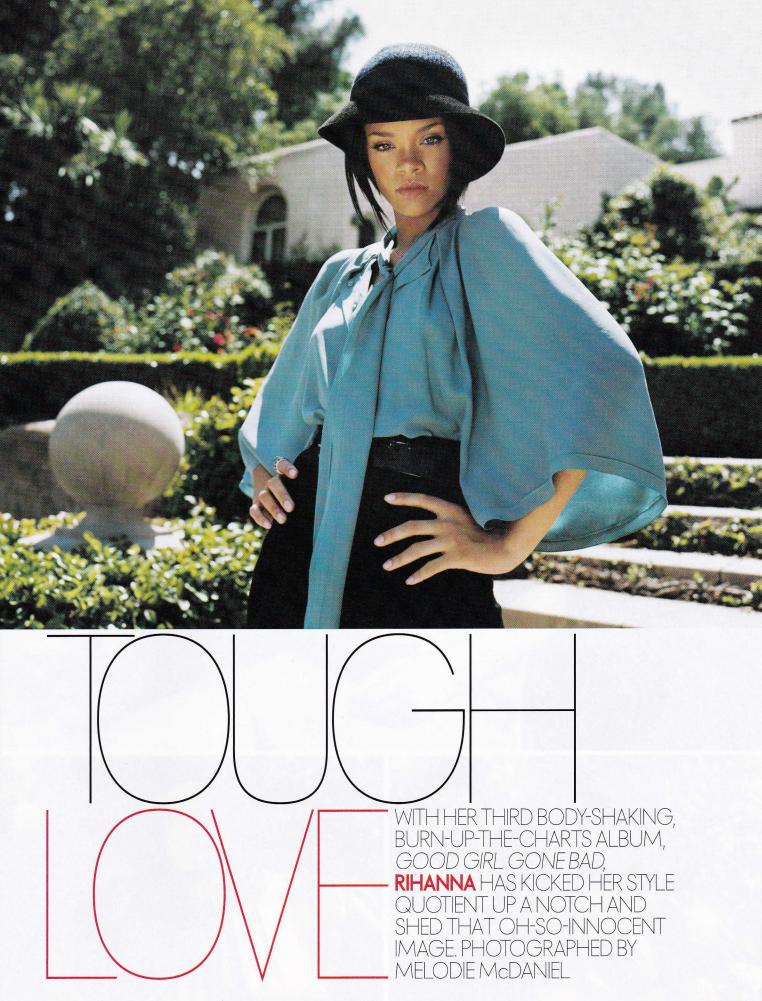


Above: Embellished crepe dress, price upon request, leather platform pumps, \$990, all, Dior by John Galliano, at select Dior Boutique nationwide. Black South Sea cultured pearls, Mikimoto, prices upon request. Lambskin gloves, Chanel, \$685. Right: Alpaca jacket with leopard lining, Dolce & Gabbana, price upon request. Leather platform pumps, Dior by John Galliano, \$990. Far right: Silk blouse, Missoni, \$1,335, at Missoni, NYC. Wool skirt, Lanvin, \$655. Wool hat, Marc Jacobs, \$860. Diamond ring, from Neil Lane Jewelry, L.A. For details, see Shopping Guide. Styling by Mel Ottenberg; hair by Ursula Stephen at Epiphany Artist Group, Inc.; makeup by Mylah Morales for the B. Lynn Group; manicure by Kimberly Keyes.





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Silk-taffeta blouse, Dolce & Gabbana, \$3,500. Wool-bouclé strapless dress, Versace, \$2,376, at Versace Boutique nationwide. Beret, Louis Vuitton, \$1,232. Diamond ring, from Neil Lane Jewelry, L.A.















Above: Silk-radzimir halter dress, Marc Jacobs, \$2,800, at Marc Jacobs, Boston. Suede gloves, \$430, leather platform pumps, \$970, all, Dior by John Galliano. **Right:** Swarovski-crystal-embroidered chiffon dress, Calvin Klein Collection, price upon request, at Calvin Klein Collection, NYC. Wool hat, Marc Jacobs, \$915. Diamond bracelet, from Neil Lane Jewelry, L.A. Tights, Wolford, \$42. Leather boots, Gucci, \$1,595. For details, see Shopping Guide.



The Backstory: At 17, Robyn Rihanna Fenty went from island-dwelling schoolgirl to Jay-Z protégée when he instantly signed her to the Def Jam family after hearing a demo she made with an American producer vacationing in her native Barbados. No doubt you bopped along with 2005's *Music of the Sun*, featuring "Pon de Replay," an infectious reggae track that drew from her Caribbean roots. Eight months later, her sophomore effort, *A Girl Like Me*, landed in stores, and the album's gem, "SOS," which samples Soft Cell's new-wave cover of the old soul tune "Tainted Love," catapulted record sales above the 3.5 million mark.

Why Now: If summer has a sound track, Rihanna's new album, *Good Girl Gone Bad*, will be in heavy rotation. The 19-year-old staffed the production booth with a squad of hit men—Jay-Z, Justin Timberlake, and Timbaland—to make an infectious, dance-heavy album that still showcases her lush vocals. Her favorite on the dream team? "Timbaland. He's genius. He takes the work seriously without taking it too seriously."

Defining Pop-Star Moment: "I've had a few encounters with fans who start crying, and that freaks me out because I don't know what to do. One girl in Barbados started screaming when we met, and the more I hugged her, the more she was screaming. I was like, Uh-oh."

Fashion Capital of Choice: While she recently made her front-row debut at Zac Posen's fall show in Manhattan's Bryant Park, Rihanna finds her style influences in Japan, which she visited seven times last year alone. "I'm influenced *a lot* by Japanese girls, not just in Tokyo, but all over. They walk down the street looking like they're going to shoot a video with the hair, makeup, heels, and tiny, tiny shorts. It's crazy."

Dream Collaborator: "I'd love to record with André 3000. He's funky, whether it's production-wise or it's him rapping. 'Hey Ya!' is one of my favorite songs, but you know what I really love? His remix of 'Walk It Out.'"—MEGAN DEEM

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