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[Help](#)

[About Wikipedia](#)

[Community portal](#)

[Recent changes](#)

[Contact page](#)

 [Edit links](#)

Read Edit View history Search Wikipedia

+

For the David Crosby album, see [It's All Coming Back to Me Now...](#)

A music video was produced for each of the three versions; death is a recurring theme in all of these videos, fitting in with the suggestion in *Virgin's* press release for *Original Sin* that "in Steinman's songs, the dead come to life and the living are doomed to die."⁶⁹ This is particularly evident when the dead characters seem to be resurrected in the memories of the main vocalist. Although in the case of Celine Dion's video, the theme is less about the living being doomed and more about a lost love.

Contents [hide]

[edit]

is always made much too polite; it always has been in movies. This isn't the *Wuthering Heights* of *Kate Bush* -- that *little fanciful Wuthering Heights*. The scene they always cut out is the scene when Heathcliff digs up Catherine's body and dances in the moonlight and on the beach with it. I think you can't get much more operatic or passionate than that. I was trying to write a song about dead things coming to life. I was trying to write a song about being enslaved and obsessed by love, not just enchanted and happy with it. It was about the dark side of love; about the ability to be resurrected by it... I just tried to put everything I could into it, and I'm real proud of it.^[7]

It's about obsession, and that can be scary because you're not in control and you don't know where it's going to stop. It says that, at any point in somebody's life, when they loved somebody strongly enough and that person returns, a certain touch, a certain physical gesture can turn them from being defiant and disgusted with this person to being subservient again. And it's not just a pleasurable feeling that comes back, it's the complete terror and loss of control that comes back. And I think that's ultimately a great weapon.^[2]

'There were those empty threats and hollow lies
'And whenever you tried to hurt me
'I just hurt you even worse and so much deeper.

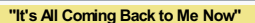
A 2007 article in the *Toronto Star* claims that the song was written as Steinman's "tryout" as lyricist for *Andrew Lloyd Webber's Sunset Boulevard*.^[9]

[edit]

Ken Russell directed the video, which was filmed at [Pinewood Studios](#) in [Buckinghamshire](#). Steinman wrote the script, based on Russell's "Nessun Dorma" segment in the compilation opera movie *Aria*.^{[13][14]} Scholar Joseph Lanza describes the video:

a woman's near-death experience [from a motorcycle crash] is set amid operatic excesses and black leather. In a simulated city engulfed by an apocalyptic blaze, British vocalist Elaine Caswell sings and participates in a ritual to celebrate the song's "nights of sacred pleasure" ... [The soundstage] is stocked with gravestones, motorcycles, [python](#) and dancers (allegedly from the London production of [Cats](#)), strapped in chaps, studded bras, and spiked codpieces.^[14]

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from the album *Original Sin*

B-side "I've Been Dreaming Up a Storm Lately"

The 7", 12" and CD singles featured Steven Margoshes's piano solo "Pray Lewd" (containing elements of "It's All Coming Back to Me Now"), Steinman's monologue "I've Been Dreaming Up a Storm Lately", and "Requiem Metal", a sample from *Verdi's Requiem Mass*, all from the album *Original Sin*.^[16]

Chart (1989)	Peak position
UK Singles (Official Charts Company) ^[17]	51

The song is the first on Celine's album *Falling into You*. **Jim Steinman** produced the track, with **Steven Rinkoff** and **Roy Bittan** as co-producers. *Bat Out of Hell* and **Meat Loaf** collaborators **Todd Rundgren**, Eric Troyer, **Rory Dodd**, **Glen Burtnick** and **Kasim Sulton** provided backing vocals. An edited version of the song was then released on Celine's album *All the Way... A Decade of Song*. On *Falling into You* album the song's original length is seven minutes and thirty-six seconds while on *All the Way... A Decade of Song* it is only five minutes and thirty-one seconds.

Personnel [\[edit\]](#)

- [Roy Bittan](#) - grand piano
- [Jeff Bova](#) - keyboards, programming
- Jimmy Bralower - drums, percussion
- Steve Buslowe - bass
- [Tim Pierce](#) - guitar
- [Eddie Martinez](#) - additional guitars
- [Kenny Aronoff](#) - additional drums
- [Bashiri Johnson](#) - additional percussion
- [Todd Rundgren](#), [Eric Troyer](#), [Rory Dodd](#), [Glen Buttrick](#), [Kasim Sulton](#) - background vocals

The cover has received acclaim from international critics. *AllMusic* senior editor [Stephen Thomas Erlewine](#) marked this song as a standout along with "[Falling Into You](#)" and praised it, "Celine shines on mock epics like Jim Steinman's 'It's All Coming Back to Me Now.'"^[19] The *Calgary Sun* stated, "[The song] is undoubtedly the highlight of her English-language recording career. Celine's over-the-top vocals soar and swoop around Steinman's epic, ostentatious arrangement. Not surprisingly, everything else that follows... pales in comparison". Toronto's *Eye Weekly* said Steinman's "fatal absence from the [last Meat Loaf record](#) is finally justified here."^[20] Dave Sholin from the *Gavin Report* wrote, "On this track, Jim Steinman's dramatic writing style melds perfectly with her powerful vocal, giving this production an incredibly passionate quality."^[21] *The Miami Herald* said Dion "knocks a couple out of the ballpark...[the song] features seven minutes of *Wagnerian* bombast, thunderclap piano *chords* and emoting that would either win an opera diva. Sure, it's over-the-top but it's passionate and musical!"^[20] [Stephen Holden](#) from *The New York Times* wrote, "The melodrama peaks with two overblown Jim Steinman productions: 'It's All Coming Back to Me Now', a romantic flashback replete with thunderclaps..."^[22] *Richmond Times-Dispatch* picked it as one of the best songs on the *Falling into You* album.^[23] *Sun-Sentinel* noted it as "lyrically and musically beautiful" and said that "this nearly eight-minute ballad sets the pace for this album with Dion's emotional singing."^[24]

According to the *Sunday Times*, [Andrew Lloyd Webber](#) told Steinman he thought this song was "the greatest love song ever written," and on hearing the Celine version reportedly said: "This will be the record of the millennium".^[3]

Ngel Dick directed the [music video](#) for Dion's version, with Simon Archer as cinematographer and Jaromir Svarc as [art director](#). It was shot between 29 June and 3 July 1996 in the [Ploskovice](#) summer palace of the Austrian Emperors and Barandov Studios, [Prague, Czech Republic](#); it was later released in July 1996.^[*?*] Castle Ploskovice in Ploskovice supplied the exterior of the gothic mansion.^[*?*] There are two versions of this music video; the full version (about 7:44 in length) and the single version (about 6:00 in length). Both of them are included on Dion's 2001 [DVD](#) video collection *[All the Way... A Decade of Song & Video](#)*.

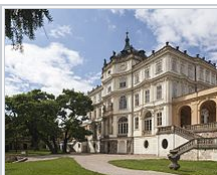
Official versions [\[edit\]](#)

Several versions of the CD single were released in 1996. They featured the songs "[The Power of the Dream](#)", "Le fils de Superman", "Fly", "[To Love You More](#)", and a live version of "[Where Does My Heart Beat Now](#)"; a cassette and 7" vinyl version were also released.^[29] Another CD contained several dance remixes, although these attracted negative reviews. While praising its original form, *Allmusic* said that 'as a dance song, it misses the mark...the final 'Mix' is a little better [than the other dance mixes] because the vocals don't pop up until three and a half minutes into the song'.^[29]

1. "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" (Classic Paradise radio mix #1) – 4:20
2. "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" (Classic Paradise radio mix #2) – 3:47
3. "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" (Classic Paradise mix) – 8:17
4. "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" ([Moran](#) anthem 7" edit) – 4:20
5. "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" (Moran anthem mix) – 14:38
6. "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" (Moran anthem mix part 1) – 10:32
7. "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" (Moran breakdown dub) – 9:09
8. "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" (Prophet mix) – 7:04
9. "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" (Aphrodisiac mix) – 7:47
10. "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" (Amnesia mix) – 7:33
11. "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" (Live version 2004 from [A New Day... Live in Las Vegas](#)) – 3:37
12. "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" (Live version 2008 from [Taking Chances World Tour: The Concert](#)) – 3:33
13. "It's All Coming Back to Me Now/The Power of Love" (Medley) (Live version 2013 from [Céline... une seule fois / Live 2013](#)) – 9:26
14. "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" (radio edit 1) – 5:31
15. "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" (radio edit 2) – 6:06
16. "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" (edit) – 5:20
17. "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" (album version) – 7:37

Released	25 October 1989
Format	7" single • 12" single • CD single
Recorded	1989
Genre	Soft rock
Length	8:22
Label	Virgin
Songwriter(s)	Jim Steinman
Producer(s)	Jim Steinman
Pandora's Box singles chronology	
"It's All Coming Back to Me Now" (1989)	
"Good Girls Go to Heaven (Bad Girls Go Everywhere") (1990)	

"It's All Coming Back to Me Now"		
<div></div>		
Single by Celine Dion		
from the album <i>Falling into You</i>		
B-side	"The Power of the Dream"	
Released	29 July 1996	
Format	7" · CD · cassette	
Recorded	1995; <i>The Hit Factory</i> (New York)	
Genre	Pop · soft rock	
Length	7:36 (album version)	
	6:06 (radio edit 2)	
	5:31 (radio edit 1)	
Label	Columbia · Epic	
Songwriter(s)	Jim Steinman	
Producer(s)	Jim Steinman · Steven Rinkoff Roy Bittan	
Celine Dion singles chronology		
"J'irai où tu iras" (1996)	"It's All Coming Back to Me Now" (1996)	"The Power of the Dream" (1996)
Music video		
"It's All Coming Back to Me Now" on YouTube		



The castle where the video was filmed

Charts ^[edit]

Weekly charts ^[edit]

Chart (1996–2018)	Peak position
Australia (ARIA) ^[30]	8
Belgium (Ultratop 50 Flanders) ^[31]	1
Belgium (Ultratop 50 Wallonia) ^[32]	10
Canada Top Singles (<i>RPM</i>) ^[33]	1
Canada Adult Contemporary (<i>RPM</i>) ^[34]	1
Canada (Canadian Singles Chart) ^[35]	2
Canada (<i>The Record's</i> Hit Parade Chart) ^[36]	3
Canada (<i>The Record's</i> Contemporary Hit Radio) ^[36]	3
Europe (European Hot 100 Singles) ^[37]	8
Europe (Adult Contemporary) ^[38]	22
France (SNEP) ^[39]	13
Germany (Official German Charts) ^[40]	62
Hungary (Single Top 40) ^[41]	39
Hungary (Rádiós Top 40) ^[42]	9
Iceland (Íslenski Listinn Topp 40) ^[43]	6
Ireland (IRMA) ^[44]	2
Netherlands (Dutch Top 40) ^[45]	4
Netherlands (Single Top 100) ^[46]	5
New Zealand (Recorded Music NZ) ^[47]	8
Quebec (ADISQ) ^[48]	1
Scotland (Official Charts Company) ^[49]	4
Spain (Top 40 Radio) ^[50]	31
Sweden (Sverigetopplistan) ^[51]	19
UK Singles (Official Charts Company) ^[52]	3
US <i>Billboard</i> Hot 100 ^[53]	2
US Adult Contemporary (<i>Billboard</i>) ^[54]	1
US Adult Top 40 (<i>Billboard</i>) ^[55]	2
US Dance Club Songs (<i>Billboard</i>) ^[56]	15
US Hot Dance Music/Maxi-Singles Sales (<i>Billboard</i>) ^[57]	12
US Mainstream Top 40 (<i>Billboard</i>) ^[58]	1
US Rhythmic (<i>Billboard</i>) ^[59]	16

Certifications and sales ^[edit]

Region	Certification	Certified units/sales
Australia (ARIA) ^[74]	Gold	35,000 [^]
Belgium (BEA) ^[75]	Gold	25,000 [*]
New Zealand (RMNZ) ^[76]	Gold	5,000 [*]
United Kingdom (BPI) ^[77]	Platinum	600,000 [‡]
United States (RIAA) ^[79]	Platinum	1,563,000 ^[78]
<div><div>[*]sales figures based on certification alone</div><div>[^]shipments figures based on certification alone</div><div>[‡]sales+streaming figures based on certification alone</div></div>		

Release history ^[edit]

Country	Date	Format
United States ^[80]	30 July 1996	CD · cassette · 7"
United Kingdom ^[80]	23 September 1996	CD · cassette

Meat Loaf and Marion Raven ^[edit]

In interviews, **Meat Loaf** has said that, in his mind, the song was always meant to be a duet.^{[5][81]} It was recorded as a duet by Meat Loaf and **Marion Raven** for the album *Bat Out of Hell III: The Monster Is Loose*, produced by **Desmond Child**. Raven had been working on her solo album with Child, and was chosen because the **timbre** of her voice starkly contrasts to Meat Loaf's.^[82] In promotional interviews, Meat Loaf said that "I believe that the version that Marion Raven and myself did on this album is the definitive version".^[5]

Meat Loaf cried when he first heard the song, which "is the only time that's happened".^[83] He has also said that the song could refer to Steinman and himself, with an array of emotions coming back every time they work together. Referring to lines like 'when I kiss you like that', he said that although "I love Jim Steinman", he wouldn't **French kiss** him.^[84]

To me it wasn't a song about romance, it was about me and Jim Steinman. We'd had a load of problems with managers in the early '80s and all of a sudden after five years we started to communicate. After I'd been to his house, he sent me the song, and it was "It's All Coming Back To Me Now". Not the line "When you kiss me like that", but the emotional connection. It doesn't have to be literal.^[83]

P. R. Brown directed this video.^[85] which premiered on **VH1 Classic** on 8 August 2006.^[86] There are similarities between the video for Meat Loaf's version of the song, and that the video for that of **Celine Dion**, with Meat Loaf being haunted by the memory of his lover. It is structured differently, however, with the story being told through flashback. Shots when Raven's character is alive have a distinct yellow tint, with a darker, blue tint for those after her death. Whereas the motorcyclist dies before the first verse in the Dion version, Raven's crash and resulting death is not shown until the final chorus. Meat Loaf becomes angry with Raven because the ghost of Raven's former lover appears at a **masquerade ball** they are attending (some reviewers have compared this to the **Stanley Kubrick** film *Eyes Wide Shut*).^[87]



This version of the song replaces the word 'nights' with 'lights', in the line 'There were nights of endless pleasure'. The ending of the single version is different, concluding with an additional 'We forgive and forget and it's all coming back to me now'. The album version, following those recorded by *Pandora's Box* and Celine Dion, ends with the female voice whispering 'And if we...', followed by four piano notes.

The track was available to download from **iTunes** in the United Kingdom in August 2006, two months

Year-end charts ^[edit]

Chart (1996)	Position
Australia (ARIA) ^[60]	42
Belgium (Ultratop 50 Flanders) ^[61]	19
Belgium (Ultratop 50 Wallonia) ^[62]	57
Canada Top Singles (<i>RPM</i>) ^[63]	17
Canada Adult Contemporary (<i>RPM</i>) ^[64]	3
Europe (European Hot 100 Singles) ^[65]	73
Netherlands (Dutch Top 40) ^[66]	20
Netherlands (Single Top 100) ^[67]	29
UK Singles (Official Charts Company) ^[68]	35
US <i>Billboard</i> Hot 100 ^[69]	18
US Adult Contemporary (<i>Billboard</i>) ^[69]	22
US Adult Top 40 (<i>Billboard</i>) ^[69]	25

Chart (1997)	Position
France (SNEP) ^[70]	94
US <i>Billboard</i> Hot 100 ^[71]	50
US Adult Contemporary (<i>Billboard</i>) ^[71]	22

Decade-end charts ^[edit]

Chart (1990–99)	Position
US <i>Billboard</i> Hot 100 ^[72]	77

All-time charts ^[edit]

Chart (1958–2018)	Position
US <i>Billboard</i> Hot 100 ^[73]	390

"It's All Coming Back to Me Now"



Single by **Meat Loaf** featuring **Marion Raven**
from the album *Bat Out of Hell III: The Monster Is Loose*

B-side "Whore"
Released 16 October 2006
Format CD, DVD, 7"
Genre Rock
Length 6:07 (album version)
4:32 (single edit)

Label Mercury
Songwriter(s) Jim Steinman
Producer(s) Desmond Child

Meat Loaf singles chronology

- ## External links [[edit](#)]

- | v · t · e | Celine Dion English singles |
|--------------|--|
| | Singles discography · Albums discography |
| 1980s | "Listen to the Magic Man" · "Michael's Song" · "Can't Live with You, Can't Live Without You" <p>"(If There Was) Any Other Way" · "Unison" · "Where Does My Heart Beat Now" · "The Last to Know" · "Have a Heart" · "Beauty and the Beast" · "If You Asked Me To" · "Nothing Broken but My Heart" · "Love Can Move Mountains" · "Water from the Moon" · "Did You Give Enough Love" · "When I Fall in Love" · "The Power of Love" · "Misled" · "Love Lights the World" · "Think Twice" · "Only One Road" · "Calling You" · "Next Plane Out" · "Just Walk Away" · "To Love You More" · "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman" · "Falling into You" · "Because You Loved Me" · "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" · "The Power of the Dream" · "All by Myself" · "Send Me a Lover" · "Call the Man" · "Make You Happy" · "Dreamin' of You" · "Tell Him" · "Be the Man" · "The Reason" · "My Heart Will Go On" · "Immortality" · "When I Need You"</p> |
| 1990s | "I Hate You Then I Love You" · "Mies to Go (Before I Sleep)" · "You've Got a Friend" · "Tm Your Angel" · "It's Hard to Say Goodbye" · "The Prayer" · "Treat Her Like a Lady" · "That's the Way It Is" · "Then You Look at Me" · "Live for the One I Love" · "The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face" · "I Want You to Need Me" · "If Walls Could Talk" · "Don't Save It All for Christmas Day" · "God Bless America" · "A New Day Has Come" · "I'm Alive" |

2000s	"Goodbye's (The Saddest Word)" · "At Last" · "I Drove All Night" · "Have You Ever Been in Love" · "One Heart" · "Stand by Your Side" · "Faith" · "You and I" · "Beautiful Boy" · "Miracle" · "In Some Small Way" · "Taking Chances" · "Eyes on Me" · "A World to Believe In" · "Alone" · "My Love"
2010s	"Loved Me Back to Life" · "Breakaway" · "Incredible" · "Water and a Flame" · "Hymn" · "The Show Must Go On" · "Recovering" · "Ashes" · "Flying on My Own" · "Imperfections" · "Lying Down" · Courage
Other	"Voices That Care" · "What More Can I Give" · "Come Together Now" · "Sing" · "We Are the World 25 for Haiti" · "How Does a Moment Last Forever"
<div> <div> Book</div> <div> Category</div> </div>	
<div> <div>v · t · e</div> <div>Meat Loaf</div> <div>Discography</div> </div>	
Solo studio albums	<i>Bat Out of Hell</i> (1977) · <i>Dead Ringer</i> (1981) · <i>Midnight at the Lost and Found</i> (1983) · <i>Bad Attitude</i> (1984) · <i>Blind Before I Stop</i> (1986) · <i>Bat Out of Hell II: Back into Hell</i> (1993) · <i>Welcome to the Neighbourhood</i> (1995) · <i>Couldn't Have Said It Better</i> (2003) · <i>Bat Out of Hell III: The Monster Is Loose</i> (2006) · <i>Hang Cool Teddy Bear</i> (2010) · <i>Hell in a Handbasket</i> (2011) · <i>Braver Than We Are</i> (2016)
Studio albums as featured artist	<i>Stoney & Meatloaf</i> (1971) · <i>Free-for-All</i> (1976)
Live albums	<i>Live at Wembley</i> (1987) · <i>Live Around the World</i> (1996) · <i>VH1: Storytellers</i> (1999) · <i>Bat Out of Hell: Live with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra</i> (2004) · <i>3 Bats Live</i> (2008)
Compilations	<i>Hits Out of Hell</i> (1984) · <i>Heaven & Hell</i> (1989) · <i>Heaven Can Wait – The Best Ballads of Meat Loaf Vol. 1</i> (1996) · <i>The Very Best of Meat Loaf</i> (1998)
Videography	<i>Live</i> · <i>Hits Out of Hell</i> · <i>Bad Attitude – Live!</i> · <i>Bat Out of Hell II: Picture Show</i> · <i>VH1: Storytellers</i> · <i>To Hell and Back</i> · <i>Bat Out of Hell: Live with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra</i> · <i>3 Bats Live</i> · <i>Meat Loaf: In Search of Paradise</i>
Tours	Dead Ringer Tour (1981–82) · Midnight at the Lost and Found Tour (1983) · The Seize the Night Tour (2006–07) · The Casa de Carne Tour (2008) · The Hang Cool Tour (2010–11) · Guilty Pleasure Tour (2011) · Mad, Mad World Tour (2012) · Last at Bat Tour (2013)
Singles	"What You See Is What You Get" · "You Took the Words Right Out of My Mouth" · "Paradise by the Dashboard Light" · "Two Out of Three Ain't Bad" · "Bat Out of Hell" · "I'm Gonna Love Her for Both of Us" · "Dead Ringer for Love" · "Read 'Em and Weep" · "Peel Out" · "In Europe '82" · "If You Really Want To" · "Razor's Edge" · "Midnight at the Lost and Found" · "Modern Girl" · "Nowhere Fast" · "Rock 'n' Roll Mercenaries" · "Blind Before I Stop" · "Special Girl" · "I'd Do Anything for Love (But I Won't Do That)" · "Life Is a Lemon and I Want My Money Back" · "Rock and Roll Dreams Come Through" · "Objects in the Rear View Mirror May Appear Closer Than They Are" · "I'd Lie for You (And That's the Truth)" · "Not a Dry Eye in the House" · "Runnin' for the Red Light (I Gotta Life)" · "A Kiss Is a Terrible Thing to Waste" · "Is Nothing Sacred" · "Did I Say That?" · "Couldn't Have Said It Better" · "Man of Steel" · "It's All Coming Back to Me Now" · "Cry Over Me" · "Los Angeloser"
Other songs	"Hot Patootie – Bless My Soul" · "No Matter What"
Related articles	Neverland Express · Stoney & Meatloaf · Ted Nugent · Jim Steinman · Patti Russo · Shaun Murphy · Amanda Aday · Pearl Aday
<div> <div>Categories:</div> <div> 1989 singles 1996 singles 2006 singles 1980s ballads Billboard Adult Contemporary number-one singles Billboard Mainstream Top 40 (Pop Songs) number-one singles Celine Dion songs Columbia Records singles Epic Records singles Marion Raven songs Meat Loaf songs Mercury Records singles Music based on novels Music videos directed by Nigel Dick Number-one singles in Norway Pandora's Box (band) songs Pop ballads Rock ballads RPM Adult Contemporary number-one singles RPM Top Singles number-one singles Song recordings produced by Jim Steinman Songs written by Jim Steinman Works based on Wuthering Heights Vocal duets Virgin Records singles </div> </div>	

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