

= I Wanna Go =

" I Wanna Go " is a song recorded by American singer Britney Spears for her seventh studio album , *Femme Fatale* ( 2011 ) . It was written and produced by Max Martin and Shellback , with additional writing by Savan Kotecha . Spears first posted on her Twitter account a link to a clip of the song in February 2011 , a month prior to the album 's release . Following a poll on her official website , " I Wanna Go " was chosen as the third single of the album , and Jive Records released it on June 13 , 2011 .

" I Wanna Go " is a dance @-@ pop and Hi @-@ NRG song that features a heavy bassline and drum fills reminiscent of English rock band New Order . The pre @-@ chorus has a whistled hook that received comparisons to the music of Bob Sinclar and Frankie Knuckles . The lyrics of " I Wanna Go " feature Spears singing about losing inhibitions . The song received mixed to positive reviews from critics . Some praised it for being effective and highlighted its hook , while others dismissed the processed vocals . The song was treated with different remixes , including a Bollywood mix with guest vocals by Sonu Nigam and another one by DJ Frank E and Alex Dreamz .

After the release of *Femme Fatale* , " I Wanna Go " charted due to digital sales in the upper end of the US Billboard Hot 100 and the Canadian Hot 100 , and also topped the South Korean International chart . Following its release as a single , the song reached the top ten in several music markets , including Canada , France , Finland and the United States . However , it became one of her lowest peaking singles in countries such as Australia and New Zealand , and was the first single of her career that failed to chart inside the top 100 in the United Kingdom . In the United States , " I Wanna Go " made *Femme Fatale* the first album by Spears to have three top ten singles .

An accompanying music video for the song , directed by Chris Marrs Piliero , premiered on June 22 , 2011 . It depicts Spears daydreaming at a press conference about a series of events , including being chased by paparazzi cyborgs and being rescued by actor Guillermo Díaz . Piliero described the video as " a ridiculous , exaggerated rumor about her life and career " . The video references the films *Half Baked* , *Crossroads* , *Terminator 2 : Judgment Day* and Michael Jackson 's *Thriller* . It received positive reviews from critics , who praised its fun spirit . Spears has performed " I Wanna Go " on her *Femme Fatale Tour* ( 2011 ) and during her Las Vegas residency show *Britney : Piece of Me* ( 2013 ) .

= = Background and artwork = =

" I Wanna Go " was written and produced by Max Martin and Shellback , with additional writing by Savan Kotecha . The song was written in 2009 and registered on Broadcast Music Incorporated under the legal title " I I I Wanna Go O O " . On February 22 , 2011 , Spears posted on her Twitter account a link to a 29 @-@ second clip of the song , while calling Martin " amazing " . In an interview with *Rolling Stone* , Spears stated that the song 's signature whistle gets her " every time [ she ] hears it " , adding that Martin 's melodies are " Incredible ... Who would have thought of that ? There is nobody I feel more comfortable collaborating with in the studio . " Kotecha told *Digital Spy* in May 2011 that the song was likely a contender for third single due to positive reaction . On May 11 , 2011 , a poll was launched on *Britney.com* in which fans could choose the third single of the album . Two days later , " I Wanna Go " was officially announced as the third single from *Femme Fatale* by Jive Records through a press release after winning the poll . The cover art was revealed on June 6 , 2011 , and featured Spears on set of the music video , wearing colored hair extensions and a top with a skeletal Mickey Mouse .

= = Composition = =

" I Wanna Go " is a dance @-@ pop and hi @-@ NRG song , which features a heavy bassline and drum fills ; the latter are reminiscent of English band New Order 's song " Blue Monday " ( 1983 ) . Spears squeals and chuckles throughout the song , and her vocals are processed . In the pre @-@ chorus , she draws out the " e " ' s in lines such as " Shame on me / To need release /

Uncontrollably . " The section also has a whistled hook , which was compared by Rich Juzwiak of The Village Voice to the music of French recording artist Bob Sinclar and American recording artist Frankie Knuckles . In the chorus , Spears stutters " I @-@ I @-@ I wanna go @-@ o @-@ o / All the wa @-@ a @-@ ay / Taking out my freak tonight " . Ryan Brockington of the New York Post compared " I Wanna Go " to the music of her fifth studio album Blackout ( 2007 ) . In the lyrics , Spears sings about losing inhibitions , as evident in lines such as " I @-@ I @-@ I wanna sho @-@ o @-@ ow / All the dir @-@ ir @-@ irt / I got ( sic ) running through my mind . " , while playfully apologizing for her need for sexual release . Jon Caramanica of The New York Times stated that she sings about " the scrum that surrounds her " in " Lately people got me all tied up / There 's a countdown waiting for me to erupt " . According to the sheet music published by EMI Music Publishing , " I Wanna Go " is written in the key of D minor , with an electropop beat infused metronome of 138 beats per minute . Spears ' vocals range from the low note of D3 to the high note of D5 .

= = Critical reception = =

" I Wanna Go " received generally positive reviews from music critics . A reviewer for Samesame.com.au called " I Wanna Go " Spears ' best song since " Toxic " , and added that " I ? d go so far as to say that it is probably the best song that she has ever recorded . [ ... ] How the decision was made that ' Hold It Against Me ' would be a better first single over this is baffling . " Parker Bruce of the Washington Square News stated that the song functions as " a sort of formal declaration and mission statement " for Femme Fatale , saying that " It is not an innovative song , but it is fantastically effective and endlessly enticing with its liberating , toss @-@ your @-@ cares @-@ away , dance @-@ like @-@ a @-@ complete ? and @-@ utter @-@ fool cathartic chorus , repeated words and typically saucy Britney lyrics . " The Daily Collegian writer Hannah Rishel said " I Wanna Go " would have been " another good lead single " , while The Washington Times 's Andrew Leahey said that along with " Till the World Ends " , they are " bass @-@ heavy tributes to club culture . "

Robert Copsey of Digital Spy called it " anthemic " and noted the song would become a future single . Rich Juzwiak of The Village Voice called " I Wanna Go " the highlight of the album , and said " get ready for [ it ] to score your summer . " However , Juzwiak went on to note that Spears ' vocals are heavily manipulated to maximize the chorus 's potential , even though " the joy she sings about is palpable . " The Chicago Sun @-@ Times journalist Thomas Conner also noted that the singer 's vocals were processed to the point " these songs could be sung by anyone " , exemplifying " ' I Wanna Go ' tweaks her up so high she could be Jackie Evancho . " Andy Gill of The Independent also criticized the singer 's vocals on Femme Fatale , stating that they sounded more programmed than natural , with " even the little whistling hook in ' I Wanna Go ' has a synthetic character about it . "

Sal Cinquemani of Slant Magazine noted that " If not for its infectious pre @-@ chorus whistle , ' I Wanna Go ' would be just another song off the Max Martin assembly line " . The Guardian contributor Alexis Petridis gave the song a negative review , and said that although most of tracks of the album are " genuinely exciting [ ... ] there 's certainly some unremarkable stuff on offer , notably ' Seal It With a Kiss ' and ' I Wanna Go . " Evan Sawdey of PopMatters also noted that " I Wanna Go " is the point of the album in which " things stop being fun and start becoming intensely repetitious " , criticizing specifically " [ the ] utterly stupid set of syllables repeated ad nauseam for no reason whatsoever ? [ .. ] the ' ably ' part of ' uncontrollably ' gets recycled far beyond the point where it just sounds stupid . " In September 2011 , " I Wanna Go " topped Rolling Stone 's reader 's poll of The Best Songs of the Summer .

= = Chart performance = =

On the chart issue of April 3 , 2011 , " I Wanna Go " debuted at number 73 on the US Billboard Hot 100 chart , and at number 52 on the Hot Digital Songs component chart due to strong digital sales .

The song debuted at number 60 on the Canadian Hot 100 on the chart issue of April 16 , 2011 . It also debuted at number one on South Korea 's GAON International Chart , and remained on the same position for three consecutive weeks . After its release as a single , the song debuted at number 37 on the Billboard Pop Songs chart on the chart issue of July 2 , 2011 . It also re @-@ entered the Billboard Hot 100 at number 89 . The following week , it surged up to number 29 on the Hot 100 due to the premiere of the music video , with sales of 67 @,@ 000 copies ( up 282 % from the previous week ) . " I Wanna Go " became Spears 's 21 top @-@ forty single , the third @-@ highest female total since her first week on the chart on November 21 , 1998 , and only behind Taylor Swift with 27 and Rihanna with 22 .

On the chart issue of August 4 , 2011 , the song climbed from number 11 to number nine on the Billboard Hot 100 , making *Femme Fatale* the first album by Spears to achieve three top ten singles . It became her fifth top ten single in a row , and her twelfth top ten hit overall , the third @-@ highest female total since her first week on the chart , behind Rihanna with eighteen and Beyoncé Knowles with fifteen . " I Wanna Go " peaked at number seven on the Hot 100 on the chart issue of August 24 , 2011 . The song peaked atop the Pop Songs chart on September 24 , 2011 , becoming Spears ' sixth single to top the chart , and setting a record for the longest span of number @-@ one singles by an artist ( 12 years , seven months and four days ) . Spears scored her first number one single on the chart with " ... Baby One More Time " on the chart issue of February 20 , 1999 . She also tied Mariah Carey and Knowles for the third @-@ highest female total of number @-@ one singles . As of March 2015 , " I Wanna Go " has sold 1 @,@ 770 @,@ 000 digital downloads in the United States . It is her eighth best @-@ selling digital single in the country .

In Australia , " I Wanna Go " debuted at number 33 on the ARIA Singles Chart on the chart issue of July 10 , 2011 . It peaked at number 31 three weeks later , on July 31 , 2011 . The song became the third lowest peaking single of Spears ' career in the country , after " Radar " ( 2009 ) at 46 and " From the Bottom of My Broken Heart " ( 1999 ) at 37 . It spent nine weeks on the chart . It has since been certified gold by the Australian Recording Industry Association ( ARIA ) for sales of 35 @,@ 000 units . In New Zealand , the song debuted at number 25 on the New Zealand Singles Chart , and peaked at number 22 the following week . It became her lowest peaking single since " Radar " , and her sixth single to not enter the top twenty . The song spent 10 weeks on the chart . On July 7 , 2011 , " I Wanna Go " debuted at 41 on the Irish Singles Chart . It became her first single to not chart in the inside the top 100 in the United Kingdom , peaking at number 138 on the chart issue of June 9 , 2011 . Across Europe , the song has peaked at number five on Belgium ( Flanders ) and France ; number 10 in Finland ; the top twenty in Belgium ( Wallonia ) , Norway and Denmark ; and the top forty in Czech Republic and Sweden .

= = Music video = =

= = = Development = = =

The music video for " I Wanna Go " was directed by Chris Marrs Piliero and filmed in Los Angeles , California . Spears first contacted Piliero and asked him to put together a concept for the video . The main idea for Marrs Piliero came from the lyric " be a little inappropriate " , which stood out for him , but he did not want to make a video about sexual inappropriateness . Piliero wrote the opening press conference scene as a tribute to the film *Half Baked* ( 1998 ) , which he is a fan of . He explained , " That scene resonates with everyone as the epitome of the greatest way to quit your job , and just blow people off . [ ... ] I felt like that would just be such a perfect way for her to tell the reporters to eff off . " Marrs Piliero first asked actor Kellan Lutz to co @-@ star the clip with Spears ; however , Lutz turned down the role , saying that " there were a couple of weird things about the part that didn 't make sense " , including the scene where he was going to pour milk on himself . Piliero then thought of asking one of the stars of *Half Baked* , Guillermo Díaz , to be part of the video , explaining that it " would make it come full circle . " Piliero watched all of Spears ' videos and wanted to pull what he loved from them , but also give it something fresh . Piliero felt that all of her

references to the paparazzi in her previous videos had been more of a statement than an action , and for " I Wanna Go " , he wanted her to have the opportunity to fight back .

Piliero had the concept nearly finished by the time he met with Spears . Both wanted to explore fun ways for Spears to be inappropriate in the video , who had several ideas , such as a cop frisking her . Having seen Spears on How I Met Your Mother and Saturday Night Live , Piliero felt that none of her videos had really taken advantage of her comedic timing , saying , " She never had a music video where she could show her acting chops and have fun with comedy while being super badass . That was my goal from day one : I wanted her to be funny , badass and super cool . " . During the first day of the shoot , he requested Spears to " have as much fun as possible over these next two days " . Pilliero also stated that the Crossroads ( 2002 ) reference " [ i ] s a fun Easter egg for fans . Plus , Die Hard 2 : Die Harder is the most ridiculously awesome way to title a sequel . It just felt like the right thing to do . When Britney saw it , she loved it . "

= = = Synopsis = = =

The video begins at a press conference where Spears , wearing a cropped Mickey Mouse top ( paying homage to her days in The New Mickey Mouse Club ) , is being asked inappropriate questions by news reporters , such as " Is it true you banned junk food , smiles , candy , sunshine and laughter from your Femme Fatale tour ? " Angered by the questions , Spears replies ( albeit censored ) : " Fuck you , fuck you , fuck you , you 're cool , fuck you ? I 'm out " , referencing a scene from the film Half Baked . After leaving the press conference , Spears walks out of the building and out into the street , wearing a white leather jacket and a black skirt with matching with studded combat boots . She signs a fan 's copy of Femme Fatale and then blows a kiss to a baby as he whistles the melody of the chorus . As Spears walks along the street , she flashes several men , including a policeman ( played by Adrien Galo ) . As a criminal offence , the policeman searches Spears , feeling up and down her legs , as she is bent over a car . Spears later walks away from the policeman , swinging handcuffs around her finger while he buttons his shirt .

She continues walking down the street , where she smashes the camera of a paparazzi photographer who takes pictures of her . More paparazzi appear as she runs away and jumps on top of a taxi . Spears then stands atop of it , wielding the microphone as a weapon against the paparazzi who are hassling her . Across the street , a marquee of the cinema besides her reads Crossroads 2 : Cross Harder , referencing her film debut Crossroads . After all the paparazzi , revealed to be cyborgs , have been knocked to the floor , they start crawling back with their eyes glowing red and their faces bursting with wires , reminiscent to a scene in Terminator 2 : Judgment Day ( 1991 ) . A car suddenly pulls up near to Spears , and the driver Guillermo Díaz tells her to get inside . In the next scene , Spears dances in the passenger seat in a pink bikini top , as Guillermo drives . He attempts to drink some milk while driving but pours the carton of milk over his face . His chest starts to spark , and Spears pulls open his jacket to reveal that he too is a cyborg . The video then cuts back to the press conference , indicating that Spears was daydreaming , due to being asked monotonous and inappropriate questions . Guillermo steps in and leads Spears out of the room . Then , he turns to the camera with his eyes glowing red , and his laugh is heard , referencing Michael Jackson 's Thriller ( 1983 ) .

= = = Release and reception = = =

On June 17 , 2011 , Jive Records announced through a press release that an exclusive 30 @-@ second teaser would premiere on June 19 , 2011 , on Bravo 's Watch What Happens : Live and on VEVO simultaneously . The full length video was revealed to premiere on MTV and VEVO on June 22 , 2011 . Following the premiere , the video was played hourly on MTV , during video hours , and on VH1 's Best Morning Buzz Live . Jen McDonnell of Dose said , " damn if [ the video ] doesn 't rock . [ ... ] It all sounds very weird ? and it is . But it 's also buckets of fun . " Megan Gibson of Time stated that the video is " random , weird and intended to be funny " and that despite the lack of dancing " Britney seems pleasantly energetic and spunky in ' I Wanna Go ' which is a comforting

change from her usual blank @-@ eyed look . " Sarah Anne Hughes of The Washington Post commented that the video " shows a much livelier Britney than the world has seen since the ' Toxic ' years . "

Jason Lipshutz of Billboard said that the video continues the visual representation of Spears ' relationship with the paparazzi and her public image , as previously seen in the videos for " Everytime " ( 2004 ) and " Piece of Me " ( 2008 ) , but " the new clip is arguably her most playful yet . " Amos Barshad of New York stated the video " is awe @-@ inspiring in almost exactly the way it intended to be " and that " the spirit of the song , as reflected in the video , is that of free will and dream fulfillment in the face of a repressive society . " Jocelyn Vena of MTV commented that " Britney displays the sass and charm fans fell in love with a decade ago during performance shots , where she flirts with the camera , her eyes as big and wide as her smile . " An editor for VH1 called the video " fan @-@ freakin ' -tastic " and compared it favorably to the music video for Katy Perry 's " Last Friday Night ( T.G.I.F. ) " ( 2011 ) , saying that " they share a silly temperament , a flirty star , and funny cameos . Upon closer examination , though , Britney 's video blows Katy Perry 's out of the water . "

Devin Brown of CBS News called it her best video from Femme Fatale , and added that unlike " Piece of Me " , " ' I Wanna Go ' offers a bevy of pop culture references meant to ridicule the rumors about the star ? and finally no ' dancing . ' " An editor from Rolling Stone said " The weirdness seems very calculated , but that doesn 't make the video any less delightful . " Another critic from Rolling Stone noted that the press conference " is hysterical because she 's one of the least media @-@ accessible singers in the world . It 's easier to get a sit @-@ down with Bob Dylan than it is with Britney . " Becky Bain of Idolator called the video " delightful " and " flat out funny " , explaining that Spears " focuses her energy on being too darn cute ( and deliciously naughty ) instead of having to worry about dancing , [ she ] is in on the joke and loving it all . " The video was Spears ' first to be VEVO Certified , which means that it was the first of her videos to have received over 100 million views on VEVO .

= = Live performances = =

Though the song has never been performed live as part of a televised performance , " I Wanna Go " was featured on the set list of the Femme Fatale Tour ( 2011 ) . Spears and her dancers bring fans onstage and dance with them throughout the performance . Shirley Halperin of The Hollywood Reporter stated that " [ the ] mid @-@ tempo numbers [ ... ] seemed to stall out quickly , where faster offerings like ' Womanizer , ' ' I Wanna Go ' and ' Toxic ' had the sold out crowd jumping in place and pumping their number twos in the air . " Shaunna Murphy of Entertainment Weekly said , " Of the newer songs , ' How I Roll ' and ' I Wanna Go ' were standouts , the former for its bubblegum fun and the latter for the uproarious fan participation on stage . "

Spears also included the song on her current residency show in Las Vegas , Britney : Piece of Me . After a rendition of " Circus " , a performance of " I Wanna Go " followed , where Spears dances with six mirror images of herself . The mirrors , that are moved around by her dancers , are screens showing pre @-@ recorded images of the singer . Keith Caulfield from Billboard considered the performance " cool " .

= = Remixes and other versions = =

" I Wanna Go " was remixed with guest vocals by Indian singer Sonu Nigam and released on the DesiHits website in June 2011 . In the remix , Sonu mirrors Spears ' vocals in Hindi over Indian instruments . Spears said about the song , " I 'm so excited about having Sonu on I Wanna Go . His vocals add such a different feel , which I love ! Watch out Bollywood ? it 's Britney and Sonu ! " . A remix done by DJ Frank E and Alex Dreamz removes the whistled hook and adds an extra beat to the song . The accompanying video for the remix contains footage of the music video for the song with a glowing yellow tint .

= = Covers versions = =

" I Wanna Go "

= = Track listings = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits adapted from Femme Fatale booklet liner notes .

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications = =

= = Radio date and release history = =