

= Trouble ( Leona Lewis song ) =

" Trouble " is a song recorded by British recording artist Leona Lewis and American entertainer Childish Gambino for Lewis ' third studio album , Glassheart ( 2012 ) . Inspired by Lewis ' break @-@ up with childhood sweetheart Lou Al @-@ Chamaa , " Trouble " is a mid @-@ tempo R & B and trip hop ballad , with a piano and strings @-@ driven melody . It was written by a British writing collective consisting of Lewis , Donald Glover , Hugo Chegwin , Harry Craze , Shahid Khan , James Murray , Mustafa Omer , Emeli Sandé and Fraser T Smith . Production came courtesy of Khan under his production name of Naughty Boy and Smith , along with co @-@ producer Chris Loco and additional producer Jahlil Beats . Music critics noted that the urban production marked a new direction for Lewis , particularly by featuring Gambino during the song 's middle eight breakdown with a poetic rap verse . A version excluding Gambino is also included on Glassheart .

" Trouble " was also influenced by British trip hop duo Massive Attack , who Lewis cited as a musical inspiration . Lewis ' falsetto and soprano vocal performance on the song garnered early praise from critics who commended the raw emotions , as well as Gambino 's guest rap and the song 's melodic strings- and piano @-@ heavy production . " Trouble " premiered on 21 August 2012 on BBC Radio 1 's Breakfast with Scott , ahead of its release as Glassheart 's lead single , superseding the 2011 single " Collide " , a collaboration with Swedish DJ and record producer Avicii . " Trouble " was released on 5 October 2012 , preceding the album by one week , and entered the UK Singles Chart at number seven becoming Lewis 's ninth top @-@ ten single . In Ireland " Trouble " charted at number twenty @-@ one becoming Lewis 's eighth top @-@ thirty single .

As part of promotion of the song , fans were given chance to produce their own remix of " Trouble " which was released alongside the single on Lewis ' official music store . An accompanying music video was filmed on 22 August in Los Angeles , with Teen Wolf actor Colton Haynes cast as Lewis ' love interest . Haynes , a friend of Lewis , was chosen due to his physical resemblance to Lewis ' ex Al @-@ Chaama . In the video , Lewis and Haynes ' relationship begins to unfold and culminates in an altercation between the duo before Haynes leaves and Lewis breaks down in tears . Lewis also recorded an acoustic performance of the song for her Vevo account . " Trouble " was promoted with performances on the ninth series of The X Factor ( UK ) , on 7 October 2012 , later on Alan Carr : Chatty Man and also during a set at London nightclub , G @-@ A @-@ Y.

= = Background and release = =

Lewis began to conceptualise her third album Glassheart in the second half of 2010 , shortly after completing her first headline concert tour , The Labyrinth . " Trouble " was one of the earlier songs recorded by Lewis , and one of several tracks that Lewis worked on with British duo Emeli Sandé and Naughty Boy . Sandé first conceived the loose concepts for " Trouble " in 2009 . It was not until British hip @-@ hop artist Tinie Tempah began working with Sandé for his own debut album Disc @-@ Overy ( 2011 ) , that " Trouble " was pitched to Lewis ; Tempah approached Lewis to record " Trouble " as a duet with himself . Upon hearing the demo , Lewis asked Tempah if she could have the song and subsequently entered the recording studios with Sandé and Fraser T Smith to record and finish the song . Sandé later wrote two more songs for Lewis , including " I to You " and " Sugar " . A fourth song , " Mountains " , was reclaimed by Sandé and was recorded for her debut album Our Version of Events ( 2012 ) .

With a November 2011 release date set for Glassheart , Lewis proceeded with the release of the album 's first single " Collide " on 15 July 2011 . However , Swedish house music DJ Avicii sued Lewis and Sony Music , claiming that " Collide " was a reproduction of his own instrumental single " Penguin , " for which he had sought the legal permission to sample Simon Jeffes ' " Perpetuum Mobile " . Following a settlement out of court , " Collide " was released crediting both Lewis and Avicii . " Collide " reached number one on the US Hot Dance Club Songs chart , number three in Ireland and number four in the United Kingdom . Despite this , Glassheart was pushed into early 2012 to accommodate new recording sessions . During this time Lewis would work with Scottish DJ Calvin Harris and record a song called " We Found Love " . Harris wanted Lewis to release " We

Found Love " at the end of 2011 , yet Lewis and her label had already decided " Trouble " would be the second single from Glassheart . During an interview with Digital Spy , Lewis said " Yes , I think ' Trouble ' will be the second single . I can 't wait for everyone to hear it . I 'm really excited about it . It 's one that I really love . " Once the album was pushed back again to mid @-@ 2012 , and then October 2012 , Harris reclaimed " We Found Love " , which was subsequently recorded by Barbadian recording artist Rihanna for her album Talk That Talk and became a number one hit worldwide .

Nearly a year later as work for the album neared completion , Lewis was able to confirm that " Trouble " would still be the album 's second single and was due for release in October 2012 alongside the album . Between the announcement in 2011 and the song 's release in 2012 , Sony Music Entertainment re @-@ organised operations , which resulted in the closure of J Records and all previously signed artists being absorbed into RCA Records . " Trouble " is thus Lewis ' first release in partnership with RCA Records . Sony Music made " Trouble " a global priority , making it supersede " Collide " as the album 's lead single and focussing on promoting the song in the UK first before a worldwide release . A new version of " Trouble " was recorded to feature American rapper Childish Gambino and premiered on radio on 21 August 2012 . " Trouble " was played at a press premiere for Tracey Hart from Music Week magazine , along with new songs " Come Alive " and " Un Love Me " . The song was also played for Popjustice twice , first in an early form last year in 2011 and secondly in a finished form on 16 August 2012 . The website noted that the new version of " Trouble " sounded more finished and complete with the addition of Gambino 's verse . " Trouble " premiered on BBC Radio 1 's Breakfast with Scott on 21 August 2012 , ahead of its Irish release on 5 October and UK release on 7 October 2012 . It was released 14 December 2012 in Germany .

= = Composition and lyrics = =

" Trouble " is a mid @-@ tempo R & B and trip hop song written by Lewis and collective of British songwriters , including Hugo Chegwin , Harry Craze , Shahid Khan , James Murray , Mustafa Omer , Emeli Sandé and Fraser T Smith . It is primarily an R & B and trip hop song , built around a strings-and piano @-@ driven melody . Production was done by Khan under his production name of Naughty Boy and Smith , while secondary production was provided by Chris Loco . Orlando " Jahlil Beats " Tucker provided some additional production . A reviewer from the The Metro noted that the song had a hip hop vibe and feel to its production . " Trouble " was recorded in the key of A @-@ minor and written in time signature of common time , set at a tempo of 104 beats per minute . Sony Music executive Sonny Thakrar described Lewis and Sandé 's work together on " Trouble " as " killer chemistry , " praising Sandé 's " storytelling " abilities and Lewis ' " vocal prowess " . Thakrar , who is also involved with A & R , said that " Trouble " was a showcase of an " emotional and raw " vocal from Lewis . Vocals throughout the song are sung in Lewis ' falsetto and soprano registers , spanning a range of E4 ? 5 . The tone and mood of the song is ethereal , with Lewis ' vocals taking on a " haunting " tone that is only broken during middle eight section when Childish Gambino delivers his " poetic " rap verse . " Trouble " featuring Gambino appears on Glassheart as track number thirteen , whilst a solo no @-@ rap version appears on the album as track number one .

In a press release , Lewis explained the meaning behind " Trouble " : " it tells the story of love going bad and becoming destructive , aspects of which we can all relate to . It ? s a deeply emotional and poignant song that I have a real connection to . " According to the Sunday Mirror , " Trouble " was inspired by Lewis ' break @-@ up with her childhood sweetheart Lou Al @-@ Chamaa . Lyrics which reference her relationship with Chamaa include the lines : " I told you never to get used to me , I stay awake while you fall asleep . I 'm a whole lot of trouble , we 're in a whole lot of trouble . You shout louder than you used to , and you hold on tighter in the bedroom . " During an interview with Digital Spy , Lewis further explained that she was inspired and influenced by British trip @-@ hop pioneers Massive Attack . The Sun 's showbiz editor Gordan Smart also picked up on the similarities , noting that " Trouble " sounds similar to " Unfinished Sympathy " ( 1991 ) and " Teardrop " ( 1998 ) by Massive Attack . " Trouble " drew comparisons to Sandé 's own singles ; according to Michael Cragg from The Guardian , " Trouble " was much like " Heaven " ( 2011 ) while MSN 's Danielle

Cheeseman compared it to Sandé collaboration with Naughty Boy , " Daddy " ( 2011 ) .

= = Response = =

= = = Critical reception = = =

" Trouble " received mainly positive reviews from critics , who praised Childish Gambino 's featured rap , the musical production and Lewis 's emotive vocals . A reviewer from Pop Justice said that the site had twice heard " Trouble " ; the first time was just before " Collide " was released in September 2011 , while a second finished version was played for them on 16 August 2012 . The final track featured the same " beguiling feel " as the earlier version but was more " finished . " The reviewer commented , " [ ' Trouble ' has ] a convincing , compelling and dramatic vocal performance which works brilliantly against the song 's opulent but bleak mid @-@ tempo production " , adding that although Childish Gambino 's " rap in the middle eight sounds great " , it almost " slightly dilutes Leona 's big comeback " . These sentiments were echoed by Kim Dawson from the Daily Star , describing the song as bringing Lewis " bang up to date " thanks to " a mid @-@ tempo melody , epic strings , sharp lyrics " and a " slammin ' rap from Gambino " . Meanwhile , Kirsten McCormack from the Daily Mail praised Lewis ' " ethereal and haunting vocal tones " make " Trouble " a " showcase [ for ] the sheer power and intimacy of Leona 's incredible talent " . McCormack also praised the " home @-@ grown " talent of a completely British writing camp which conceptualised the song , calling it a " standout track " and something that Lewis could be passionate about .

During early previews of the song , Corner spoke most on Gambino 's guest appearance , describing the collaboration as " unlikely on paper " but then in reality " it results in one of Leona 's most natural collaborations to date " . Commenting on the song as a whole , Corner said " Trouble " was a powerful comeback , " It 's big , it 's emotional and it 's what we 've come to expect from the Hackney belle ? but we wouldn 't want it any other way . " Gordon Smart , showbiz editor for The Sun added that although " it was a long time coming , [ ... ] ' Trouble ' will definitely make people interested in a full album " mainly down the new sound , image and Gambino 's guest rap which will " help shake off Lewis ' safe image . " Lewis Corner from Digital Spy also picked up on the change of direction and commented that people would be " shocked , " but then added that " when " it results in an emotive anthem like this , we hope she unleashes it more often . " The Guardian 's Michael Cragg called " Trouble " a return to the " safer " templates of her first two albums , but praised the song 's production calling it " a vaguely trip @-@ hop beat buffeted by soaring strings and a troubled lyric in the chorus . " Like previous reviews , Cragg also praised Gambino stating that he " manages to stamp his own personality on the song " despite appearing near the end of the song and that perhaps it was Lewis ' best chance at " regaining her footing in America " .

In a later review , Corner said that " Trouble " was built around " echoing beats and heart @-@ tugging piano riff , " which when combined with " her unmistakable falsetto " was as dramatic as a scene from the film The Hunger Games . Elena Gorgon from Softpedia echoed earlier sentiments , concluding that the song " was powerful , it 's heartfelt and it confirms Leona as one of the most remarkable vocalists of the day . " However MSN 's Danielle Cheeseman said that " Trouble " being a safe return to what Lewis has always done wasn 't necessarily a good thing . In her review , Cheeseman called the song the " same melodrama " as past Lewis songs and that due to the song sounding familiar to Sandé 's song " Daddy " , " Lewis has yet to find her own stride " . Corner featured " Trouble " on his weekly playlist " 10 Songs You Need to Hear " for the week beginning 27 August 2012 . There he described elaborated that the song was a welcome return for Lewis thanks to " big beats , big strings and even bigger vocals " . Whilst the majority of reviews praised Gambino 's appearance on the song , Cheeseman described the collaboration as " a saviour " but that it did nothing for Lewis ' " credibility " . Her review was subtitled " Leona Lewis Tries to Convince Us She 's ' Trouble ' ? We 're not buyin ' what she 's sellin ' " and concluded that if the best that Glassheart could preview after all the delays was " Trouble " , " it won 't be worth the wait . " NME 's Jeremy Allen agreed , praising the production on " Trouble " as " slick " but stating that from Lewis it does

not come across with conviction nor is it believable .

#### == Chart performance ==

On 12 September 2012 , " Trouble " was added the C @-@ Playlist of UK mainstream radio station BBC Radio 1 . A week later it was moved up to the B @-@ Playlist . " Trouble " made its Irish Singles Chart debut at number twenty @-@ one , becoming her eighth top @-@ thirty single . It is Lewis 's third single after " Footprints in the Sand " ( 2008 ) and " I Got You " ( 2010 ) to miss the top five . In the United Kingdom the song fared somewhat better , debuting at number two on the R & B Singles Chart and number seven on the main UK Singles Chart . " Trouble " is the second single to miss the top five in the UK after " I Got You " , but is Lewis ' ninth UK top ten . In total , " Trouble " spent four weeks within the top 100 . Elsewhere , song made a brief appearance Swiss Singles Chart , where it peaked at number seventy @-@ five for one week before dropping off the chart , and at number ninety @-@ three on the South Korea Gaon International singles chart .

#### == Music video ==

#### == Background ==

A music video for " Trouble " began production on 22 August 2012 with Lewis confirming , via her Twitter account , that Teen Wolf actor Colton Haynes will play her love interest in the video . It is the second time that Lewis has enlisted a Hollywood actor to play a love interest , previously casting Chace Crawford to play her leading man in the video for Lewis ' single " I Will Be " ( 2009 ) . According to MSN 's Felicity Thistlewaithe , Haynes was chosen due to his physical resemblance to Lewis ' ex @-@ boyfriend Lou Al @-@ Chamaa , who is thought to be the inspiration for the song . Haynes said that his and Lewis ' managers were good friends and thus the casting was arranged through them . Described by Capital FM as " Lewis enduring an awkward break @-@ up " interpolated with " time [ s ] when the couple were happy and in love , " the music video for " Trouble " uses the solo version of the song , which excludes Childish Gambino 's rap verse . It was filmed in Los Angeles and sees the relationship between Haynes and Lewis unfold in various scenarios , particularly focussing on how the couple argue before walking away from each other .

Helmed by Raul B. Fernandez , the principle filming of the video took place in just one day . While filming the bedroom scene for the video , Lewis fell from the bed and injured her toe . A doctor was called on set to examine the injury , but Lewis was given the all clear and resumed filming barefoot for the rest of the video . On 29 August 2012 , the official lyrics video was uploaded to Lewis ' YouTube page . Two weeks later , Lewis uploaded some still images from the music video . On 14 September 2012 , Lewis uploaded the official music video for " Trouble " to her VEVO account . Behind @-@ the @-@ scenes footage from the video shoot was released on 4 October 2012 , and shows Lewis and Haynes filming each of the scenes with commentary from Fernandez , Haynes and Lewis .

#### == Synopsis ==

The video begins with a view of the apartment that Lewis and Haynes shared . Books and a vase lay strewn across the floor , while Lewis weeps in the corner and Haynes watches from a distance teary @-@ eyed . The video switches to several other shots of Lewis singing the first verse , looking morose . In a third shot , Lewis is seen standing on a rooftop against the Los Angeles skyline dressed in a dark red crop top . Then the video switches to Lewis standing in front of projected images of the memorable times of her relationship with Haynes . Lewis and Haynes are seen sat at opposite ends of the sofa looking into the distance , spliced with more scenes of Lewis on the rooftop . The couple are seen during an awkward dinner before switching to images of the couple in bed together , seemingly happy . As the chorus kicks in for the first time , the couple are seen

arriving at a party , with Lewis wearing an aqua @-@ coloured dress with a portion of her midriff revealed , meanwhile Haynes wears a plaid shirt and jeans . Initially the couple are content , embracing guests but socialising separately and avoiding contact with each other . The camera switches between these and the earlier scenes of Lewis in front of projected images and the LA skyline throughout the chorus . As Lewis sings " I 'm a whole lot of trouble / We 're in a whole lot of trouble " , she glances over to see Haynes flirting with another girl .

In the following verse , Lewis and Haynes are seen having several embraces , some joyful while others are more tense as Lewis is sad . The couple are then seen leaving the party ; Haynes walks over to Lewis and attempts to kiss , but she proceeds to push him away . During the second airing of the chorus , more images of happy scenes between the couple are spliced with Lewis waking up in bed to find Haynes has slept on the sofa . More passionate embraces between the couple are seen before Lewis is seen breaking down in tears . At the breakfast that follows , the couple break into a series of arguments . Lewis shoves Haynes onto the sofa , and Haynes grabs Lewis as she turns away . Lewis then slaps Hayne around the face . During the middle eight breakdown in the song , Haynes throws books from a shelf , and Lewis throws objects at Haynes including a cushion , as well as pushing over a lamp . Haynes subsequently leaves , driving away into the distance , and Lewis falls to the wall and breaks down in tears .

= = = Reception = = =

Anna Lewis from Heatworld.com praised the music video and said that fans who " like listening to good tunes and looking at hot guys " would be impressed . In the review A. Lewis also commended the decision to hire Haynes and summarised by saying " Bravo Leona . Bravo . " 4 Music 's Chris Younie agreed calling Lewis " one lucky lady , " as well as being surprised by the video . In his review Younie said " If you thought butter @-@ wouldn 't @-@ melt in the mouth of Leona Lewis , think again , as the video gets steamy ! " He concluded by praising the song and video 's potential with the comment " [ it ] could be another No 1 for the ballad @-@ belting beauty . "

= = Promotion and live performances = =

In a 24 August 2012 newsletter to fans about the upcoming release of " Trouble , " it was announced that aspiring musicians and fans could produce their own remix for " Trouble " and win the chance to have their remix released along with the single . Lewis told fans , " I can 't wait for you guys to start remixing ' Trouble ' . It is such an important song to me and I know that you will put all your creative talents into it ! I 'm looking forward to hearing what you come up with and don 't forget there are some great prizes to be won too ! " Lewis and Fraser T Smith ( co @-@ producer and co @-@ writer of the song ) were amongst the judges for the shortlisted songs . Matty Graham won the competition , and his remix of " Trouble " was released alongside the original version as part of a Digital EP available exclusively to MyPlayDirect.com , Lewis ' official music store .

On 5 September 2012 , Lewis uploaded her first live performance of " Trouble " to her official Vevo account . The acoustic performance was recorded live in a studio in just one take , and was filmed in black and white . The video features a stripped vocal performance set against a minimal cello and piano production . It is one of five such acoustic performances that Lewis recorded of songs from Glassheart in August 2012 . Deekay from soul music website Soulculture.co.uk praised the acoustic performance , saying that while the original version " just about added up to the sum of its individually brilliant parts " , the acoustic " [ is ] perhaps even better than the original " . The reviewer praised Lewis ' balance of " powerhouse vocals with the soul and emotion that her critics claim she lacks " .

A tour of local radio stations in the UK began on 17 September , lasting for four days and visiting six cities to promote both " Trouble " and Glassheart . Lewis performed " Trouble " live for the first time on ninth series of The X Factor , the same show which launched Lewis ' career six years earlier . Music Week magazine was first to reveal that Lewis would be performing over the first live shows on 7 October , directly preceding the song 's release . Dressed in a purple Ariella Courture gown ,

Lewis ' performance was called " flawless " by writers for the Daily Mail , who commended Lewis for cementing her comeback . On 12 October 2012 , Lewis performed " Trouble " live on Alan Carr : Chatty Man , and a day later reprised the performance during at set at G @-@ A @-@ Y nightclub in London . Internationally , Lewis took to the stage for second season finale of The Voice of Germany , where she performed " Trouble " as a duet with finalist Michael Lane . " Trouble " is performed as the eleventh song on the set list of Lewis ' 2013 tour called the Glassheart Tour .

= = Track listing = =

= = Credits = =

Recording

Recorded at Henson Recording Studios in Los Angeles and MyAudioTonic Studios ( The Matrix ) in London , United Kingdom .

Mixed at Ninja Beat Club , Atlanta , Georgia .

Mastered at SING Mastering , Atlanta , Georgia .

Personnel

Credits adapted from album booklet .

= = Charts = =

= = Radio adds and release history = =