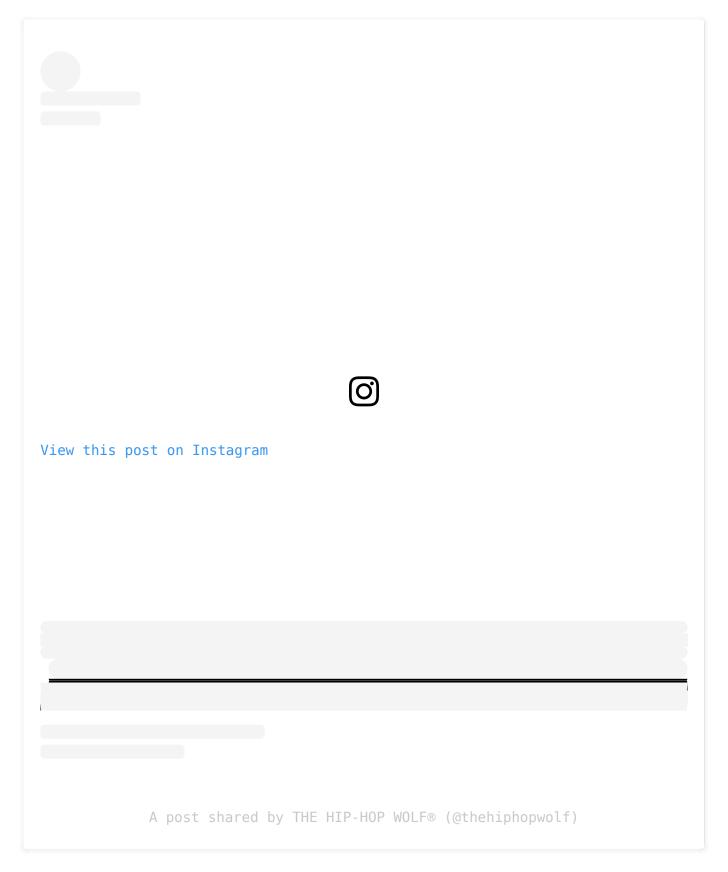
## Media Questions Of The Week



Will more of Nas's rap peers take him up on the challenge to create new music focused on the art of rhyming instead of following trends?

Music executives tell Billboard that they are worried and depressed as the industry struggles to find big artist breakthroughs, noting Olivia Rodrigo and Ice Spice as the last recently successful ones.

"Nobody knows how to break music right now... Each person I talk to in the... <a href="mailto:pic.twitter.com/keFA5T3X81">pic.twitter.com/keFA5T3X81</a>

- Pop Base (@PopBase) August 9, 2023

Why are music executives perplexed about how to break the next big artist?

## Last.fm Pays Royalties To Unsigned Artists



Music-streaming service Last.fm is now paying unsigned artists royalties for every song played on its service. Since the company announced the program last January, 170,000 artists and small music labels have signed up for it and uploaded450,000 tracks.

Continue reading