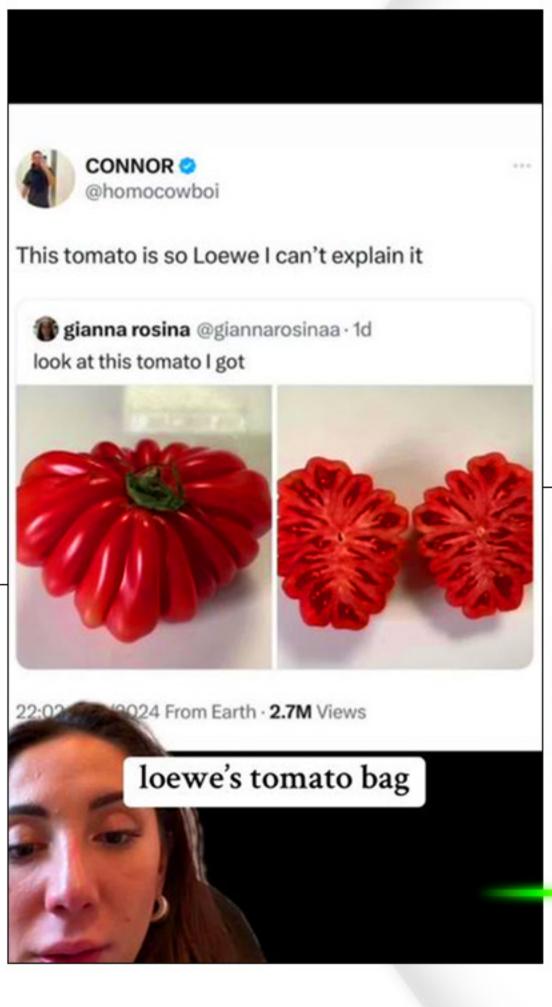
This internet is also in it's *learning* era. Audiences want more substance and are setting the pace and leading the class. It's forcing brands, creators and content makers to take notes and keep up.

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Trend Report

t 004 Ate-Ucation

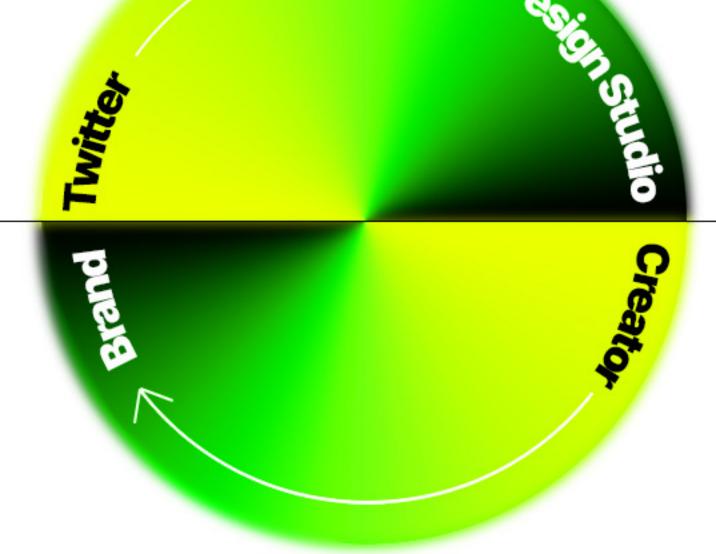
The brands that get it, get it: you gotta be all ears to the ground when you wanna be IT. And sometimes your audience knows you better than you know yourself.







Chiming in on those conversations and listening to your audience makes the internet obsessed.

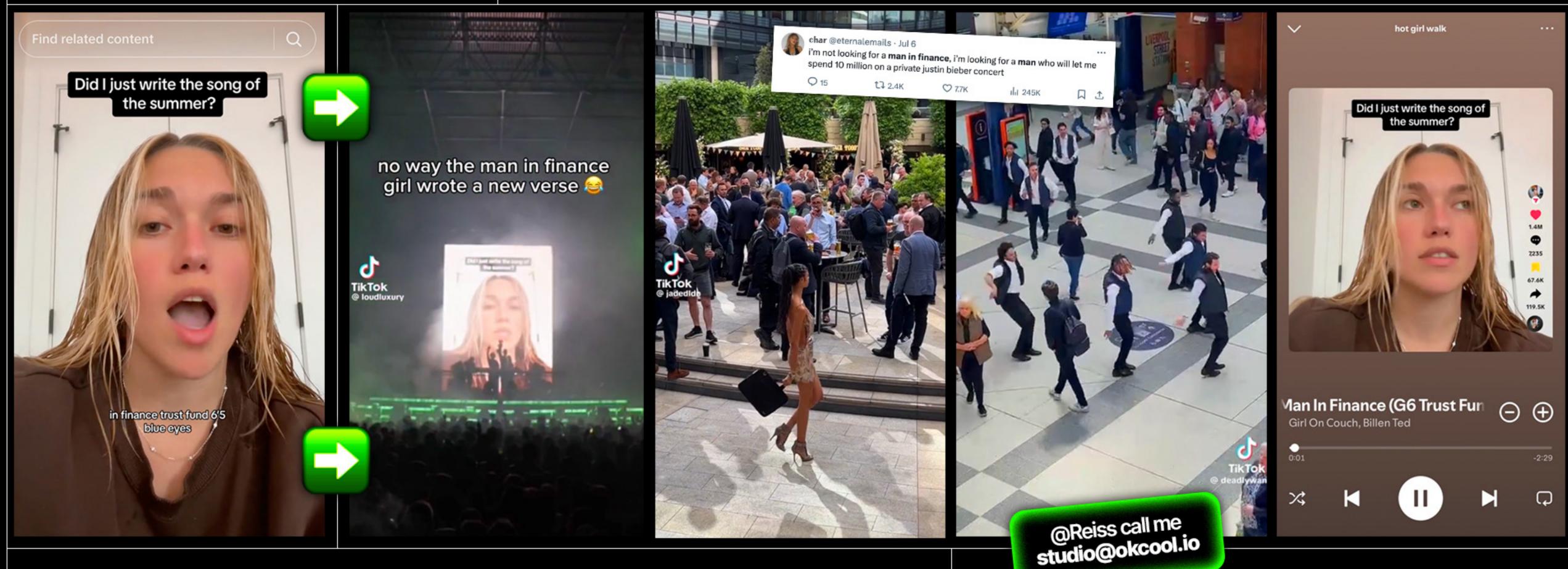


Just one image can have massive impact and when you have such a strong identity, even the most bizarre links can create connection with your audience.

URL 2 IRL: IN CONSTANT CONVERSATION

The internet isn't what it once was. We used to go looking for things on the internet that were inspired by our physical IRL space. Now, our IRL spaces are a representation of the internet's infinite taste, tales, styles and stories. Everything you see or hear is somehow influenced by the internet.

It's why we're not seeing trends die, but evolve.



66% of people surveyed said that they had seen or heard the song used at festivals, in DJ sets, and flash mobs; and from big brands like Disney UK to smaller, more local brands.



The theory of butmakeit

"The internet will go crazy"
- Charli XCX

Charli released BRAT



Creative album promotion



BRAT lifestyle was born



Live performances of the album



She's done some damn good branding, the way everyone knew from a COLOUR 0 D 1d Reply

DIY merch

rat You reposted London Wildlife Trust - 5d ago Its a rat summer 💙 🐃 @Charli XCX #365 #brat #bratsummer #charlixcx #360... more □ Contains: 365 - Charli xcx

Cultural phenomenon

Brat went from being an album release to a *lifestyle*. Charli XCX's marketing has surpassed the realms of the internet and is now the most coveted personality trait. But it doesn't stop there, as it's becoming a code we use to talk big ideas and culture at large.



Brat Green for Pantone's colour Pantone's colour

Seeking virality? As you can see, the conversations that take hold can't be tamed.

That means a willingness to let your content and brand take on a life of its own. The theory of evolution is an unstoppable force. So be brave, and let your audience become a part of writing your story. Whether that's creators or your community.



Once now We the al servec internet the internet, serves us

Trend Report 005 | Fear They're Onto Us

THINK LIKE YOU'RE AND YOUR AUDIENCE IS A TO

OK COOL

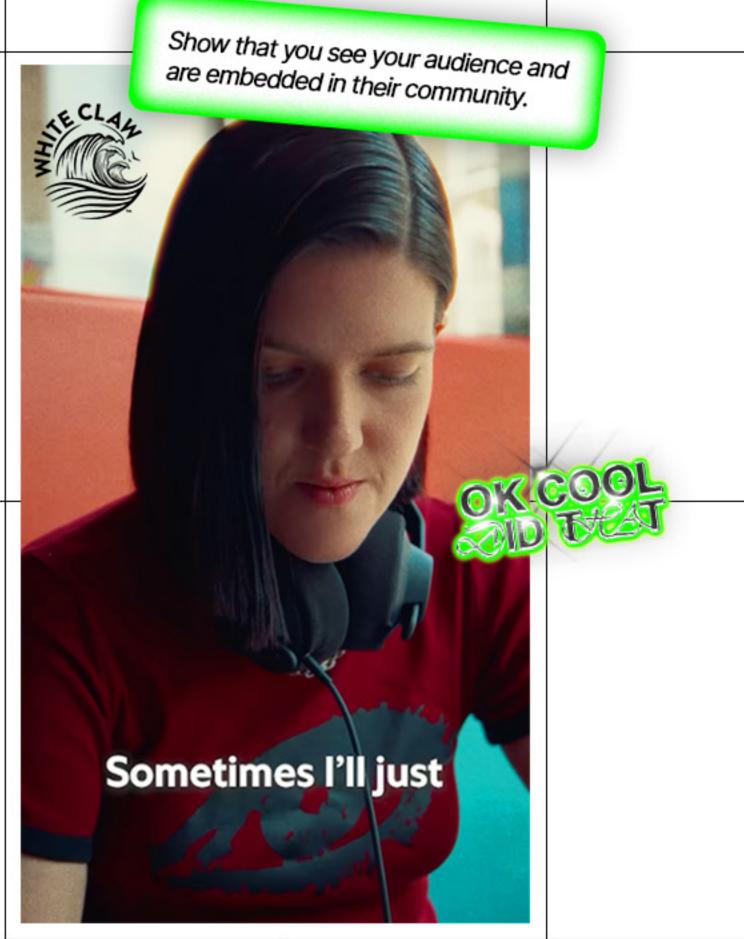
YOU BETTER IMPRESS.

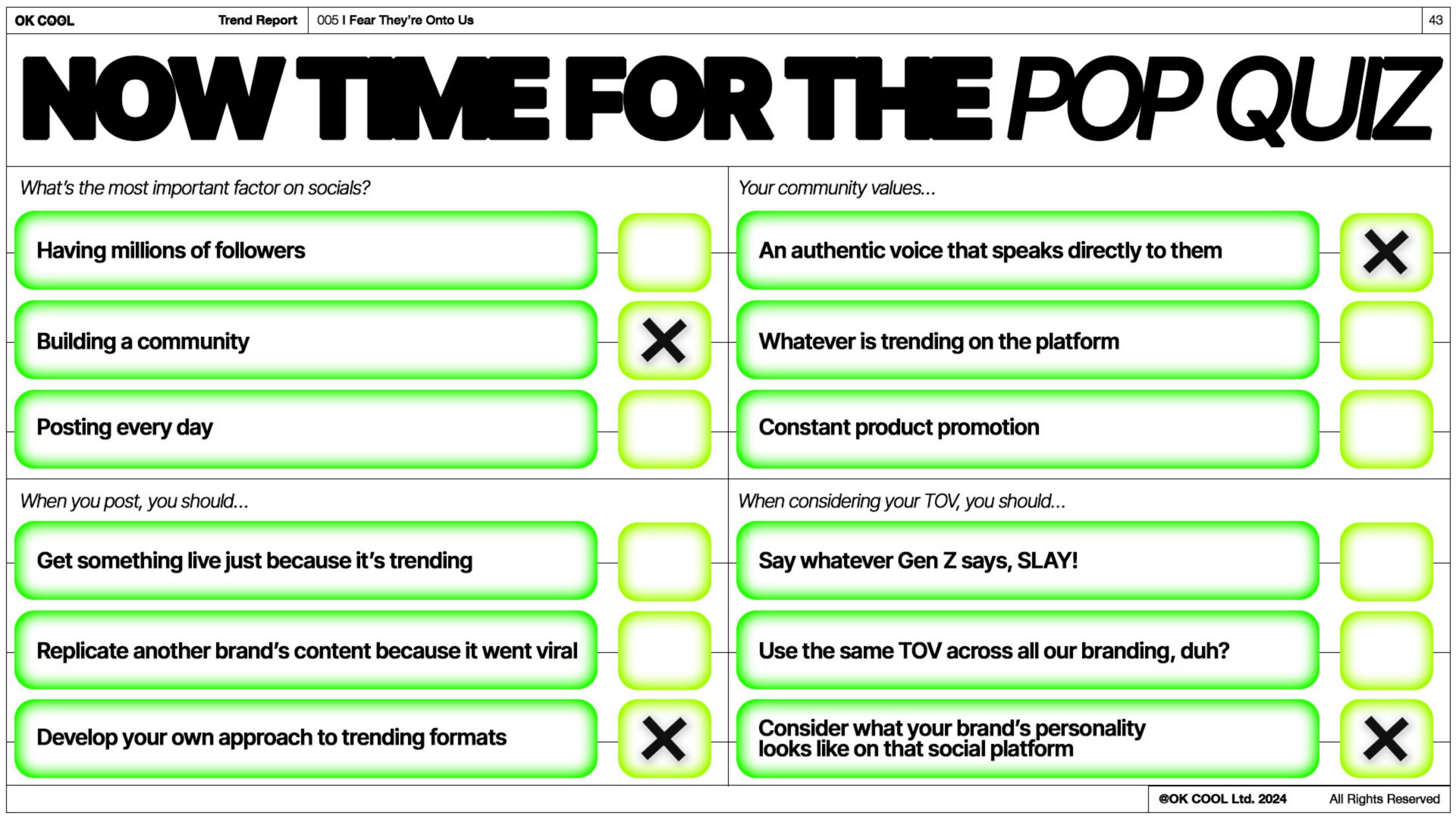
Miu Miu's recent summer campaign didn't sell any product and no major influencers or celebs were involved - just connection through giving back.



Your audience has the power to swipe you out of their lives in an instant. And they're more aware and discerning than ever before. You have to give them a reason to listen to you, or your access to them will be revoked.

Think about their world, the perspective you and your brand can offer they'll care about, the cultural touchpoints that consume them, and the spaces they're occupying.





OK COOL Tren

Trend Report 005 I Fear They're Onto Us



A GENERATION OF OVERSHARERS

With the wave of education on the internet, not only do we have knowledge of the hyperniche subcultures and topics, but we know ourselves better, and we know what we want. Everyone from RuPaul to Paris Hilton is sharing their knowledge, and it's powerful.

DON'T FAKE IT TIL YOU MAKE IT

Stop trying to impress everyone, it's embarrassing. Find your specific voice amongst the noise and your community will find you. Being purposeful with your strategy is the building of a personality on social, not being a one hit wonder.

BASIC VS. BRAVE

Brands copying one another...we're over it. We wanna know who that brand is and how they align with us. The brands that create something knowing it won't be for everyone, are generally thrilling a lot more than the ones that try too hard. You can smell the desperation.

ACCOMPANY THEM FROM URL TO IRL

The question is - how does your content serve your audience? It's no longer posting for posting's sake, it's what your community can carry from their URL experience into their IRL through your brand. Your followers are now your clients.

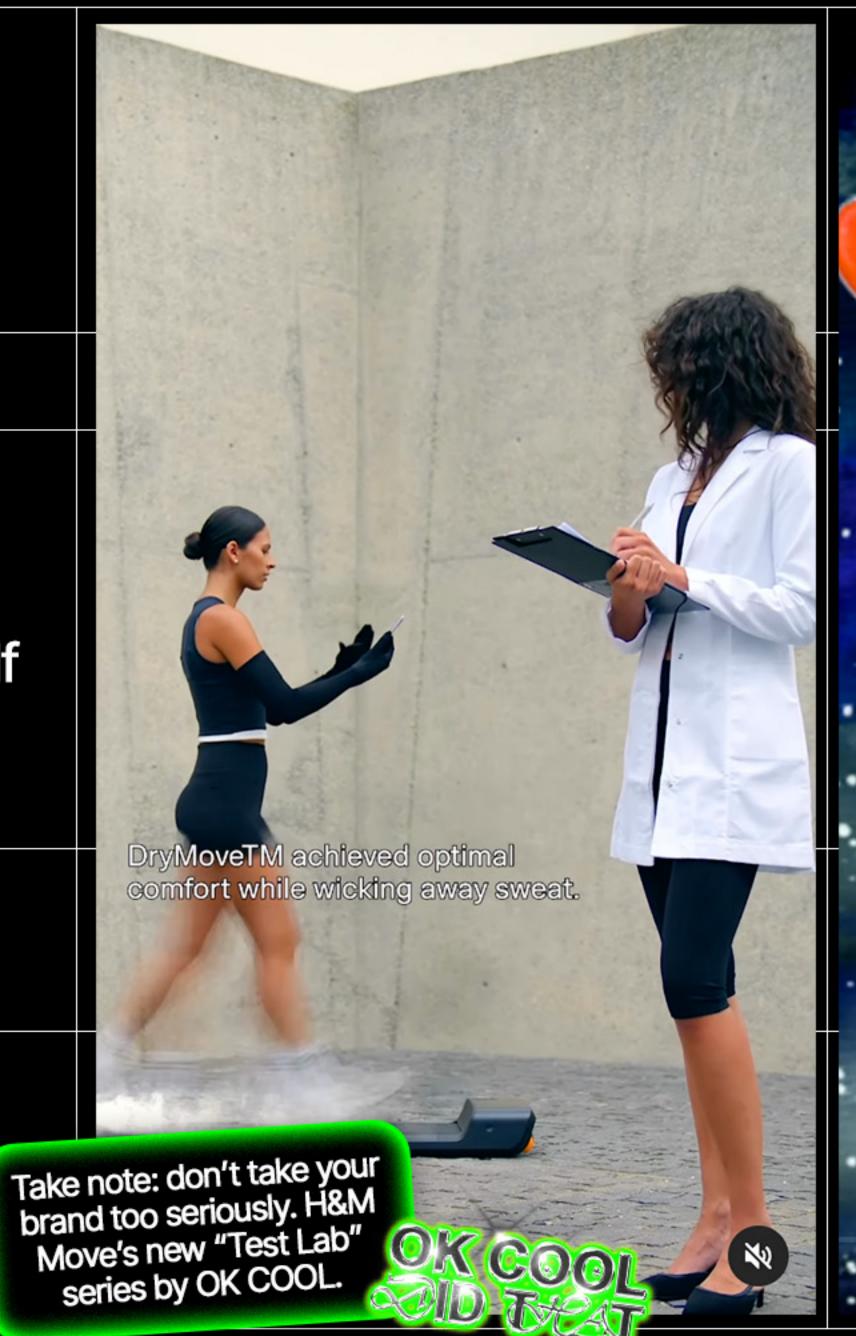
OK COOL Trend Report 005 | Fear They're Onto Us

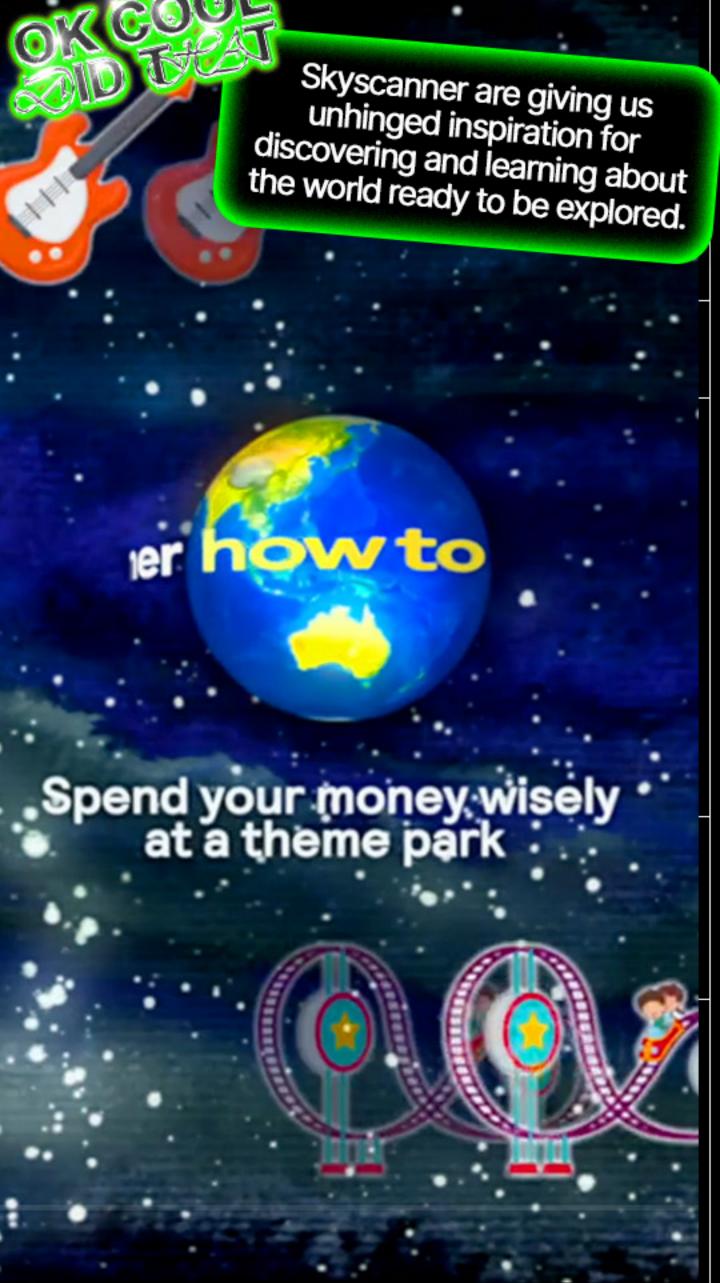
So we'll leave you with this...

Today, social is nu wave academia.

Audiences are seeking to discover the world, and themselves, through content, and it's not high brow, overly worthy or self important. Instead it's unhinged, joyful, discursive and continually evolving.

Brands need to contribute something of substance. *Even if it's a little chaotic.*







OK COOL Trend Report



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OK COOL

Trend Report

006 Join The Ok Cool Af Club

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MICHAEL KORS

URBAN OUTFITTERS



房 BREITLING 1884

a bumble

Instagram



Meta



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★ Heineken®









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OK COOL is a creative agency built for social, with a unique understanding and specialism in Gen Z, youth and subcultures. With headquarters in London, New York and Melbourne, we act as strategic and creative partners to the top 0.001% of brands.

We are enthusiasts: for people, ideas and the internet. When you work at the frontline of culture, it's impossible not to be an evangelist for it.

New trends and tech percolate into our collective consciousness, hourly. We are parsing and sharing thousands of new data points each day, across cultures, continents and timezones. Slack, WhatsApp, IG and TikTok DMs ring off with links, memes, ideas and profiles as we scan the noise for signals and map those to our clients needs in real time.

It's fucking rad.



Q42024, H12025—let's get busy As a strategic and creative partner to OK COOL, you'll never miss. meet up to clay to talk 2025? x yes

Pass us a note now: studio@okcool.io

no

maybe