

= Stronger ( Britney Spears song ) =

" Stronger " is a song recorded by American singer Britney Spears for her second studio album , *Oops ! ... I Did It Again* ( 2000 ) . It was released on November 13 , 2000 , by JIVE Records as the third single of the album . After meeting with producers Max Martin and Rami in Sweden , the singer recorded several songs for the album , including " Stronger " . The teen pop and dance @-@ pop song has self @-@ empowerment lyrics about a girl who is tired of her cheating boyfriend and decides to live without him . It received acclaim from music critics , who described the song as both musically and lyrically innovative and considered it the best dance track from the album .

" Stronger " achieved commercial success worldwide , reaching the top five in Austria , Germany and Sweden , while reaching the top ten in Finland , Ireland , Switzerland and United Kingdom . " Stronger " peaked at number eleven in the United States ' Billboard Hot 100 , and was later certified Gold by the Recording Industry Association of America ( RIAA ) , for selling over 500 @,@ 000 units of the single . An accompanying music video was directed by Joseph Kahn , who considered it as a thematic departure from Spears ' previous music videos . The music video received a nomination on the 2001 MTV Video Music Awards for Best Pop Video .

Spears has performed " Stronger " in a number of live appearances , including at the Radio Music Awards of 2000 , American Music Awards of 2001 , a Fox special titled " Britney in Hawaii " , and in two of her concert tours . It was first performed on the *Oops ! ... I Did It Again World Tour* ( 2000 ? 01 ) , as the first song from the show and at the *Dream Within a Dream Tour* ( 2001 ? 02 ) . Also , in 2013 Spears performed the song for the first time in eleven years on her Las Vegas residency concert *Britney : Piece of Me* . In 2010 , " Stronger " was covered by actor Kevin McHale for an episode of TV series *Glee* titled " Britney / Brittany " . The cover received positive reviews from contemporary music critics .

= = Background and composition = =

In 1999 Spears began work on her second studio album *Oops ! ... I Did It Again* ( 2000 ) , in Sweden and Switzerland . After meeting with Max Martin and Rami Yacoub in Sweden , Spears recorded several songs for the album , including " Stronger " , which was co @-@ written and co @-@ produced by Martin and Rami . Upon returning to the United States , the singer revealed in an interview with MTV News that : " I just got back from Sweden , and did half [ of ] the material [ for *Oops !* ] over there . I was really , really happy with the material , but we had [ such ] limited time to get so much done . So I 've just really been in the studio nonstop , which is cool , though . " Spears recorded her vocals for the song in early November 1999 at Cheiron Studios in Stockholm , Sweden . " Stronger " was released on November 13 , 2000 as the third single from the album .

" Stronger " is a teen pop and dance @-@ pop song that features a heavy dance beat , and lasts 3 minutes and 23 seconds . According to the digital music sheet published at Musicnotes.com , the song is composed in the key of G @-@ sharp minor and is set in time signature of common time with a tempo of 108 beats per minute , while Spears vocal range spans from C ? 3 to C ? 5 . Music critics noticed the song as Spears ' declaration of independence , which is perceived in self @-@ empowerment lines such as " I 'm not your property " and " I don 't need nobody " . Its lyrics also quote Spears ' iconic debut hit " ... Baby One More Time " , which was also co @-@ written and produced for Spears by Martin and Yacoub and released two years earlier ; the latter 's famous chorus , " My loneliness is killing me " , is answered in " Stronger " with the lyric , " My loneliness ain 't killin ' me no more " . Despite not being written by the singer , it was speculated that the song is directed to the singer 's record label and her management . In a review for the album , David Browne of *Entertainment Weekly* noted that " Stronger " together with " Don 't Go Knockin ' on My Door " is reminiscent of Rolling Stones ' " The Last Time " ( 1965 ) .

= = Reception = =

== Critical response ==

" Stronger " received widespread acclaim from music critics . Stephanie McGrath of Jam ! considered the song " the best dance track " of Oops ! , deeming the song " every bit as good as \* Nsync 's ' Bye , Bye , Bye ' or The Backstreet Boys ' ' The One ' . " Tracy E. Hopkins of Barnes & Noble , while reviewing the album , said , " Spears shines on the tongue @-@ in @-@ cheek lead single , the triumphant ' Stronger ' ... " David Veitch of Calgary Sun considered " Stronger " to be as " another boom @-@ basic upbeat track " , while saying the song is " notable for its foghorn synth , fabulous rhythm track and heavy effects applied to Britney 's voice . Why she 's panting at the end of the bridge is anybody 's guess . " A review by the NME staff compared " Stronger " to songs recorded by ABBA , saying , " there 's the deranged helium synth pop of ' Stronger ' with the huge ABBA chord change in the chorus that sounds scarier and more robotic than the Backstreet Boys . " Andy Battaglia from online magazine Salon said " Stronger " " could crush the entire self @-@ help industry with its melody alone . "

== Chart performance ==

In the United States , " Stronger " peaked at number 11 on the Billboard Hot 100 on the date of January 27 , 2001 , after entering the top 40 at number 29 on December 30 , 2000 . It also peaked at number 17 on the Top 40 Mainstream chart . It was also certified Gold by the Recording Industry Association of America ( RIAA ) . " Stronger " also peaked at number two on the Hot Dance Music / Maxi @-@ Singles Sales component chart , and number 37 on Rhythmic Top 40 . As of June 2012 , " Stronger " has sold 415 @, @ 000 physical units , with 270 @, @ 000 paid digital downloads in the United States . It is Spears ' third best @-@ selling physical single in the country .

" Stronger " also achieved commercial success worldwide , reaching number four in Austria and Sweden , six in Ireland and Switzerland , and eight in Finland , while reaching the top 20 in several European countries . On the week of December 16 , 2000 , " Stronger " debuted at number seven in The Official Charts Company from the United Kingdom , falling to number 11 in the following week . In Australia , the song peaked at number 13 , and was later certified Platinum by the Australian Recording Industry Association ( ARIA ) , for shipments of more than 70 @, @ 000 units of the single . In France , " Stronger " reached number 20 , making it the lowest chart position for the song worldwide . However , it was certified Silver by the Syndicat National de l'Édition Phonographique ( SNEP ) , for selling over 125 @, @ 000 units of the single . In Germany , the song reached number four on the Media Control Charts , being certified Gold by the Bundesverband Musikindustrie ( BVMI ) for shipping over 250 @, @ 000 units of the single .

== Music video ==

The music video for the song was directed by Joseph Kahn , who revealed that the concept for the music video was created by Spears herself , by saying " I would like to dance in a chair and drive in a car and break up with [ my ] boyfriend . [ ... ] Those are your three elements . " Kahn ended up creating , according to Jocelyn Vena of MTV , " a semi @-@ futuristic world in which Spears walks into a club , breaks up with her cheating boyfriend and triumphantly walks in the rain , knowing her life is better off without him . " Kahn also considered the music video as very sophisticated , saying that it is " definitely a departure from the sort of candy @-@ colored videos she was doing before , so I always thought this was the transition between Britney the teenage pop star and Britney the sort of diva she became . " An alternate footage of the video can be found on the DVD of Spears first compilation album Greatest Hits : My Prerogative .

Kahn revealed that Spears ' referenced Janet Jackson 's " The Pleasure Principle " and " Miss You Much " music videos for the video 's chair routine , saying her idea was inspired by " Janet Jackson 's ' Pleasure Principle ' ? the iconic chair sequence in that " . A review of the video also commented " Ms. Spears gives us her best Janet Jackson impression ( ? Miss You Much ? ) with a dizzying chair @-@ dance routine . " Spears also referenced and draws inspiration from Janet in several other

music videos , including " Don 't Let Me Be the Last to Know " . " Overprotected ( Darkchild Remix ) " , " Circus " , and " Womanizer " .

The video begins with a closed caption that reads " Britney Spears ? Stronger " , amidst the sound of a storm . It then cuts to a close up of Spears looking at her boyfriend , who is smiling with another woman holding him . She realizes she is better without him and walks away , after saying , " Whatever , " to the audience . There is a shot of the tower hotel they were in , in an apparent semi @-@ futuristic world , having a party in the restaurant in the hotel tower at the top , and then the hotel tower explodes and blows up . At the beginning of the first chorus , Spears starts dancing with an Emeco 1006 @-@ style chair in front of a black background . The second half of the video finds Spears driving away from the party in a classic Ford Mustang car during a thunderstorm ; however , before long , her car goes into a spin out , then stops on the very edge of the bridge . After recovering from the shock of it , she 's forced to continue walking on in the rain . Cuts of her dancing with a cane , transformed from the chair , are also included . The video ends with Spears walking across a bridge . Two versions of the video exist , one in which at the end of video , Spears stands in mid @-@ air above the spinning chair , and in the other a close up of her singing . Nuzhat Naoreen of MTV praised the music video , saying , " few performers can work an entire routine on and around a chair as well as Britney did in ' Stronger ' " . The music video received a nomination on the 2001 MTV Video Music Awards for Best Pop Video .

= = Live performances and covers = =

Spears first performed the song live on 2000s Oops ! ... I Did It Again World Tour . The show began with the video introduction " The Britney Spears Experience " , in which three images of Spears welcomed spectators to the show . Then , a giant metal orb was lowered onstage and lifted again to reveal Spears standing behind it . Wearing a glittery jeans and an orange halter top , she opened the show with a dance @-@ oriented performance of the song . " Stronger " was last performed on 2002 's Dream Within a Dream Tour . After a dance @-@ oriented performance of " Boys " , Spears performed the song , in which she wore a paint @-@ covered robe and in some shows a bowler hat . Spears also performed the song on several television appearances , including on the American Music Awards of 2001 , and on a MTV special titled " Total Britney Live " . A Fox special titled " Britney In Hawaii " , aired on June 8 , 2000 , included an exclusive performance of the song . A performance of " Stronger " live from Germany was broadcast on Radio Music Awards of 2000 , since Spears was on tour by the time of the awards . " Stronger " was not included on the set lists of any of Spears ' tours until it was included in her Las Vegas residency show Britney : Piece of Me .

" Stronger " was covered by Kevin McHale on TV series Glee , on an episode titled " Britney / Brittany " , that was dedicated to the singer . In the episode , McHale 's character Artie has a hallucination of himself singing " Stronger " during a dental visit . The cover received positive reviews from contemporary music critics . Raymund Flandez of The Wall Street Journal enjoyed the cover version , appreciating the twist of having males sing a feminist empowerment song , while Tim Stack of Entertainment Weekly deemed " Stronger " his favorite performance of the episode , as well as the best incorporation of Spears ' music , as the song served Artie 's storyline .

= = Track listings = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Britney Spears ? lead vocals , background vocals

Max Martin ? production , songwriting , audio mixing , keyboards , programming , background vocals

Rami Yacoub ? production , songwriting , keyboards

Nana Hedin ? background vocals

John Amatiello ? Pro Tools engineering

Tom Coyne ? audio mastering  
Source :

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications = =

= = Release history = =