

= I Could Fall in Love =

" I Could Fall in Love " is a song recorded by American Tejano singer Selena for her fifth studio album , Dreaming of You (1995) , released posthumously by EMI Latin on June 26 , 1995 . " I Could Fall in Love " and " Tú Sólo Tú " were the album 's lead promotional recordings , showcasing her musical transition from Spanish- to English @-@ language songs . The lyrics explore feelings of heartbreak and despair and express the singer 's fear of rejection by a man she finds herself falling in love with . Composed by Keith Thomas , " I Could Fall in Love " is a pop ballad with R & B , soul and soft rock influences .

Critics praised Selena 's emotive enunciation and compared it to work by Celine Dion , Brandy Norwood and TLC . It received the Tejano Music Award for the Tejano Crossover Song of the Year , and the American Society of Composers , Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) recognized it at the ASCAP Pop Music Awards as one of the most performed songs of 1995 . Because of the recording 's composition structure and the singer 's vocalization , OC Weekly , BuzzFeed , Neon Tommy , and Latina magazine , believed " I Could Fall in Love " was one of the best songs recorded by Selena in her musical career .

The track was not released as a commercial single in the United States , where it was feared that it might sell more copies than the album itself . " I Could Fall in Love " peaked at number eight on the US Billboard Hot 100 Airplay chart , and at number one on the Canadian RPM Adult Contemporary and US Billboard Latin Pop Airplay charts . It reached the top ten on the singles charts of Canada and New Zealand . It became the most played song in Kansas City , Miami , and Boston and the second most played in Los Angeles .

The accompanying music video , directed by Hector Galan , featured a montage of pictures and videos of live performances of Selena , which had been collected by her family . It , too , was released posthumously , and it received a Music Video of the Year nomination at the 1996 Tejano Music Awards . " I Could Fall in Love " became one of Selena 's most famous and recognizable recordings , and in the 1990s it became a popular wedding song . Cover versions include recordings by Adrienne Bailon , Jennifer Lopez , Gloria Estefan , Lisa Leuschner , Solange Knowles and Ali @-@ Ollie Woodson .

= = Background and release = =

Before Selena signed a recording contract in 1989 with EMI Latin , she had hinted that she wanted to start recording in English . She was asked to make three demonstration recordings for Charles Koppelman , chairman of EMI Records . After reviewing them , Koppelman declined a crossover attempt , believing that Selena should first strengthen her fan base . Later , after releasing five Spanish @-@ language albums that all achieved unprecedented milestones in the Latin music industry , Koppelman considered that Selena had reached her peak in the Spanish market , and he began preparations for a crossover album .

Selena and her record @-@ producer brother A.B. Quintanilla III arrived in Nashville , Tennessee , intending to collaborate with producer @-@ songwriter Keith Thomas . Thomas had prepared the instrumental parts for " I Could Fall in Love " but had not had time to complete the vocal parts , so he sang it for them . Selena and A.B. immediately liked it , and A.B. said that he wanted Selena to include it in her album . She recorded it in December 1994 at The Bennett House in Franklin , Tennessee , and Bill Whittington mixed it with assistance from Mike Corbett and Todd Moore . Although Selena had to return later when Thomas was able to provide additional vocals , Selena 's husband Chris Perez , who had overseen the recording sessions , said that the recording was completed on March 25 , 1995 .

On March 31 , 1995 Selena was murdered in Corpus Christi , Texas , by her friend and former employee Yolanda Saldívar . Thomas later announced that he had been working on another track for Selena to record , telling Biography that the track remained unfinished . " I Could Fall in Love " was released as the lead promotional recording for the 1995 album Dreaming of You on June 26 , 1995 , at the same time as " Tú Sólo Tú " , to demonstrate Selena 's transition from Spanish- to

English @-@ language recordings . " I Could Fall in Love " debuted on US radios on June 15 , 1995 to contemporary hit radios , Top 40 , and rhythmic contemporary airplay , while " Tú Sólo Tú " targeted Latin music radios such as Tejano , Latin pop , and regional Mexican airplay . An editor from the Arizona Daily Star believed " I Could Fall in Love " was targeted more towards adult contemporary radios than R & B and top 40 radio formats that were successful for Gloria Estefan .

" I Could Fall in Love " was released as a maxi single on June 26 , 1995 in Australia and Mexico and on 10 August 1995 in Germany . A maxi single featuring " Dreaming of You " and " Sukiyaki " was released in Japan . " Tú Sólo Tú " was released primarily to Spanish @-@ speaking countries . Fred Bronson of Billboard commented that if EMI Latin had released " I Could Fall in Love " as a single and it had debuted in the top 40 of the Billboard Hot 100 chart , then it would have been the first posthumous debut single to do so since " Pledging My Love " by Johnny Ace in 1955 .

= = Composition and lyrics = =

" I Could Fall in Love " is a mid @-@ tempo pop ballad and R & B song with soul and soft rock influences . Mario Tarradell , an editorial writer for The Dallas Morning News , called the song a " mundane ballad " . It is set in common time and employs an electronic piano , drum machine , a violin , and a flute in the background . The instrumentation includes bass drum , keyboard , flamenco guitar , Spanish guitar , and synthesizers . " I Could Fall in Love " is written in the key of E major , to be played in a moderate groove at 78 half notes per minute . The vocal range of the melody extends from the note F ³ to A4 . Sandy Masuo of the St. Louis Post @-@ Dispatch wrote , " These songs [" I Could Fall in Love " , " I'm Getting Used to You " and " Captive Heart "] were to be her armaments in the crossover war and , sure enough , they 're catchy , state @-@ of @-@ the @-@ art pop / R & B ? but , despite the sublime melody of " I Could Fall in Love " , strikingly anonymous . " An editor from the Contra Costa Times called the song a " jazzy ballad " . Donny Brusca 's book BPM List 2006 : Main Edition classified it as " light @-@ adult contemporary " . Andrew Griffin of The Town Talk called it a " Tex @-@ Mex (Texas @-@ Mexico) pop " song .

" I Could Fall in Love " is similar to " Dreaming of You " in its lyrics . Many media outlets , including the Milwaukee Journal and Billboard magazine , called them " confessional ballads " , with an emotionally vulnerable narrator who wants true love but finds it unattainable . Tarradell believed " I Could Fall in Love " was an indirect response to Selena 's father and manager Abraham Quintanilla , Jr . , who forced her and Perez to end their relationship just because Perez was a rocker . Tarradell asserted that the words " I know it 's not right but I guess I should try to do what I should do " were directed at Abraham and reflected Selena 's realization of her independence . Ramiro Burr of the San Antonio Express @-@ News believed that Selena 's 1992 song " Missing My Baby " shared similarities with " I Could Fall in Love " in expressing uncontrollable " adrenalin @-@ fueled love " . Burr later wrote that the difference in " I Could Fall in Love " is that the lyrics are recorded with " powerful agony " which forces the narrator to " fall into a phase of deep loneliness " because her lover may or may not reciprocate her feelings .

The first verse of " I Could Fall in Love " implores the object of the singer 's desire to walk away , because her emotions are too overpowering and she feels love of unprecedented intensity . She fears that by allowing him to stay attached , she may " lose control " . Selena believes that her infatuation can lead to romantic love . She then sings " I could fall in love (in love) with you " before wondering how she would feel if she were to touch him for the first time . The fear of being rejected and unloved leads her to keep her feelings to herself , and she begins to believe that her love is " not right " . She continues , " and I guess I should try / to do what I should do / but I could fall in love / fall in love with you " . During the midpoint break , Selena sings in Spanish that she is always dreaming about him , imagining that he loves her . She sings the chorus twice before the song comes to an end without her ever having come to terms with her loved one .

= = Critical reception = =

" I Could Fall in Love " received a generally positive response from music critics , who commented

on its similarities to songs recorded by other artists . Ed Morales of Vibe magazine felt that , because of its syncopated drums , " I Could Fall in Love " had a " Jon Secada @-@ like feel " , and it reminded Tarradell of songs recorded by American singer Brandy Norwood and by the trio TLC . An editor from the Star @-@ News thought the song had " a whiff of " Celine Dion . James Hunter , also from Vibe , praised Selena 's astute interpretation , calling it a " masterpiece " and commenting that Selena 's death made the track more difficult to listen to . Larry Flick of Billboard described " I Could Fall in Love " as an " optimistic love song " that left " melancholy thoughts of what might have been " in the mind of the listener . John Lannert , also from Billboard , conceived " I Could Fall in Love " as a " sensuous narrative " recording and a " seductive romantic confessional " . Tarradell , writing in The Beaver County Times , called it a " crossover staple " .

Mary Talbot of the New York Daily News , praised Selena 's " soft , velvety voice " . A San Jose Mercury News reporter wrote that " I Could Fall in Love " and " Dreaming of You " helped Selena to become " the new Gloria Estefan " . Richard Torres of Newsday considered both these songs to be romantic anthems . Enrique Fernandez of the Sun Sentinel described " I Could Fall in Love " as " beautiful " , while an editor from The Sacramento Bee called the song a " Latin @-@ influenced R & B lite " . Because of its " overly simplistic and repetitive lyrics " , Ramiro Burr of the San Antonio Express @-@ News assessed " I Could Fall in Love " as the " weakest track " of Dreaming of You .

Elizabeth Rodriguez Kessler and Anne Perrin wrote in their 2007 book Chican @ s in the Conversations that " I Could Fall in Love " was a " clean pop offering " . Joey Guerra of the Houston Chronicle commented in 2008 that it had " made the Tejano goddess a posthumous crossover star " . On 31 March 2010 , Teresa Jusino of Popmatters expressed the view that English @-@ speaking music fans no longer remember Selena 's name , saying that on playing " Dreaming of You " or " I Could Fall in Love " , many would say " I remember that song ! " or " I love that one ! " . Randi Bergman of Fashion magazine , called the number an " epic ballad " .

= = Recognition and accolades = =

" I Could Fall in Love " was nominated for " Song of the Year " at the 1996 Tejano Music Awards , and won the Tejano Crossover Songs of the Year . The American Society of Composers , Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) recognized it as one of the most performed songs of 1995 at the 4th ASCAP Pop Music Awards . Marco Torres of OC Weekly , called the song " so sweet , so loving , so absolutely , amazingly , and astonishingly adorable ! " and placed it at number seven on his " Top 10 Selena songs of All time " list . Brian Galindo of BuzzFeed believed the " melancholy ballad is another great example of Selena 's ability bring an emotional vulnerability to her songs . " and placed " I Could Fall in Love " at number five on his list of " The 15 Greatest Selena Songs of All Time " . Latina magazine placed " I Could Fall in Love " at number three on their " Remembering Selena : Her Top Ten Songs " list . Ashley Velez of Neon Tommy commented that " Selena lends her vulnerability to this slow ballad " and that it " displays Selena 's talented vocals and helped introduce the singer to the American mainstream . " Velez then ranked the recording number two on her list of the " Top 5 Selena Songs " .

= = Chart performance = =

Davitt Sigerson , the president and CEO of EMI records , feared that " I Could Fall in Love " might sell more copies than the album itself , so he did not issue the single as a commercial release . Therefore , it was not eligible for the Billboard Hot 100 chart . " I Could Fall in Love " debuted at number four on the Hot Latin Tracks chart on 1 July 1995 and peaked at number two the following week , becoming the highest @-@ ever English @-@ language song on that chart . " Tú Sólo Tú " and " I Could Fall in Love " occupied the first and second positions respectively on Hot Latin Tracks for five consecutive weeks . Selena thus became the first artist to place both a Spanish- and an English @-@ language song in the top ten of the Hot Latin Tracks chart . " I Could Fall in Love " became the fifth best @-@ charting song from that chart in 1995 and remained the highest @-@ charting English @-@ language song for two years , until Celine Dion 's 1998 single " My Heart Will

Go On " surpassed it when it peaked at number one .

On the Regional Mexican Songs chart , the track reached number five for two consecutive weeks from 1 July 1995 , and it peaked at number one on the Latin Pop Airplay chart of 19 August 1995 for one week . Entering at number 13 on the Latin Tropical / Salsa Airplay chart of 15 July 1995 , the song peaked at number four there five weeks later , on 26 August 1995 . " I Could Fall in Love " debuted at number 46 on the Hot 100 Airplay chart issue dated 8 July 1995 and peaked eight weeks later at number 8 on 2 September 1995 . By entering the Adult Contemporary Tracks chart at number 37 on 29 July 1995 , the recording received a " Hot Shot Debut " as the highest debut of the week . It ran at number 14 for three consecutive weeks starting on 21 October 1995 .

" I Could Fall in Love " peaked at number 17 on the Adult Top 40 chart and number three on the Hot 100 Recurrent Airplay chart on 23 December 1995 . The performance entered the Hot Adult Contemporary Recurrent chart on 27 January 1996 at number six and achieved the same on the Rhythmic Top 40 . Number 15 was its highest position on the Mainstream Top 40 chart . In New Zealand , " I Could Fall in Love " debuted at number 36 on the New Zealand Top 40 chart on 10 October 1995 and peaked at number ten in the week ending 19 November 1995 , its fifth week on the chart . In Canada , " I Could Fall in Love " debuted at number 55 on the RPM Adult Contemporary chart of 24 July 1995 . By 6 November 1995 it was number one . On 21 August 1995 it entered at number 94 on the RPM Top Singles chart , and in October , after eleven weeks , it reached number ten for two consecutive weeks .

= = Music video = =

Directed by Hector Galan , the song 's accompanying music video featured a montage of pictures and videos of live performances by Selena that had been collected by her family . It was released posthumously and received a Music Video of the Year nomination at the 1996 Tejano Music Awards . This promotional video reached number 11 on the Billboard Video Monitor VH1 Top Music Videos list , number 6 on The BOX Video List , number 10 on the MOR Music list , and number 3 on the California Music Channel (CMC) list of most popular music videos .

= = Cultural impact = =

" I Could Fall in Love " dominated the Top 40 radio stations , a fact that was well received by critics . The song was given heavy rotation in the southern United States , becoming the most played song in Kansas City , Miami , and Boston and the second most played in Los Angeles . In Tucson , Arizona , it was played every 2 ½ hours , and in San Antonio every hour . The song was played 25 times its first day of availability on US radios on the Harrington , Texas radio station KBTQ . It helped increase Selena 's catalogue sales and simultaneously boosted media attention . The song 's release sparked a two @-@ day " on @-@ air blitz " on radios in South Texas . In Riverside , California , program directors reported that " I Could Fall in Love " was one of the three hits they were playing most often on their radio stations . A San Antonio disc jockey told The Victoria Advocate about the overwhelming response received from the English @-@ speaking audience , who were constantly calling her radio station asking for " I Could Fall in Love " .

" Dreaming of You " and " I Could Fall in Love " were EMI Records ' top selling digital downloads from 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005 . " I Could Fall in Love " became one of Selena 's most widely recognized recordings . It rapidly became popular as a wedding song , causing it to become one of Selena 's most famous songs . Her English @-@ speaking audience increased substantially as a result of its widespread popularity . Amanda Edwards of Voxxi.com called it " one of the most popular Latin love songs of all time " , adding that , " from her sweet voice to the genuine sentiment of the song (with a hint of sexiness if you 're listening carefully) , we 're sold on this track being a solid standby any time of year but especially for someone hoping for romance on Valentine 's Day " . A ten @-@ second instrumental of the recording was featured on the 4 February 1998 episode of Dexter 's Laboratory .

== Covers ==

A number of singers have adapted the song in a variety of genres . Puerto Rican @-@ American singer and actress Jennifer Lopez lip @-@ synced the track for her portrayal of the title role in the 1997 biographical film *Selena* , which was praised by critics . Reviewing the film 's opening , a *Wichita Eagle* writer described the song as " hauntingly lovely " and said that it expressed the feelings of *Selena* 's fans . Lopez included " *I Could Fall in Love* " in the set list for her *Lets Get Loud* Tour in 2001 at the Roberto Clemente Coliseum in San Juan , Puerto Rico , and on 11 February 2003 she included the song in her live video album *Jennifer Lopez : Let 's Get Loud* . Cuban singer Gloria Estefan performed a cover version during the *Selena ¡ VIVE !* concert in 2005 ; Tarradell commented in *The Dallas Morning News* that it had been a " lovely rendition " . Puerto Rican singer Ana recorded the song for her album *Amor Latino* . The Korean singer Im Tae Kyung performed a slower pop ballad version that incorporates a guitar as its musical foundation . A reggae @-@ inspired version of the song appeared on *Fiona 's Best of Sweet Love* .

Season three *American Idol* contestant Lisa Leuschner included the song in her album *Reality* . In *Kumbia Kings* ' third compilation album *Duetos* (2005) , *Selena* 's brother A.B. Quintanilla III recorded " *I Could Fall in Love* " as a Spanglish duet with *Selena* . For the album *Familia RMM* *Recordando a Selena* , recorded by various artists in 1996 , *Los Jovenes Del Barrio* performed a cover of the song . Season 10 *American Idol* contestant Karen Rodriguez performed " *I Could Fall in Love* " during the " top 13 " episode , receiving unfavorable reviews from critics who considered the song too powerful for her . However , *The Washington Post* contributor Derrik Lang called Rodriguez ' cover a " breathy redemption " . *American Idol* alumna Katie Stevens wrote to *The Hollywood Reporter* , claiming that the judges on the show had judged Rodriguez too harshly and calling Rodriguez the " new *Selena* " . Rodriguez recorded a studio version of " *I Could Fall in Love* " in 2011 for her debut album , which was produced by Jim Jonsin .

Solange Knowles included the song in the set list for her 2013 world tour , which has received praise from music critics . Joey Guerra of the *Houston Chronicle* wrote that Knowles had " put a lovely , downtempo twist on ' *I Could Fall in Love* ' " . Michael O 'Connell of the *Hollywood Reporter* called Knowles ' rendition a " fangirl cover " . Writing in the *San Francisco Weekly* , Erin Browner considered Knowles ' cover the " highlight of the night " when she performed it at the start of her US tour . Browner commented that the " combination of sexy Solange and *Selena* 's epic love song was almost too much for the audience to handle " and that " people immediately whipped out their phones to record (yep , it 's already on YouTube) and / or just plain cried the lyrics along with her " . On 29 March 2015 , Filipino singers Angeline Quinto , Yeng Constantino , and Juris Fernandez performed " *I Could Fall in Love* " for the variety show *ASAP* . American singer Adrienne Bailon performed " *I Could Fall in Love* " after a six @-@ year departure from the music business , during the March 31 , 2015 episode of *The Real* ; a talk show she currently hosts .

== Formats and track listings ==

== Credits and personnel ==

Credits adapted from *Dreaming of You* album liner notes .

== Charts ==

== Release and radio history ==

== Books ==

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