

= You Know My Name =

" You Know My Name " , performed by Soundgarden singer Chris Cornell , is the theme song to the 2006 James Bond film , Casino Royale . Cornell wrote it jointly with David Arnold , the soundtrack 's composer . The film producers went after Cornell because they wanted a strong male singer . Cornell and Arnold tried to make the song a replacement theme for the character instead of the " James Bond theme " reflecting the agent 's inexperience in Casino Royale , as well as an introduction to Daniel Craig 's grittier and more emotional portrayal of Bond . The single sold 148 @ , @ 000 copies in 2006 in the UK .

The track was leaked onto the Internet on September 20 , 2006 , and released as a single on November 13 , 2006 , charting in many countries . Reviews for " You Know My Name " were positive , and the song won the Satellite Award and the World Soundtrack Award , and was nominated for a Grammy Award . While not included in the Casino Royale soundtrack , " You Know My Name " appeared on Cornell 's second solo album , Carry On .

= = Composition and recording = =

Lia Vollack , Sony Pictures 's President of Music , called Chris Cornell inviting him to make a song for the new Bond movie , which would " reflect the dramatic new direction of James Bond " , with a " strong male singer " . Cornell thought it was a strange offer , considering that he is American , and imagined that he would perform a secondary song in the film instead of the main theme . Cornell declared he liked the Bond movies , particularly the ones with Sean Connery , but that he " wasn 't really a big fan of the last several movies " . But Daniel Craig 's casting as James Bond intrigued the musician , and he decided to accept the job . Cornell then went to Prague to visit the film 's shooting , and was much impressed with the film 's emotional content after he was shown a rough cut of Casino Royale . In Prague he also met the score composer , David Arnold , who suggested writing a song " that echoed the film score " .

The composers started their writing separately , Cornell in his apartment in Paris , and Arnold in his house in London . Cornell stated that he had some difficulties with composing : " It is difficult , I think , to write lyrics for a character , so really I just kind of wandered around for about a month not thinking about it too much , until I sort of formulated some idea of a way that I could approach it , where I 'm kind of relating to what 's in the character in the movie . And because this particular Bond is very edgy , but also has a lot of emotional depth , it 's a lot easier . " Later the two musicians met and showed each other 's ideas , and according to Arnold " it was almost like we wrote two parts of the same song . " Cornell wrote lyrics , to which Arnold added some lines and later music . Some of Arnold 's ideas included the song 's title , the heavy introduction , and " having the same genetic material as the Bond theme , but in a different order and in a different shape " .

After a demo of the song was approved by the film 's producers , both musicians recorded the full version in AIR Studios London . Cornell and Arnold recorded the guitar and bass parts themselves and hired a session musician for the drums . The recordings were finished by the time Casino Royale finished its principal photography on July 21 , 2006 , and Arnold played it at the wrap party . Afterwards he mixed in the orchestra parts .

Speaking to film music fan site Maintitles , Arnold said he wanted " You Know My Name " to act as a substitute for the James Bond theme , to represent Bond 's immaturity . The song 's main notes are played throughout the film , and the classic theme only plays during the end credits to signal the end of his character arc . Arnold felt the song should tie closer to the score , and have the " DNA of the James Bond music " . The musical arrangement tried to create " the right blend of rock aggression and sophisticated instrumentation " , with Cornell describing it as " more uptempo and a little more aggressive than any other Bond theme has been , maybe since Paul McCartney [' s ' Live and Let Die '] " .

Cornell stated that the biggest two influences on " You Know My Name " were Tom Jones , who performed the theme for Thunderball , and Paul McCartney , who composed and performed the theme for Live and Let Die . " I decided that I was going to sing it like Tom Jones , in that crooning

style . I wanted people to hear my voice , " Cornell said . " And ' Live and Let Die ' is a fantastic song . Paul McCartney wouldn't have written it if not for that movie . I [also] wanted to write a song in its own universe . I knew I 'd never have it again ? a big orchestra ? so I wanted to have fun with it . " Cornell did not put the film 's title in the lyrics , because he " couldn't imagine it fitting into a song lyric that would come out of my mouth " . And he jokingly stated " Casino Royale didn't make a good rock title , but I would write a song named Octopussy just for fun " .

Before producers Michael G. Wilson and Barbara Broccoli announced on July 26 , 2006 , that Cornell was performing the theme for Casino Royale , various names were reported in the media , some reports going so far as to have the performers apparently claim they were working on the song . This list includes Tina Turner , who previously sang " GoldenEye " for the 1995 Bond film of the same name , and Tony Christie .

The lyrics try to illustrate Bond 's psyche in Casino Royale , described by Cornell as a conflicted and tough spy with more emotional depth , not the " superconfident , seemingly invincible , winking kinda ladies ' man superspy " of the previous incarnations . Cornell tried to focus on the existential dilemmas and possible sacrifices of secret agents - " There 's an isolation in that ; the stakes are very high . I 've done a lot of living in my 42 years , and it wasn't hard for me to relate to that . " The song also served as an introduction to the character , even though he was featured in many other movies before - hence the title " You Know My Name " - dealing with Bond 's action such as his first assassination , " introducing himself to what may be the rest of his life and how he will live it and what it will mean . "

= = Release = =

Three versions of the song were produced :

Main Version : Track 1 on " You Know My Name " singles

Pop Mix : used in the video and released on the Carry On album and on German singles as Track 2

Film Versions : more orchestral versions used in the film 's opening and closing credits .

The song was leaked on the internet on September 20 , 2006 . The first version of the song , the grittier one which was leaked and not used in the movie , was made available for download on iTunes Store on November 13 , 2006 . This version debuted on the UK Single Download Chart at number 20 on November 22 , 2006 . It was released as a stand @-@ alone single on December 14 , 2006 . The single features a new acoustic version of the Soundgarden song " Black Hole Sun " as a B @-@ side . The German , Dutch and Australian versions of the single offer a second version of " You Know My Name " (called the Pop Mix) as a B @-@ side . This version is the one used for the song 's music video , and is available on Chris Cornell 's solo album , Carry On .

The song is the first Bond theme not to be included on its film 's soundtrack album . Cornell declared that it happened because he wanted the song to be " his " , and since he wrote " You Know My Name " in midst of recording the solo album Carry On , he felt that the song belonged to the album . In 2008 , the song was included in the compilation The Best of Bond ... James Bond .

The song 's music video was directed by Michael Haussman , who tried to compare " the lives of a professional spy and a rock star " . The video premiered on MTV 's Making the Video on October 31 , 2006 .

= = = Reception = = =

" You Know My Name " was released in the winter of 2006 and became the most successful song from Chris Cornell on the rock charts and arguably Cornell 's most recognizable and popular song . The song peaked at number 79 on the Billboard Hot 100 and number 64 on the Billboard Pop 100 chart . In Europe , " You Know My Name " charted in several markets and peaked at number 7 in the UK Singles Chart . Chris Cornell won both the Satellite Award and the World Soundtrack Award for " You Know My Name " in 2007 , and garnered a Grammy Award nomination for Best Song Written For Motion Picture , Television Or Other Visual Media the following year . The song also

received a first @-@ round nomination in the Best Original Song category for the 2006 Academy Awards , but did not qualify for the final list of nominees .

The song received enthusiastic reviews , with critics praising the song 's ability to fit well with the context of the film . Film reviewer James Berardinelli considered " You Know My Name " to " sound eerily like something by John Barry " ; DVD Verdict 's review praised the song , describing it as " working remarkably well in the film 's context , lyrically and sonically " , and Cinefantastique called it " the best Bond theme song in years , [that] captures the full @-@ blooded glory of classics like ' Goldfinger ' " . Entertainment Weekly listed " You Know My Name " on a list of Academy Award snubs for Best Song , describing it as " a musically suave , lyrically ominous rock tune that is perfect for Casino Royale 's dark reboot of the spy franchise " . Among music critics , Billboard described it as " the best Bond theme since ' A View to a Kill ' " , praising the minimal production ; on its review of Carry On , the magazine considered " You Know My Name " to be the best track of the album , describing it as " some of Cornell 's most uncomplicated and accessible music to date " ; the BBC 's unnamed reviewer considered that Cornell 's voice " weighs down " the song ;

= = = Covers = = =

Finnish rock band Poets of the Fall covered the song in 2008 for the compilation CD Livenä Vieraissa .

A cappella group the Amalgamates from Tufts University perform an all vocal version of the song on their album Prime .

= = Track listing = =

- 1
" You Know My Name " 4 : 02
" Black Hole Sun " (Acoustic) 4 : 38
- 2
" You Know My Name " 4 : 02
" You Know My Name " (Pop Mix)
" You Know My Name " (Video)

= = Charts = =

= = = Weekly charts = = =

= = = Year @-@ end charts = = =