

= Through the Rain =

" Through the Rain " is a song by American singer Mariah Carey , taken from her ninth studio album , Charmbracelet ( 2002 ) . It was written by Carey and Lionel Cole , and produced by the former and Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis . The song was released as the album 's lead single on October 17 , 2002 , and a shorter version was used as the ending credits theme for a 2002 Japanese drama known as You 're Under Arrest . Classified by Carey as a ballad , it is influenced by pop and R & B music genres , and features a simple and under @-@ stated piano melody , backed by soft electronic synthesizers . " Through the Rain " was meant to be an insight into Carey personal struggles throughout 2001 , and lyrically talks about encouraging others .

The song has been well @-@ received , with many complimenting its inspirational lyrical content , and described it as an open window into Carey 's personal life for listeners . Commercially it was Carey 's lowest charting lead single to date on the US Billboard Hot 100 , and her first lead single to that point to not reach the top ten in the United States . Though stalling at number 81 , it managed to achieve higher placements in international markets , reaching the top in Spain and peaking within the top ten in Canada , the Netherlands , Italy , Sweden , Switzerland and the United Kingdom .

Carey performed " Through the Rain " live on several television and award show appearances around the world . She debuted the song at the 2002 NRJ Awards , and features it on a one @-@ hour special titled Mariah Carey : Shining Through the Rain , which aired three days later on MTV . In the United States , Carey performed the song on Today , The Oprah Winfrey Show , and American Music Awards of 2003s . Throughout Europe , Carey performed the song on The Graham Norton Show and on talent competition , Fame Academy . Additionally , " Through the Rain " was included on the set @-@ list of Carey 's Charmbracelet World Tour : An Intimate Evening with Mariah Carey , which spanned throughout 2003 ? 04 .

The music video , directed by Dave Meyers , was set in the late 1960s . It features a past and present story @-@ line based on Carey 's childhood , and stars J. D. Williams and Jamie @-@ Lynn Sigler as the singer 's parents . The video begins with past scenes of Carey 's mother being disowned by her family after becoming romantically involved with a black man , and finds the singer in the present walking through a heavy rainstorm in New York . The song was covered on live television by Filipino singers Regine Velasquez and Charice Pempengco .

= = Background = =

In 2000 , Carey parted from Columbia Records and signed a record @-@ breaking \$ 100 million five @-@ album recording contract with Virgin Records America ( EMI Records ) . She often stated that Columbia had regarded her as a commodity , with her separation from Tommy Mottola exacerbating her relations with label executives . However , in July 2001 , Carey had suffered a physical and emotional breakdown . Due to this situation , Virgin and 20th Century Fox delayed the release of Carey 's film Glitter , as well as its soundtrack of the same name . Both the releases received negative feedback and were commercially unsuccessful . This also resulted in her deal with Virgin being bought out for \$ 50 million . Soon after , Carey flew to Capri , Italy for a period of five months , in which she began writing material for her new album , stemming from all the personal experiences she had endured throughout the past year . Carey later said that her time at Virgin was " a complete and total stress @-@ fest [ ... ] I made a total snap decision which was based on money and I never make decisions based on money . I learned a big lesson from that . " Later that year , she signed a contract with Island Records , valued at more than \$ 24 million , and launched the record label MonarC . To add further to Carey 's emotional burdens , her father , with whom she had little contact since childhood , died of cancer that year .

= = Release = =

Throughout the first years of her career , Carey 's musical styles mainly involved pop influenced R & B. Additionally , her image was of a reserved and modestly dressed female , or as Carey 's later

described it " the 90s version of Mary Poppins " . As the 1990s wore on , Carey began featuring rappers on remixes , and began infusing hip @-@ hop into her musical palette . As her music changed , so too did her image , which became more sexual , and aimed at younger audiences than the more contemporary appeal of her earlier works . According to Michael Paoletta from Billboard , " Through the Rain " was used not only as a vehicle for listeners to become more in @-@ tune with Carey 's personal struggles , but also as a means to " re @-@ capture " her audience throughout the earlier stages of her career . A contemporary and pop ballad , he felt the song would find " much embrace " from her older fans , while her audience that grew accustomed to her hip @-@ hop flavored music would feel " lost and abandoned " . In an interview with MTV News , the song 's co @-@ producer Jimmy Jam described why Carey chose to release it as the lead single : " I think ' Through the Rain ' is a great way to start the record , because it is emotional and it kind of speaks directly to the questions people might have about the last year of her life . It 's a good idea to get that out of the way and move on to happy , less emotional songs . "

= = = Remix = = =

The song 's official remix features guest vocals from Kelly Price and Joe . The remix incorporates a more up @-@ tempo background , and differs melodically from the original . While the album 's co @-@ producer , Jimmy Jam , described it as a " star search , " Sarah Rodman from the Boston Herald felt that even though the remix was more up @-@ beat than the original , it " failed to quicken the pulse . "

= = Composition = =

" Through the Rain " is a mid @-@ tempo ballad , which is influenced by pop and R & B music genres . The song is built around a piano melody , and features a beat that is accentuated by synthesizers . Aside from its pop @-@ driven melody and structure , Jeff Vrabel of the Chicago Sun @-@ Times noted an hint of gospel towards the song 's crescendo , describing it as " lite @-@ gospel " . Vocally , " Through the Rain " finds Carey singing in a " restrained " style for the duration of most of the song , as the first verse and chorus are sung in breathy vocals . After the second chorus , the bridge is linked to the song 's climax through a long belted note . The Daily Union 's David Germain felt the song 's composition , as well as Carey 's vocal performance were " simple and reserved " , with Carey in " complete control " of her voice . " Through the Rain " was written by Carey and Lionel Cole and produced by the former and Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis . According to the sheet music published at Musicnotes.com by Universal Music Publishing Ltd . , " Through the Rain " is set in common time with a tempo of 64 beats per minute . It is composed in the key of A @-@ flat major but with the transposing key to B @-@ major , with Carey 's vocal range spanning from the low @-@ note of E ? 3 to the high @-@ note of F ? 5 .

Lyrically , the song features an inspirational message of inner strength , and finds Carey reaching out to listeners . The song uses a rainstorm as a metaphor for troubles in life , while encouraging others to " make it through the rain " through perseverance . The fist chorus begins : " When you get caught in the rain / With no where to run / When your distraught and in pain without anyone / When you keep crying out to be saved " , illustrating a moment in an individual 's life where they are surrounded by conflict . The chorus then serves as a guide to those still suffering , " I can make it through the rain , I can stand up once again on my own / And I know that I 'm strong enough to mend / And every time I feel afraid I hold tighter to my faith / And I live one more day and I make it through the rain " . Similarly , the second verse once again revisits difficult times when " shadows grow close " , before continuing into the second chorus and climax . While the song in meant for listeners to gain confidence and strength , it also allows them into Carey 's personal struggles she endured throughout 2001 . Lola Ogunnaike of The New York Times described the song as a " triumph over adversity " , while a writer from the Sydney Morning Herald wrote " it 's an insight into her recent troubles . " In an interview with MTV News , Carey described the song 's lyrical content in depth :

I've always tried to insert positivity into my songs wherever I can , to inspire other people who go through stuff . I mean the stuff they talked about in tabloids and the things that were so overly exaggerated , that 's one aspect . I also went through a lot of personal stuff , a lot of family stuff this year . Losing a parent is an intense thing for anybody . It 's brought me to another place . People are going to read into it as , ' This is Mariah and her struggle ' . But the way I try to word it is , ' It 's OK once you say I can make it through the rain . ' Not just me going , ' I can make it through the rain , ' it 's me telling people that if you believe you can get through whatever you 're going through , you can get to the other side .

= = Critical reception = =

" Through the Rain " received positive reviews from music critics ; many complimented Carey 's restrained vocal performance , as well as the song 's simple instrumental accompaniment , while others criticized it for being overly @-@ dramatic . Jon Pareles of The New York Times described it as " inspirational " , and felt that due to its vagueness , the song is would be applicable to all listeners , not just Carey . The Daily Union 's David Germain commented how the song 's simple musical arrangement and Carey 's " restrained " vocal delivery aided it in becoming " modest and reserved " . Writing for Billboard , Michael Paoletta chose " Through the Rain " as a top pick from the album , as did Allmusic 's Stephen Thomas Erlewine . He described it as a song that was designed as " ' Vision of Love ' meets ' Hero ' " , and wrote , " Mariah is back in the adult contemporary camp , no longer trying to prove that she 's real . " Cara DiPasquale from the Chicago Tribune called it a " powerhouse ballad " , while Entertainment Weekly 's Tom Sinclair wrote " embellished with her trademark vocal pyrotechnics , it is one of those highly personal songs about finding your way out of an emotional wilderness , but it sinks in its own sodden sentimentality " . Similarly , a writer from Newsday also described " Through the Rain " as a " powerhouse ballad " , and felt it was reminiscent of Carey 's previous single " One Sweet Day " ( 1995 ) . Writing for the Los Angeles Times , Randy Lewis noted how the song was able to effectively take listeners right into Carey 's personal struggles from the previous year . Tina Brown from Newsweek felt that while Carey 's personal troubles may not have been fully solved , the song made her appear " strong and triumphant " .

= = Commercial performance = =

After premiering in the United States , " Through the Rain " managed to peak at number 81 on the Billboard Hot 100 . Though accompanied by several live promotional appearances , the song failed to garner sufficient airplay to make much of an impact on radio stations . While barely managing to crack the primary US charts , it reached number one on the Billboard Hot Dance Club Songs . While radio appeal was primarily weak throughout the United States , the song managed to sustain strong airplay throughout Asia . In Canada , " Through the Rain " peaked at number five on the singles chart , and was certified Gold by the Canadian Recording Industry Association ( CRIA ) , denoting shipments of over 50 @,@ 000 units . Throughout Australasia and Europe , the song managed to peak within the top five in several countries . In Australia , " Through the Rain " debuted at its peak position of number fifteen on the singles chart , during the week of November 14 , 2002 . The following week , the song began its decline , and had a total chart trajectory of ten weeks . On November 11 , 2002 , " Through the Rain " debuted at number forty @-@ eight on the Ö3 Austria Top 40 chart . The song peaked at number forty @-@ five the next week , and fell out of the chart in its eleventh week , while it was at sixty @-@ eight .

The song achieved relatively weak charting in both the Flemish and Wallonian territories in Belgium , peaking at numbers forty @-@ four and twenty @-@ nine , respectively . Making its debut at its peak position of number sixteen , " Through the Rain " charted for a total of nineteen weeks in France , before falling out on March 22 , 2003 . On the Dutch Top 40 chart , the song made its debut at number thirty @-@ two . Four weeks later , the song peaked at number nine , before dropping outside the top 40 five weeks later , ending its eleven @-@ week run . " Through the Rain " entered

the New Zealand Singles Chart at number thirty @-@ seven , during the week dated December 1 , 2002 . In total , the song spent three weeks at its peak position of number thirty @-@ seven , and a total of seven weeks on the chart . In both Denmark and Norway , the song saw moderate success , peaking at numbers thirteen and fifteen , and lasting on the chart for one and three weeks , respectively . On November 28 , 2002 , " Through the Rain " debuted at number twelve on the Swedish Singles Chart , and reached a peak of number seven . Though released at the end of the year , it managed to finish at number 83 on the year @-@ end chart . Similarly in Switzerland , the song peaked at number seven , and finished at number 98 on the end of year chart . On the UK Singles Chart , " Through the Rain " debuted at its peak of number eight . The following week , the song dropped to number twenty @-@ one on the chart , before dropping outside the top @-@ forty two weeks later .

= = Music video = =

= = Background = = =

The music video , directed by Dave Meyers , was filmed on location in New York City on September 30 , and October 1 , 2002 . It is loosely based on the singer 's parents , Alfred and Patricia Carey , during the times that she was conceived . The characters are played by J. D. Williams and Jamie @-@ Lynn Sigler respectively and incorporates themes from Charmbracelet as well as from Carey 's life . In an interview with MTV News , Carey said that originally , the plot for the video wasn 't going to have anything to do with her parent 's past experiences with racism , but was changed a few days before shooting began . During the interview , she described how to plot came into reality :

Originally it wasn 't going to have anything to do with that , but people were looking through my photo albums this year . My father and I had made some photo albums together of his relatives and different people in the family . A couple people saw [ the albums ] and they were like , ' This is amazing that you have this . ' I guess everybody was like , ' How would you feel about this type of concept [ for a video ] ? ' So I guess I thought if someone 's going to do it might as well be me . The story line [ of the video ] is about an interracial couple . It 's sort of Romeo and Juliet but it 's set in the ' 60s and they 're kind of torn apart . It 's about their struggle and I 'm sort of the narrator . I don 't want to give too much away about it , but it 's nice . Something I could relate to , being the product of an interracial union , though [ my parents ] did not wind up happily ever after standing in church together .

Sigler , who was offered the role only days before filming commenced , said that she had always been a fan of Carey , and accepted the offer immediately . She described that the shoot was set in the 1960s , and that she played the singer 's mother during and after her pregnancy . Sigler described the plot : " With my character , she 's basically going against her parent 's wishes to be with this gentleman . She 's pregnant with a baby , which is Mariah , and they run away together . So it 's kind of an epic love story , it 's nice . " Carey revealed that the video would incorporate a rainstorm scene in New York City . Carey jokingly explained how she originally did not intend to get wet , but felt it added a lot to the video .

= = Synopsis = = =

The video begins with a view of a Carey 's personal family album . As the pages open , the camera zooms to one particular photograph , of her young mother facing a wall , with her back turned . As the picture comes into full view , it turns into actual footage . Her mother turns around in anguish , as her own mother begins shouting at her and calling her a disgrace to the family . This is due to the fact that she is pregnant with the child of a black man , with whom she wants to move out with . As she goes to leave the home , her mother grabs her arm and rips off a " charmbracelet " from her wrist . As she picks it up off the floor , she tells her mother she hates her and leaves in a taxi . From

the clothing and scenery , it is notable that the scenes depicted are happening in the late 1960s , prior to Carey 's birth . As the song starts playing , the video focuses on Carey , walking down the street in New York City . As she continues singing and walking down the street , the camera aims to the sky , which is darkened with cloud while light starts to peer through .

While rain starts to fall , and people start to clear the streets , Carey remains walking on the pathway . The girl now reaches her destination , and is welcomed into the home of her lover . They soon board a bus , and travel to a new home where they will live together . As they are about to enter the bus , the girl 's mother is seen screaming in tears for her daughter to return to her . She hesitates , and then continues with her lover onto the transport . The scene once again focuses on Carey , who is standing in the midst of a torrential downpour , singing to the heavens . As she reaches the song 's climax , Carey , now dry and dressed in a long black gown , is shown singing at the altar of a church . As she sings at the church , scenes of the girl lighting a candle , and her lover laying together with her on a bed are shown , before focusing back on Carey . She stares at an elderly couple in the first row at the church , an inter @-@ racial couple now revealed to be her parents , and smiles while wearing her mother 's charmbracelet . The elderly woman begins crying , as her husband holds her hand as they intently stare at Carey . Their faces rejuvenate to show them as a young couple , as their photo is taken and placed into the family album from the beginning of the video .

= = Live performances = =

Following the release of " Through the Rain " , Carey embarked on several stateside , European and Asian promotional tours in support of Charmbracelet , as well as its accompanying singles . Promotion for the former song began at the 2002 NRJ Awards , where Carey appeared on stage sporting a long wavy style and wearing a long black skirt and denim blazer . Three days prior to the album 's stateside release , a one @-@ hour special titled Mariah Carey : Shining Through the Rain aired on MTV , in which Carey was interviewed and sang several songs from Charmbracelet and of her catalog . During the interview , Carey addressed rumors of her breakdown and its cause , as well as of the album and its inspiration , followed by a question and answer with fans . During the album 's month of release , Carey appeared on several television talk shows , launching her promotional tour on Today , where she performed a four song set @-@ list at Mall of America for a crowd of over 10 @,@ 000 . On December 3 , 2002 , Carey appeared on The Oprah Winfrey Show , where she performed " Through the Rain " and " My Saving Grace " , and covered a highly publicized interview regarding Carey 's hospitalization . On December 4 , Carey traveled to Brazil for South American promotion of Charmbracelet , appearing on the popular Brazilian program , Fantástico . She sang " My All " , and reprised performances of " Through the Rain " and " I Only Wanted " wearing a long pink gown . On December 7 , 2002 , Carey performed " Through The Rain " in front of a crowd of 50 @,@ 000 people , at the closing concert of the Mexican Teletón , which took place in the country 's Azteca Stadium .

One month later , Carey was featured as one of the headlining performers at the 30th annual American Music Awards , held on January 13 , 2003 . Introduced by Sharon Osbourne , Carey performed " Through the Rain " alongside a complete live gospel choir , and wore a long black evening gown . During the recital , images of newspaper headlines describing Carey 's breakdown were projected on a large curtain behind her , with one reading " When you fall down , you get back up . " Following the song 's completion , Carey received a standing ovation . Towards the end of March , Charmbracelet saw release throughout Europe , prompting Carey to appear on several programs in promotion of the album . She first performed the album 's leading two singles on the British music chart show , Top of the Pops , followed by a similar set on The Graham Norton Show and Fame Academy . On the latter program , Carey was joined on stage by the show 's finalists , as they all sang the climax on " Through the Rain " alongside her . " Through the Rain " was only performed on Carey 's Charmbracelet World Tour : An Intimate Evening with Mariah Carey , which spanned throughout 2003 ? 04 . During the performances , Carey wore a sparkling bra and mini @-@ skirt . During most of the song , Carey performed it while sitting on a large sofa , before

standing for the climax . At her concert in Manila , Rito P. Asilo from Philippine Daily Inquirer praised Carey 's live rendition of the song , describing it as one of the show 's high @-@ lights .

= = = Cover versions = = =

The song was covered by several Asian artists . In 2003 , singer Regine Velasquez performed a live rendition of " Through the Rain " as part of an intimate concert that was later broadcast on Asian television .

The song was also covered by Rachelle Ann Go in the 2004 singing competition Search for a Star as her winning song . Additionally , while promoting her debut EP in the Philippines in 2007 , Charice Pempengco sang an a cappella version of the song 's bridge and climax .

= = Formats and track listings = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits for " Through the Rain " adapted from the Charmbracelet liner notes .

Mariah Carey ? songwriting , producer , vocals

Lionel Cole ? songwriting

James Wright ? keyboard , co @-@ producer

James Harris III ? producer

Terry Lewis ? producer

Steve Hodge ? engineer ( vocals )

Brad Yost ? engineer ( assistant ) , audio mixing

Xavier Smith ? engineer ( assistant ) , audio mixing

Bob Ludwig ? mastering

= = Charts = =