

= Cheers (Drink to That) =

" Cheers (Drink to That) " is a song recorded by Barbadian recording artist Rihanna , from her fifth studio album , Loud (2010) . The song impacted US mainstream and rhythmic radio on August 2 , 2011 , as the seventh and final single released from Loud . The song was written by Andrew Harr , Jermaine Jackson , Stacy Barthe , LP , Corey Gibson , Chris Ivery , Lauren Christy , Graham Edwards , Avril Lavigne and Scott Spock , while production of the song was completed by Harr and Jackson under their stage name , The Runners . The song also contains samples from Lavigne 's song " I 'm with You " , which is featured on her debut album Let Go (2002) . Lyrically , " Cheers (Drink to That) " is a party @-@ drinking song , with multiple references to drinking alcohol , including Jameson Irish Whiskey .

The song has received positive reviews from music critics , who praised the interpolation of Lavigne 's " I 'm with You " and also commented that it would be a successful club song due to its lyrical content . " Cheers (Drink to That) " peaked inside the top ten in New Zealand and Australia , and charted at numbers 5 and 6 , respectively . The song also peaked at number 7 on the US Billboard Hot 100 chart , becoming the singer 's nineteenth top ten song on the chart . The music video for the song , directed by Evan Rogers and Ciara Pardo , shows footage of Rihanna on tour and different activities during her homecoming trip to Barbados . " Cheers (Drink to That) " was included on the set list of the Loud Tour (2011) .

= = Background and composition = =

Rihanna first announced that " Cheers (Drink to That) " would be the next single to be released from Loud via her official Twitter account , when she tweeted to celebrity internet blogger Perez Hilton that his " favourite song " from the album would become the next single . The song was sent to mainstream and rhythmic radio in the United States on August 2 , 2011 . " Cheers (Drink to That) " was written by hip hop production duo Andrew Harr and Jermaine Jackson , Stacey Barthe , Laura Pergolizzi , Corey Gibson , Chris Ivery , Lauren Christy , Graham Edwards , Avril Lavigne and Scott Spock , and the main vocal track (s) were produced by Makeba Riddick , while it 's instrumental & backing vocal track (s) was produced by Harr and Jackson under their stage name , The Runners .

In an interview with MTV News in late 2010 , Rihanna spoke of how " Cheers (Drink to That) " was one of her favorite songs on the album , saying " I love that song [' Cheers '] . That is one of my favorite songs on the album . It makes you feel like celebrating ... It gives you a great feeling inside , like you want to go out and have a drink ... People can 't wait for the weekend . " Also in an interview with MTV News in late 2010 , Avril Lavigne spoke about being included on the song , saying , " It was really exciting because ' I 'm With You ' is one of my favorite songs that I 've done , I always love performing it . "

" Cheers (Drink to That) " is a poprock , reggaetón and R & B song . It contains samples of Lavigne 's song " I 'm with You " , which is featured on her album Let Go (2002) . According to the digital music sheet published at musicnotes.com , the song is written in the key of E major and is set in simple time with a moderated hip @-@ hop groove . Rihanna 's vocal range in the song spans from the low note of E3 to the high note of B4 . Lyrically , " Cheers (Drink to That) " is a party @-@ drinking song , which is exemplified by the verse " Life 's too short to be sittin ' around miserable / People are gonna talk whether you 're doin ' bad or good / Don 't let the bastards get you down / Turn it around with another round " . According to Ryan Dombal of Pitchfork , the lyrics sum up the general sentiment of Loud and there 's no tabloid back story , as it was in most cases on her previous release Rated R (2009) .

= = Critical reception = =

Upon its release as a single , " Cheers (Drink to That) " received positive reviews from music critics . Mark Savage of BBC Music described the song as " a funky , loping guitar groove for to a

night out on the town , " which Rihanna dedicated to " all the semi @-@ alcoholics in the world " . Robert Copsey of Digital Spy praised the use of the interpolation of Lavigne 's song , calling it " unbelievably catchy " , as well as commenting that it will be a success in bars and clubs , due to the references of alcohol and going out of a weekend in the lyrics . Jon Pareles of The New York Times commented that " Cheers (Drink to That) " is written for " barroom singalongs " . According to Leah Greenblatt from Entertainment Weekly , " the Jameson @-@ swilling , TGIF @-@ toasting ' Cheers (Drink to That) ' , folds a left @-@ field Avril Lavigne sample into a crunked party anthem " .

Amy Sciarretto of PopCrush also commended " Cheers (Drink to That) " and its musical style , saying " The song is infused with the tropical , island groove that she has explored on ' Loud ' and which harks back to her upbringing in Barbados . " Sciarretto also noted that " Cheers (Drink to That) " would be very popular in bars and clubs because of the lyrical content . Andy Gill of The Independent called the song an anthem with which the weekend can start . Thomas Conner of the Chicago Sun @-@ Times said that " Cheers (Drink to That) " is the best song on the album , saying " [the song is] a wise , world @-@ weary paeon from a gal at the bar who 's seen some stuff , has moved on and wants to buy everybody a round of fruity shots " . However , Chris Richards of The Washington Post stated that " Cheers (Drink to That) " did not meet his expectations and commented that the song is a lowlight in Rihanna 's career , stating " ' Turn it around with another round ' , Rihanna bellows over the mid slog , as if setting ad copy to music " .

= = Chart performance = =

In the issue dated August 3 , 2011 , " Cheers (Drink to That) " debuted on the US Billboard Hot 100 chart at number 91 , and leaped to a new peak of 50 on August 10 , 2011 . The following week , the song rose to number 25 and by its fourth week , " Cheers (Drink to That) " rose again to number 17 , giving Rihanna her twenty @-@ second top @-@ twenty single on the chart . In its fifth week , the song rose to number 11 , where it remained in its sixth week . On its seven @-@ week , the song charted at number 10 , its current peak . " Cheers " (Drink To That) also debuted on the US Pop Songs chart at number 35 in the issue dated August 3 , 2011 . The following week , the song climbed ten positions to a new peak of 25 , and became that week 's " Greatest Gainer " on the chart and Rihanna 's 26th song to reach the top 40 . In its third week , the song reached a new peak of 16 , and rose to number 11 the following week , where it remained for another week . The song has peaked at number seven , making " Cheers (Drink to That) " the singers fourth top ten Hot 100 hit from Loud and nineteenth overall top ten song in the US . On December 13 , 2011 , " S & M " was certified double platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) , denoting shipments of over two million copies . " Cheers (Drink to That) " ranked at number 77 on Billboard magazine 's Hot 100 songs of 2011 . In Canada , the song debuted at number 89 on August 17 , 2011 , and advanced to 37 the following week , ultimately peaking at number 6 in its third week on the charts .

In Australia , the song debuted at number 46 on the Australian Singles Chart on August 14 , 2011 , and peaked at number eighteen the following week . In its seventh week on the chart , the song reached a new peak of number 6 . The song has been certified Gold by the Australian Recording Industry Association , denoting shipments of over 35 @,@ 000 units . In New Zealand , the song debuted at number fourteen on the New Zealand Singles Chart on August 8 , 2011 and reached a peak of number 5 the following week , however it fell to number 8 in its third week . In the United Kingdom , the song also debuted inside the top 40 of the UK R & B Chart at number 38 on August 27 , 2011 , after having charted at number 47 the week before . The following week , the song rose to number twenty @-@ one , sitting one position lower than Rihanna 's previous single , " California King Bed " . In its sixth week , the song climbed to number 4 . The song has so far peaked at number fifteen on the UK Singles Chart . In Ireland , the song debuted at number 30 on the Irish Singles Chart on September 8 , 2011 , and has peaked at number sixteen . In France , the song debuted at number eighty @-@ eight on September 3 , 2011 , rose to eighty @-@ two the following week and peaked at 67 in its subsequent week .

= = Music video = =

= = = Background = = =

During the Loud Tour concert in Kensington Oval , Barbados , on August 5 , 2011 , Rihanna announced that a taping of " Cheers (Drink to That) " had been recorded during the show for the song 's music video . It was later announced that the video would be expected to feature footage of her homecoming , as well as clips of her performing during the North American leg of the tour . Via Rihanna 's official Twitter account , she replied to a fan 's tweet , announcing that the video would premiere on August 24 , 2011 , on iTunes . However , it was later announced that the video would premiere the following day on August 25 , 2011 . The video premiered officially via iTunes and VEVO on August 26 , 2011 . A 15 @-@ second teaser video was released the day before it officially premiered , and featured Rihanna applying make @-@ up before taking to the stage , as well as fans screaming her name while fireworks were launched into the night sky . The video was directed and edited by New York based director Evan Rogers and Ciara Pardo .

= = = Synopsis = = =

The video begins with Rihanna 's fans screaming and cheering her name before a concert is about to start , while Rihanna is shown walking to her dressing room , preparing to perform by doing her make @-@ up and changing outfits . As a firework explodes in the sky , scenes of Rihanna driving through her hometown and having a drink at the bar are intercut . As the song starts to play , Rihanna is seen in a variety of different outfits from various parts of the concert , whilst also showing clips of the audience dancing and singing . Rihanna is also seen holding a handheld camera , which she uses to film herself and other people , as well as goings @-@ on backstage . Avril Lavigne , who makes a cameo appearance in the video , is seen raising her glass to the camera before being pushed fully clothed into a swimming pool while on a skateboard . Jay @-@ Z , Kanye West and CeeLo Green are also featured in the various clips of the video , as the former two were special guests at Rihanna 's tour on certain dates , while the latter was an opening act on selected dates during the North American leg of the tour . Shots of Rihanna flying on a private jet , avoiding paparazzi and participating in the Barbados Kadooment Day are also intercut throughout the video . Other scenes include her taking pictures together with her mother and grandmother , swimming , relaxing , partying with her brother , and spending time with her friends and family . The video ends with Rihanna on a boat shouting " Rihanna Navy ! " , referring to her fan group .

= = = Reception = = =

Upon its release , the video received general acclaim from critics . Iona Kirby of Daily Mail praised the documentary @-@ style video , which gives fans an opportunity to see the life of Rihanna and insight into what she likes to do . A reviewer from Rap @-@ Up praised the video , commenting that it is a " real blast in a glass ! " . According to PopDash 's Giovanna Falcone , the video shows " Rihanna goofing around with friends and family , on stage and loving life , you can 't help but smile throughout " . Robbie Daw of Idolator commented that the music video looks " like one big , drunken night out " . A reviewer from Rolling Stone magazine also commented that the video " finds Rihanna in an appropriately celebratory mood it 's mostly a lot of shots of her partying backstage with friends and celebrities " . Sarah Maloy of Billboard magazine commented " there are no special effects , storylines ? and no chance of lawsuits , " referring to one of Rihanna 's previous music videos , " S & M " , which was faced with two lawsuits . Maloy also noted that the video presents Rihanna 's ordinary life just as it is .

A reviewer of OK ! commented that " Rihanna gets buddy Avril Lavigne on board in the video for the track ' which will be our anthem for the Bank Holiday weekend . ' " Brad Wete of Entertainment Weekly simply commented that " It 's party time , folks ! And that 's exactly what the video makes

apparent " . With regard to the cameo appearance of several celebrities and Rihanna 's colleagues , Leah Collins of The Vancouver Sun stated " Rihanna shows that she has more celebrity friends than hairstyles (which is saying something considering she manages to change her weave approximately every 5 seconds in the clip) " . According to William Goodman from Spin magazine " Barbadian pop queen Rihanna leads a charmed life . But at heart , she 's just a hometown party girl , and her new video for ' Cheers (Drink to That) ' proves it " . In reference to raising glasses in the video , Rebeca Ford from The Hollywood Reporter commented " the singer can also be seen raising a [glass] to her audience , probably thanking them for their support with her own personal ' cheers . , "

= = Live performances = =

" Cheers (Drink to That) " was included on the set list of the Loud Tour (2011) . Rihanna also performed the song at V Festival in the United Kingdom on August 20 and 21 , 2011 .

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits adapted from the liner notes of Loud .

Songwriting ? Andrew Harr , Jermaine Jackson , Stacy Barthe , Laura Pergolizzi , Corey Gibson , Chris Ivery , Lauren Christy , Graham Edwards , Avril Lavigne , Scott Spock

Production ? The Runners

Vocal production ? Makeba Riddick

Vocal recording and mixing ? Marcos Tovar

Assistant vocal recording ? Antonio Resendiz , Inaam Haq , Dane Liska , Brad Shea

Recording ? Jeff " Supa Jeff " Villanueva

Recording assistant ? Ben O 'Neill

Assistant mixing ? Bobby Campbell

Backing vocals ? Stacy Barthe , Laura Pergolizzi , Avril Lavigne

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications = =

= = Release history = =