Empire State of mind

By JAY-Z ft. Alicia Keys

* “[Empire State of Mind](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N3XlyT4Ums8)” is recognized as a modern-day anthem for New York City. Both Jay-Z (Brooklyn) and Alicia Keys (Harlem) are New York City natives, and they teamed up on this track to represent their hometown. Accordingly the titular “Empire State” has been a popular nickname of New York since the 19thcentury. This is one of the best raps Jay-Z has ever written, and the song deals with topics as diverse as recognizing celebrities who live in the city to chronicling the tale of a female runaway who got caught in the snares therein.
* And Alicia Keys joins Jay in bigging-up New York as a place “where dreams are made of” and that “make(s) you feel brand-new”. This strong feeling of affection for the NYC can actually be traced back to the song’s original writers, both native New Yorkers, who penned the track while they were in London and suffering from homesickness.