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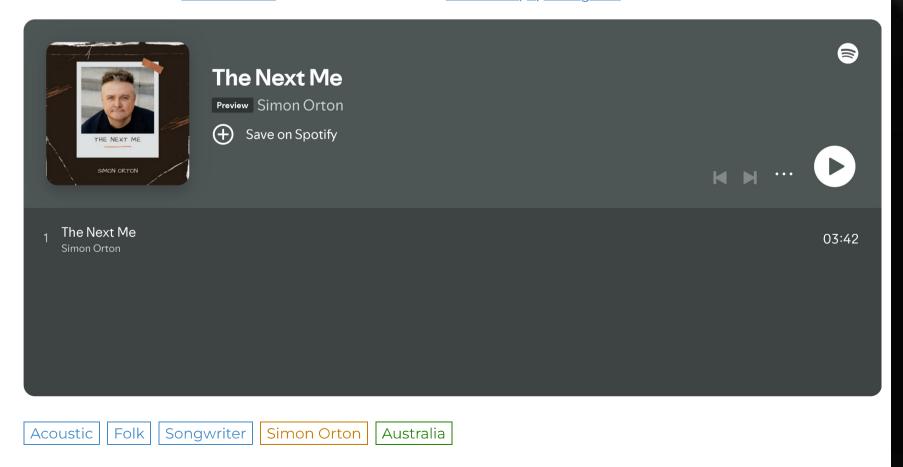
Simon Orton The Next Me Jun 12, 2025 - Rebecca Cullen

Crisp acoustic guitar and boldly distinct, deep vocals, blending spoken and sung performance, throughout a heartfelt song that proudly celebrates the life-changing moment you meet your first child. Australian artist Simon Orton captures a sound both unique and classic, with *The Next Me*.

Distinct vocals are a huge part of what helps softly set this track apart. On the surface we get a folk pop set-up, short lines that rise towards a brighter chorus, with acoustic guitars and light rhythms paving the way. Things brighten for that celebratory peak, but we also get the spoken moments, the versatility of Simon's voice, adding a personal touch. The lyrics also weave in hints of further character and realism, the struggle to balance a new way of life, the weight of time and change, but possibility and loving sentiments ultimately resound.

Clearly an ode to his nearest and dearest, but written in such a relatable way that the lyrics can easily be made the listener's own, *The Next Me* is a refreshing take on the magic of parenthood, and celebrates the timeless warmth of organic folk music, with a solo to full-band progression that naturally compliments the positivity and gratitude of the song.

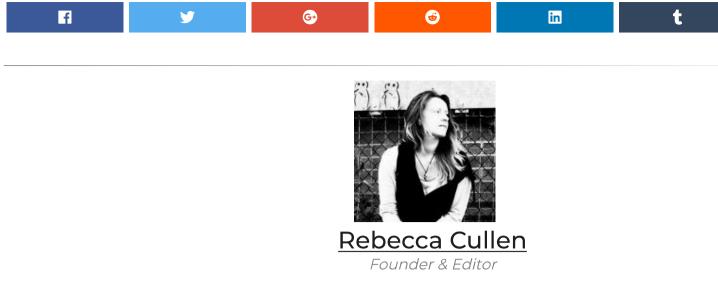
Download or stream *The Next Me*. Find Simon Orton on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>X</u>, <u>Instagram</u>.



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J.

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