

= Sins of My Father (song) =

" Sins of My Father " is a song recorded by American recording artist Usher for his seventh studio album Looking 4 Myself (2012) . The song , a collaborative effort between Usher , Terry Lewis , Salaam Remi , and Rico Love , tells the story of a " tortured soul " in a " volatile " relationship . " Critics noted Usher 's relationship with ex @-@ wife Tameka Foster to be the basis of the song , which contains references to their children together . Usher himself added that the song itself is a " kind of testament " for the type of father he is .

" Sins of My Father " is a soul song that contains prominent blues , dub , Motown and reggae influences . It received universal acclaim from music critics , who cited it as a stand @-@ out track on Looking 4 Myself . Upon the release of Looking 4 Myself , the song debuted at number 62 on the South Korea Gaon International Chart , with sales of 5 @,@ 813 digital copies .

= = Writing and recording = =

" Sins of My Father " was written by Usher , Rico Love , Salaam Remi and Terry Lewis . The production of the song was helmed by Remi , with Love also serving as its co @-@ producer . Remi has previously produced songs such as " Made You Look " (God 's Son , 2002) for American rapper Nas and " You Know I 'm No Good " (Back to Black , 2006) for late English singer Amy Winehouse .

In an interview with SoulCulture , Usher told that the inspiration for writing " Sins of My Father " is about dealing with things that people can 't understand . He further stated that the past can bring people " down a road " because they are not aware of it . According to him , " The time spent with a father will teach you a certain understanding of life and how to cope and deal with things . The lack of a father being there can also teach you how to deal with life ? and that ? s what ' Sins Of The Father ' is about ... That statement was made because that ? s something that I felt . " Usher added that the song itself is a " kind of testament " for the father he is .

Gleyder " Gee " Disla and Mark " Exit " Goodchild recorded " Sins of My Father " at Jungle City Studios in New York City , Doppler Studios in Atlanta , Glenwood Place Studios in Burbank and Instrument Zoo in Miami . Alex Fremin , Jacob Dennis , Max Unruh and Ramon Rivas served as recording assistants . It was mixed by Manny Marroquin at Larrabee Sound Studio in Universal City , while Chris Galland and Delbert Bowers served as a mixing assistant . The track 's producer Remi together with Vincent Henry and Czech Film Orchestra , provided the " Sins of My Father " instrumentation .

= = Composition and lyrical interpretation = =

" Sins of My Father " is a soul song with prominent blues , dub , Motown and reggae influences that runs for three minutes and 56 seconds . The song 's instrumentation consists of bass , keyboards , guitar , drums , horns , saxophone and strings which are played by the Czech Film Orchestra . According to Jim Farber of Daily News , " Sins of My Father " consists of " some of the sexy , retro shading " that can be seen in the Remi produced songs by Amy Winehouse . Popdust 's Andrew Unterberger commented that the track " sounds like a death rattle , a hypnotically low bass line slinking around some ominously shook maracas , a molasses @-@ slow drum loop , and by the end , even some John Barry @-@ cinematic @-@ style strings . " He further stated that " Sins of My Father " is a step " bluesier and evil @-@ er , sounding more from the legacy of Howlin ? Wolf and Screamin ? Jay Hawkins ? not quite as guttural , but Ush [er] still uses all the tools at his disposal , even breaking out the fake voodoo accent , and more than gets the point across . "

Lyrically , " Sins of My Father " is about being a " tortured soul " in a " volatile " relationship . Trent Fitzgerald of PopCrush hinted at Foster to be the bases of the song . The narrator " believes that his bad relationship is karma for his father being a rolling stone . " " Sins of My Father " begins with Usher gasping " My sons , Keep them ... please forgive me . " Unterberger of Popdust concluded that the track gets more intense , as Usher sings in the song ? s opening verse : " I think this woman

went and put a hex on me / Oh now , why ? d I let her go and put that sex on me ? " . The pre @-@ chorus features Usher yelping in falsetto : " But she didn ? t make me pay for it with my money ! / OWWWW ! ! ! " . According to Erika Ramirez of Billboard magazine , " Usher soulfully pays for his father 's promiscuous ways over melodic soundscapes " .

= = Critical reception = =

" Sins of My Father " received universal acclaim from music critics . Nathan S. of DJBooth called the " openly autobiographical " song the most affecting track he has " done in years " . He concluded by stating : " I can 't think of any other artist of Usher 's status who would tie his cheating ways to an absent father , and for that he deserves some applause " . Eric Arredondo of Beats Per Minute stated that in " Sins of My Father " , Usher shows " more bite in his voice " than he has ever heard before , and that " it helps to make a song that is both fun and slightly sinister " . Natalie Shaw of BBC Music called " Sins of My Father " outstanding , commenting that Usher 's " slink here sounds sinister , for the first time , fearing he 'll fall under a demon woman 's deathly voodoo while slack , deep beats play out " .

Rap @-@ Up labelled " Sins of My Father " as one of their favorite songs on the album , alongside " Climax " , " Lemme See " and " Twisted " , while Trent Fitzgerald of PopCrush called " Sins of My Father " a " big standout " on the album . Ryan Hadfield of Consequence of Sound labelled " Sins of My Father " as an " essential track " of Looking 4 Myself and stated that , alongside " What Happened to U " , the song displays the same " vocal prowess " as the rest of the album , but is matched with " beats of higher sophistication which avers his earnest attempt to deviate from a traditional blend of R & B and hip @-@ hop " . According to Verse of SoulCulture " ' Sins Of My Father ' , with its reggae vibe meets Marvin Gaye or Curtis Mayfield sensibilities addressing family issues this is the sort of track we need to hear more of from our artists . "

= = Credits and personnel = =

Recording and mixing

Recorded at Jungle City Studios , New York City ; Doppler Studios , Atlanta , Georgia ; Glenwood Place Studios , Burbank , California ; Instrument Zoo , Miami , Florida ; mixed at Larrabee Sound Studio , Universal City , California

Personnel

Credits adapted from the liner notes of Looking 4 Myself , RCA Records .

= = Charts = =

Upon the release of Looking 4 Myself , due to digital downloads , " Sins of My Father " charted in lower regions on the singles chart in South Korea . It debuted on the South Korea Gaon International Chart at number 62 on June 10 , 2012 , with sales of 5 @ , @ 813 digital copies .