

= Oh Love =

" Oh Love " is a song by American punk rock band Green Day . It was released as the lead single from their ninth studio album , *¡ Uno !* , on July 16 , 2012 , through Reprise Records , and an EP of the song was released on August 14 , 2012 . It was recorded at Jingtowntown Studios from February 14 to June 26 , 2012 ; however , it was also played at a secret show held by the band in 2011 .

Critical response to the song was mixed ; it was praised for its musical style and tone , as well as criticized for being " middle @-@ ground " . It appeared on multiple charts worldwide upon its debut . The song made its debut in the number @-@ one position on the US Rock Songs chart , making it the band 's first song , and the third ever in history , to do so .

= = Background and release = =

The song was played at a " secret show " performed by the band on October 28 , 2011 , where the band also performed other songs that are on the track listing of *¡ Uno !* : " Let Yourself Go " and " Carpe Diem " Erica Futterman of Rolling Stone praised the band 's performance while also writing , " Other new music included the blistering Ramones @-@ tinged ' Let Yourself Go ' (' Shut your mouth ' cause you 're talking too much and I don 't give a fuck anyway ') , the driving beat and sing @-@ along chorus of ' Carpe Diem , ' and the strut of ' Oh Love ' " . Green Day went into the studio to begin recording songs for a new album on February 14 , 2012 . Eventually , the band announced the release of albums *¡ Uno !* , *¡ Dos !* , and *¡ Tré !* . The official confirmation of the song came with the release of the track listing of their album *¡ Uno !* on June 26 , 2012 .

Later , on June 25 , 2012 , the band announced that they would be releasing " Oh Love " as the first single from *¡ Uno !* . Prior to its release , the band released a teaser @-@ sample of the song in a video uploaded to YouTube . The 16 @-@ second video consists of the cover art of *¡ Uno !* and an advertisement at the bottom with a snippet of the song played in the background , and at the end shows the head of Armstrong in the cover art , eating the advertisement . The song was released on July 16 , 2012 through Reprise Records and along with the release of the song , the band uploaded a video to YouTube which had its lyrics and the full song . On July 20 , 2012 , an extended play of the song was announced , which was released on August 14 , 2012 . " Oh Love " was released as part of the " Green Day 03 " downloadable content pack for Rock Band 3 and Rock Band Blitz on September 25 , 2012 .

= = Theme and composition = =

Stylistically , " Oh Love " has been described as power pop . Its musical style is reminiscent of the band 's early albums *Dookie* (1994) and *Nimrod* (1997) . It is a " move away " from the band 's politically inspired releases like *American Idiot* (2004) and *21st Century Breakdown* (2009) . Bassist Mike Dirnt described the musical style of " Oh Love " by stating , " We were just thinking about making a killer power @-@ pop record ? dirtier , back to basics . We tapped into our version of *Exile on Main Street* " . Vocalist / guitarist Billie Joe Armstrong also talked about his desire to write a power pop song , stating , " What I really wanted to do was write real power @-@ pop kind of music that had that old Green Day energy , so the original Green Day sound became *¡ Uno !* " .

David Fricke of Rolling Stone compared the song to the genre of The Who 's *Quadrophenia* and the vocals of Armstrong in the start to those of John Lennon . He called the song a " tight , addicting bundle of pop @-@ hook class and crunchy @-@ punk fundamentals " . Sarah Maloy of Billboard elaborated that the guitar instrumentation is simple and the tune is similar to the band 's early releases .

= = Artwork = =

The band revealed the artwork of " Oh Love " on July 10 , 2012 , in a press release on their official website about the release of the song . The cover art of the song follows the style of those of *¡ Uno !*

, ¡ Dos ! , and ¡ Tré ! . It features a traffic signal post on the right side with a heart on top followed by two crosses below . " Green Day " and " Oh Love " are written in capital letters at top left and bottom left respectively . " Green Day " is written in pale yellow while " Oh Love " is in white against the blue background , which shows contrast between light @-@ dark and light shades along with black in the corner .

The band also announced release of an EP of the song and also showed its artwork , which is similar with minor variations in color and images . It features a traffic signal post on the right side similar to the song with a cross instead of a heart on top followed by a heart @-@ shaped hand grenade and a couple kissing , the artwork for American Idiot and 21st Century Breakdown , respectively , instead of two crosses below . " Green Day " , in blue , and " Oh Love " , in white , are written in capital letters on the left top and bottom respectively , against a striped red background with blackened corners .

= = Music video = =

The music video is directed by Samuel Bayer , who also directed the band 's American Idiot videos . Lead singer Billie Joe Armstrong said of the video on MTV : " It 's very lustful " . The video shows the stereotypes of a rock star 's life . The video features Green Day playing the song in front of an audience of scantily clad women .

= = Critical reception = =

The song received positive responses from a number of critics . David Fricke of Rolling Stone assigned the track four out of five stars , deeming it " just a bright , strident vocal and crisply strummed guitar . But when Armstrong ? s bandmates fall in around him , Green Day sound the way you originally loved ? em , and refreshed : heavier and hardened from their time in the trenches but back in the garage , ready for rapture " . Scott Shetler of PopCrush also rated the song four out of five stars and compared it to the song " Jesus of Suburbia " from the album American Idiot , calling it " a much shorter and slightly more accessible version " of that song . He also added , " That ? s good news for Green Day fans and for those who miss rock music on Top 40 radio " . However , the song did not receive an entirely positive response from NME , who stated , " That crunchy guitar riff , that meandering melody , that by @-@ the @-@ numbers solo ? it all comes off rather ? meh ? , rather safe , and rather middle @-@ ground to these ears " .

= = Chart performance = =

Upon its release as the lead song , " Oh Love " debuted on multiple world charts . The song made its debut at number one on the US Rock Songs with 13 million audience impressions at 145 reporting stations . The song is the band 's first and only the third ever to debut at number one on the charts , following Linkin Park 's " The Catalyst " on 21 August 2010 , and Foo Fighters ' " Rope " on 12 March 2011 . The song also debuted on the US Alternative Songs at number seven and peaked at number three . It became the band 's 28th title on the Alternative Songs tally and the 20th song to chart in the Top 10 Alternative Songs ? the third highest number of songs by a single artist to do so , sharing that position with Foo Fighters and trailing U2 and Red Hot Chili Peppers with 23 and 24 charting in the Top 10 respectively . It debuted on the Japan Hot 100 at 27 and the Canadian Hot 100 at 54 . The song peaked on the Canada (Alternative Rock) at number four and on the Canada (Active Rock) at number 12 . On the Czech Airplay Chart , it made its debut at number 69 . It debuted at number 73 on the Belgian Tip Chart and at 88 on the Netherlands Single Top 100 . It also debuted at 83 on the Media Control Germany Top 100 Singles Chart .

= = Track listing = =

= = Chart positions = =

= = Personnel = =

Billie Joe Armstrong - lead guitar , vocals

Mike Dirnt - bass guitar , vocals

Tré Cool - drums , percussion

Jason White - guitar