

= Marilyn Monroe ( Nicki Minaj song ) =

" Marilyn Monroe " is a song by Trinidadian born recording artist Nicki Minaj . The song was written by Minaj , Daniel James , Leah Haywood , Ross Golan and J.R. Rotem , while production was handled by J.R. Rotem and Dreamlab . Musically , " Marilyn Monroe " is an introspective mid @-@ tempo ballad that contains an upbeat piano , synth beats , and features influences of bubblegum pop . Lyrically , the song alludes to oneself questioning the status of their relationship . The song makes frequent references to pop icon Marilyn Monroe , with many of her quotes woven into the song .

" Marilyn Monroe " was generally well received by music critics , with some noting its crossover potential , while others felt like the song was too similar to other artists . The song has received comparisons to the 2011 singles " Disaster " by JoJo and " Stuttering " by Fefe Dobson , as well as Minaj 's own 2010 single " Your Love " from her debut album Pink Friday . The album 's high digital sales led " Marilyn Monroe " to chart on the UK Singles Chart and US Billboard charts .

= = Production and composition = =

Following the success of Minaj 's debut album , Pink Friday , Cash Money co @-@ CEO , Brian " Birdman " Williams announced to Billboard that Minaj was aiming for a first quarter release in 2012 . In November 2011 , Minaj announced on Twitter that the album would be released on February 14 , 2012 , though it was later delayed to April 3 , 2012 . The album focuses on Roman Zolanski , one of Minaj 's alter egos that was first featured on Pink Friday .

J.R. Rotem , who previously produced a track for Minaj 's debut album , originally conceived " Marilyn Monroe " . According to Minaj , " He hit me up and he said , ' I have a song that I think only an icon can sing ' . I was like , ' Oh J.R. , shut up ! ' We laughed a little bit on iChat . " It was written by Minaj , Daniel James , Leah Haywood , Ross Golan and Rotem . Rotem and Dreamlab produced the track , with vocal production handled by Nicholas Cooper . Ariel Chobaz & Gelly Kusuma recorded and mixed " Marilyn Monroe " with assistance from Jon Sher at Conway Studios and Beluga Heights Studio , both studios in Los Angeles .

Musically , " Marilyn Monroe " is an introspective mid @-@ tempo ballad that contains an upbeat piano , synth beats , and features influences of bubblegum pop . The song is written in the key of E minor with a moderate pop tempo of 84 beats per minute . It follows the chord progression Em ? C2 ( no 3 ) ? G ? D , and Minaj 's vocals span two octaves from G3 to D5 .

Celebrity Marilyn Monroe is mentioned numerous times throughout the song , including the famous quote " I 'm selfish , impatient and a little insecure . I make mistakes , I am out of control and at times hard to handle . But if you can 't handle me at my worst , then you sure as hell don 't deserve me at my best . " However , it has never been confirmed that Monroe actually said this . Minaj liked the track , as " it spoke to me as a woman . I 'm very infatuated with Marilyn Monroe . I had a moment with that song where I was like , ' Oh my God , every woman in this world needs to hear that ' . No , we 're not perfect . Sometimes , we think , ' What 's wrong with us ? ' We spend so much time criticizing ourselves . I needed to hear that , ' I 'm not perfect , but I 'm worth it ' . It resonated with me . I felt like the world needed to hear it . "

= = Release and reception = =

" Marilyn Monroe " was first leaked in February 2012 . On May 24 , 2012 , a poll was posted on Minaj 's official website asking fans to choose the next single ( s ) . The poll was divided into three categories : The first category asked fans to choose between " Marilyn Monroe " , " Fire Burns " , " Young Forever " , and " Gunshot " . " Marilyn Monroe " had the most votes and won the poll ; " Young Forever " came in second , " Fire Burns " came in third , and " Gun Shot " came in fourth . When asked whether " Marilyn Monroe " would become a single during an interview with The Guardian , Minaj replied : " It has to be . It will be . We wanted to do it now , but then UK radio started playing ' Va Va Voom ' . We 're definitely going to have ' Marilyn Monroe ' top of [ 2013 ] ,

and we 're going to spend quality time on the video . We 're going to take care of that one . "

" Marilyn Monroe " received mostly positive reviews . Andrew Hampp of Billboard gave the song a positive review , but felt the song was too similar to the JoJo song " Disaster " , adding that " Of the three mid @-@ tempo pop cuts on the album , ' Marilyn Monroe ' stands the best chance of pop crossover . " Andy Gill of The Independent called it one of the most impressive songs on the pop half of the album and also encouraged fans to download it . BBC 's Al Fox gave the song a positive review , praising " Young Forever " and " Marilyn Monroe " for displaying the same " tender vulnerabilities " of Minaj 's breakthrough anthem " Your Love " , saying that it is " a necessary and successful respite in an album so boastful " . Slant Magazine negatively compared " Marilyn Monroe " to the works of pop star Demi Lovato .

= = Live performances = =

Minaj performed the song on select dates of her debut concert tour , the Pink Friday Tour . She also added the song to her set list for her Pink Friday : Reloaded Tour .

= = Personnel = =

Source :

Locations

Recorded at Conway Studios , Los Angeles , CA , and Beluga Heights Studio , Los Angeles , CA

Mixed at Conway Studios , Los Angeles , CA

Credits

Writers : O. Maraj , D. James , L. Haywood , R. Golan , J. Rotem

Producers : J.R. Rotem

Co @-@ producers : Dreamlab

Recorded by : Ariel Chobaz & Gelly Kusuma

Recording Assistant : Jon Sher

Mixed by : Ariel Chobaz

Mix Assistant : Jon Sher

Vocal production by : Nicholas Cooper

= = Chart performance = =