

= Come Back to Me ( Vanessa Hudgens song ) =

" Come Back to Me " is the debut single by American actress and singer Vanessa Hudgens . The song was written and produced by Antonina Armato and Tim James . It was released on September 12 , 2006 , through Hollywood Records as the lead single from Hudgens ' debut studio album , *V* ( 2006 ) . The song is built around a sample of " Baby Come Back " ( 1977 ) by American band Player . Due to the inclusion of the sample , the original song 's writers , Peter Beckett and J.C. Crowley , obtained writing credits . Musically , " Come Back to Me " is a pop and R & B song with an urban beat , string instruments and hand claps .

Critical reception of " Come Back to Me " was generally positive ; some critics praised the inclusion of the Player sample and named the song one of the album 's best tracks . However , it was criticized for holding a manufactured and overproduced sound . It performed moderately in the United States , where it peaked at number 55 on the Billboard Hot 100 and number 18 on the Pop Songs chart . It fared better internationally as it peaked in the top 20 in several countries , including France , Italy , New Zealand and Spain . The accompanying music video was directed by Chris Applebaum and features Hudgens dancing in front of colorful backdrops and hanging out with her friends .

= = Background and composition = =

" Come Back to Me " was written and produced by Antonina Armato and Tim James , who are known for numerous Disney music projects . The strings were arranged by Nicky Scappa and Read , and played by the latter . Hudgens performs backing vocals alongside singer @-@ songwriter Char Licera . The song was mixed by Serban Ghenea at Mixstar Studios in Virginia Beach , Virginia and mastered by Steven Marcussen at Marcussen Mastering in Los Angeles , California . " Come Back to Me " was released as Hudgens ' debut single on September 12 , 2006 , through digital distribution . On October 10 , 2006 , it was serviced for contemporary hit radio airplay in the United States . It was first released physically on December 15 , 2006 , in Germany , alongside the b @-@ side track " Don 't Talk " . The single was later released via digital download in European countries on December 18 , 2006 . A CD single was released in Germany on February 2 , 2007 , featuring the song 's music video , the album track " Too Emotional " and a photo gallery .

Musically , " Come Back to Me " is an R & B and pop song with an instrumentation consisting of urban beats , strings and hand claps . In an interview with Madison Chapman from Time for Kids , Hudgens acknowledged the variety of musical styles present on her debut album , calling it a " fun mixture of everything " . She used " Come Back to Me " as an example of the multiple genres on the album and described it as " pop and R & B " . The song opens with a string @-@ laden intro . Bill Lamb of About.com noted Hudgens ' vocals as " loose " and " friendly " on the track . The song samples American rock band Player 's single " Baby Come Back " ( 1977 ) , written by Peter Beckett and J.C. Crowley , who both received writing credits on the song .

= = Critical reception = =

The song received generally positive reviews from music critics . About.com writer Bill Lamb rated " Come Back to Me " three and a half stars out of five ; he praised its pop sound and Hudgens ' " engaging personality " , but criticized it for having a manufactured sound from the " Disney pop factory " . Moreover , Lamb wrote : " ' Come Back to Me ' is unlikely to linger too long in your memory , but it also fails to generate any annoying after taste . Program it into your listening when you need a contemporary , breezy , light pop confection ... Sure , you are being manipulated by the corporate music establishment , but the song is fun . " He also noted that the " Baby Come Back " sample was possibly added to " trigger pleasant deja vu in parents listening along with their kids " . In an editorial review for Rhapsody , Nick Cavalieri named the song one of the best tracks on *V*.

Kyle Anderson of MTV Newsroom deemed " Come Back to Me " a song with " a clever sample and a particularly infectious hook " . Entertainment Weekly writer Leah Greenblatt considered the song

the album 's standout and said that it " excellently jacks a sample from soft @-@ rock smash ' Baby Come Back ' . " In a more mixed review , Fraser McAlpine of BBC Music rated " Come Back to Me " three stars out of five and commented that the song sounded unoriginal and said that several other songs appeared to have been " mashed together " to create it . Furthermore , McAlpine said : " Vanessa acquits herself well on the vocals ... but it 's a bit overproduced and slightly soulless in that kind of relentlessly @-@ perky way that graduates of the school of Disney stardom sometimes have . "

= = Chart performance = =

In the United States , " Come Back to Me " made its debut at number 79 on the Billboard Hot 100 in the issue dated September 30 , 2006 . The song ascended and descended on the chart for several weeks before reaching its peak position of number 55 , in the issue dated December 9 , 2006 . It also peaked at number 18 on the Pop Songs chart , number 22 on Pop 100 Airplay , number 57 on the Pop 100 and number 63 on Radio Songs . Across Europe , " Come Back to Me " fared better on the charts and peaked at number 43 on European Hot 100 Singles . In France , it peaked at number 12 and remained on the chart for a total of 25 weeks before falling off . In Italy , it debuted at number eight , which became its peak position , and stayed on the chart for two weeks . The song achieved its highest peak position in New Zealand , where it reached number six and spent five weeks in the top ten . In total , it appeared on the chart for 17 weeks . The song also peaked at number 36 in Australia , number 58 in Germany and number 100 on the UK Singles Chart .

= = Music video and live performances = =

The music video for " Come Back to Me " was directed by Chris Applebaum . The video was first shown on Disney Channel on August 25 , 2006 , following the premiere of The Cheetah Girls 2 . Hudgens walks onto the set of a music video , applies her makeup and changes her shoes . She then performs while dancing against a brightly lit backdrop . Next , she is shown performing and dancing in a black room with numerous chandeliers flickering on and off . She later appears on a red stage with circles flickering in various colors . Afterwards , more shots of the black room is shown , including one in which she is swinging on a chandelier . In the last scene , she sings and dances in front of a colorful background . Black @-@ and @-@ white shots of her and her friends are interspersed throughout the video , and Hudgens ' friend , actress Alexa Nikolas , makes an appearance . The Arizona Republic writer Bill Goodykoontz wrote that Hudgens shows a somewhat mature side in the video : " [ W ] hen your only context for ever having seen Hudgens is starring as Gabriella , the sweet little brainiac in High School Musical , it 's certainly different to see her flouncing around in spaghetti @-@ strap tops , rolling her shoulders and whatnot . " A director 's cut version of the video appears on the physical release of the single .

As part of promotion , Hudgens performed " Come Back to Me " on several occasions . She first performed it while serving as the opening act for The Cheetah Girls during the The Party 's Just Begun Tour in the fall of 2006 . On September 28 , 2006 , she performed it on an episode of Good Morning America , and on Live with Regis & Kelly later the same day . She also performed the song at the nationwide tour High School Musical : The Concert , which she toured alongside her High School Musical cast mates .

= = Formats and track listings = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Songwriting ? Antonia Armato , Tim James , Peter Beckett , J.C. Crowley  
Production ? Antonia Armato , Tim James  
Engineering ? Nigel Lundemo , Read

Programming ? Nicky Scappa , Nigel Lundemo  
Associate production ? The Honor Role  
String arrangement ? Nicky Scappa , Read  
Strings ? Read  
Lead vocals - Vanessa Hudgens  
Background vocals ? Char Licera , Vanessa Hudgens  
Credits are adapted from the V album liner notes .

= = Charts = =

= = Radio dates and release history = =