

= Take a Bow ( Leona Lewis song ) =

" Take a Bow " is a song recorded by British singer Leona Lewis for her debut studio album Spirit ( 2007 ) . It was written by Jordon Omley , Michael Mani , Wayne Wilkins , Louis Biancaniello and Ryan Tedder . Tedder explained that he wanted to create an edgy song for Lewis so that it would not be boring or predictable . A Contemporary R & B and urban song , the lyrics focus the failure of a relationship . Its composition features an Ebb and Flo groove and received several comparisons to " Cry Me a River " by Justin Timberlake .

" Take a Bow " received positive reviews from music critics . Most praised the production as unexpected and different but one felt it overshadowed Lewis ' vocals . Upon the release of Spirit , the song debuted at number 97 on the UK Singles Chart due to strong digital download sales . Lewis performed " Take a Bow " at the Rock in Rio festival and on her 2010 concert tour , The Labyrinth .

= = Recording and production = =

" Take a Bow " was conceived during recording sessions for Lewis ' debut studio album , Spirit , which was released in November 2007 . It was written by Jordon Omley , Michael Mani , Wayne Wilkins , Louis Biancaniello and Ryan Tedder , and was produced by The Runaways , Sam Watters , Wilkins , Biancaniello and Tedder . The music production , keyboards and programming were carried out by Wilkins , Biancaniello and Tedder , while vocal production was helmed by Watters . Lewis performs the lead vocals , and ReVaughn Brown performs background vocals . " Take a Bow " was recorded and mixed by Biancaniello , Mani , Watters and Omley at The Record Plant , Hollywood , California . As reported by Digital Spy , Tedder revealed that the types of songs that people expected to hear on Spirit , such as powerful vocal performance ballads , needed to be different and stand out rather than conventional , " if you 're going to push that kind of music [ these days ] - big ballads and big songs - you have to be edgier ; they can 't be clean and polished . "

= = Composition and critical reception = =

" Take a Bow " is a contemporary R & B and urban music song , which lasts for a duration of 3 : 54 , and appears as the sixth track on the standard and deluxe versions of the album . On the North American track listing , the song appears as the eleventh track and last for a duration of 3 : 53 . Its instrumentation consists of " daring , machine @-@ made " pan pipes , " melodramatic " synths , a piano and a guitar . It features an Ebb and Flo groove , and was composed in the key of A minor using common time at 70 beats per minute . Lewis ' vocal range spans over two octaves from low note of A3 to the high note of Eb6 . The song 's opening lyrics are " The flowers are faded now , along with your letters . " Chad Grischow for IGN and Sarah Rodman for The Boston Globe compared the song 's production to Justin Timberlake 's song " Cry Me a River " ( 2002 ) . The lyrics of " Take A Bow " pertain to a failed relationship , which Nick Levine for Digital Spy described as " admirably stark . "

" Take a Bow " garnered a positive response from music critics . Nick Levine for Digital Spy described the track as " unexpected " due to its urban edge . Sarah Rodman for The Boston Globe wrote it was a " contender " to be released as a single because of how it is a mix of " classic and au courant " music . Linda McGee for RTÉ was complimentary of Lewis decision to experiment with the song instead of taking a " slushy ballad " approach and remaining in her comfort zone . She continued to write that it is for this reason that she is more suited to " the Beyoncé end of the market than the Mariah end . " Kitty Empire for The Guardian noted that all of the songs on Spirit are love songs , but only " Take a Bow " feels like it is from the 21st century . Chad Grischow for IGN wrote that the " Take a Bow " ' s production distracted from Lewis ' vocal performance .

= = Live performances = =

Lewis performed " Take a Bow " at the Rock in Rio festival held in Lisbon on 22 May 2010 . " Take a Bow " was included as the fifth song on the set list of her debut concert tour , called The Labyrinth ( 2010 ) . It was later included on the tour 's DVD release The Labyrinth Tour : Live from the O2 . Lewis performed the song in the first section of the set list , along with " Brave " as the opener , " Don 't Let Me Down " , " Better in Time " and " Whatever It Takes " . The set was decorated in the style of a castle ; acrobats performed as they were hanging from the ceiling on large pieces of fabric while Lewis wore a gold sequined dress and thigh high boots .

= = Track listing = =

Spirit standard / deluxe edition

" Take a Bow " ? 3 : 54

Spirit United States standard / deluxe version

" Take a Bow " ? 3 : 53

The Labyrinth Tour : Live from the O2

" Take a Bow " ( Live from the O2 ) ? 5 : 41

= = Credits and personnel = =

Recording

Recorded and mixed at The Record Plant , Hollywood , California .

Personnel

Lead vocals ? Leona Lewis

Background vocals ? RaVaughn Brown

Songwriting ? Jordon Omley , Michael Mani , Wayne Wilkins , Louis Biancaniello , Ryan Tedder

Production ? The Runaways , Sam Watters , Wayne Wilkins , Louis Biancaniello , Ryan " Alias " Tedder

Music production ? Wayne Wilkins , Louis Biancaniello , Ryan " Alias " Tedder

Recording and mixing ? Louis Biancaniello , Michael Mani , Sam Watters , Jordon Omley

Vocal production ? Sam Watters

Keyboards and programming ? Wayne Wilkins , Louis Biancaniello , Ryan " Alias " Tedder

Credits adapted from the liner notes of Spirit .

= = Chart = =

Upon the release of Spirit , " Take a Bow " debuted at number 97 on the strength of digital download sales in the chart issue released on 24 November 2007 .