

= Today Is Your Day =

" Today Is Your Day " is a song performed by Canadian singer @-@ songwriter Shania Twain . It was self @-@ penned by Twain and co @-@ produced by the singer alongside David Foster and Nathan Chapman . The song was released on June 12 , 2011 by Mercury Nashville Records , as a promotional single to accompany the documentary television series Why Not ? with Shania Twain ( 2011 ) . The song marked Twain 's first song release in over six years . Twain wrote the track for self @-@ inspiration , during the development of Why Not ? with Shania Twain . To her , " Today Is Your Day " became the theme song for the series , expressing the purpose behind it via music . Despite feeling apprehensive , Twain decided to record the track , which induced her to create her forthcoming fifth studio album . The track is midtempo ballad in the country pop genre . Lyrically , " Today Is Your Day " regards personal upliftment . " Today Is Your Day " is Twain 's first piece of music to have had no involvement with now ex @-@ husband Robert John " Mutt " Lange in 18 years .

" Today Is Your Day " has received mixed reviews from music critics and mild commercial performance in Canada and the United States . On the Canadian Hot 100 , the song peaked at number 16 , while , in the US Billboard Hot 100 , it peaked at number 66 . It became Twain 's first effort to enter the main @-@ genre chart since " Party for Two " ( 2004 ) . Despite not receiving an official music video , a promotional music video was gathered from footage from Why Not ? with Shania Twain .

= = Background = =

In 1993 , prior to success , Twain released her eponymous debut studio album , which caught the attention of record producer Robert John " Mutt " Lange . The two collaborated on songwriting via phone calls for six months , and later established a romantic relationship . Soon after , they wedded in December 1993 and Twain 's second studio album The Woman in Me ( 1995 ) established Twain as a superstar , selling over 12 million copies in the United States . Twain and Lange continued to collaborate on her subsequent albums Come on Over ( 1997 ) and Up ! ( 2002 ) ; the prior went on to sell over 40 million copies worldwide and became the best @-@ selling album by a female artist . After selling a total of over 75 million records worldwide , making her the top @-@ selling female artist in country music history , Twain decided to take a musical hiatus in 2005 . In 2008 , it was announced that after 14 years of marriage , Twain and Lange were in the process of divorcing . The singer had discovered her husband was infidel with her best friend Marie Anne Thiebaud , although Lange and Thiebaud never admitted to it . The divorce was finalized on June 9 , 2010 .

According to Twain , she became depressed and lost her desire to live following the divorce . As a distraction from it , Twain commenced to write her memoir From This Moment On ( titled after the 1998 song of the same name ) . She then began to re @-@ evaluate her life and noted a pattern of attempting to withhold emotions , which affected her voice ( for both speaking and singing ) . She explained the loss of her voice was attributed to a cumulative stress that began with domestic violence in her childhood , continued with the death of her parents and the stress from her musical career , and finally exploded with the divorce . As a result , the singer developed dysphonia , an impairment in the ability to produce voice sounds using the vocal organs as a result of tightened muscles enveloping her voice box . In order to recover her voice and heal wounds caused by the divorce , Twain embarked on a documented journey with the series Why Not ? with Shania Twain . The goal was executed via Twain performing acts out her comfort zone to once again be able to perform , while inspiring viewers to be proactive about their dilemmas .

= = Writing and recording = =

After repeating to herself , ' Today is your day ! You can do it ! ' , Twain decided to compose a song for self @-@ inspiration . Twain described the decision to write the song as crucial because it was her first since her separation from Lange . She had to " find [ herself ] as a songwriter again " and

become independent once again . " I was petrified of writing a new song without Mutt . A whole new world for me . It had been many , many years since I had written by myself so that was new and scary " , Twain said . For Twain , the music was simple to write , only occupying approximately two lines of sheet music . Then , the lyrics began to flow as Why Not ? with Shania Twain progressed . " Today Is Your Day " inspired her ; consequently , she contemplated sharing it with the series. a concept that frightened her : " Sharing that song with other people , exposing , and basically allowing myself to be vulnerable and judged , it scared the heck out of me . " She believed it ultimately became " the natural theme song of the series " . She explained the song 's relevance to the television series : " From the inception of documenting the journey , the song was also created at that moment . And it has evolved with it all along the way . "

As part of Why Not ? with Shania Twain , she then arranged an appointment with music producer David Foster , hoping to collaborate on " Today Is Your Day " . In order to prepare with her session with Foster , Twain visited vocal coach Eric Vetro to prepare , although feeling skeptical . Twain and Vetro executed several vocal exercises to loosen her up from the tension and tightness she experienced . " The goal is to free up , to let go . She has to take all of that tension and tightness that she 's been feeling for so long , and transform it to free herself from it . And to start singing from her heart again , the way she did when she was a little girl , when she started " , Vetro stated . He also expressed his belief that Twain was prepared enough to once again record and perform music . Twain felt she learned divergent techniques that were beneficial to her voice and appreciated Vetro 's understanding of her psyche as a performer .

Nevertheless , Twain was apprehensive about collaborating with Foster and frightened that he would dislike the song or her voice . To ease the process , she approached it as if she were introducing " Today Is Your Day " to the producer as a songwriter , rather than a singer . Twain and Foster recorded the demo of " Today Is Your Day " at Foster 's home studio in Los Angeles , California , creating the musical arrangement as the recording prolonged . Background vocals were provided by Twain and her sister , Carrie Ann Twain , using a handheld microphone . Foster then suggested for Twain to record lead vocals in his home 's vocal booth . After agreeing , Twain commenced it nervously , but then enjoyed it . She considered it a " landmark moment in [ her ] journey " through Why Not ? with Shania Twain and described it as second nature and very natural , as if she never put her musical career to a halt . Twain later recorded the studio version of " Today Is Your Day " and co @-@ produced it along Foster and Nathan Chapman . The song " set [ Twain ] off " , allowing her to feel comfortable anew recording music , and triggering her to create her forthcoming fifth studio album .

= = Release = =

The song premiered on OWN : Oprah Winfrey Network on June 12 , 2011 , immediately after the broadcast premiere of Why Not ? with Shania Twain 's final episode , " Endless Love " at 11 P.M. EST . Subsequently on the same night , " Today Was Your Day " was released to country radio and digital retailers in Canada and the United States , with an international release the next day . It became her first song release since " Shoes " ( 2005 ) from the Desperate Housewives soundtrack , and her first self @-@ penned song released since " Leaving Is the Only Way Out " from The Woman in Me ( 1995 ) ; the two are her only self @-@ penned tracks released . It is also Twain 's first promotional single . An official music video for " Today Is Your Day " was not filmed ; instead , the song was given a promotional music video compiled from highlights from Why Not ? with Shania Twain . It premiered on Vevo on June 23 , 2011 , and was released to the iTunes Store on June 28 , 2011 .

= = Composition = =

" Today Is Your Day " is a song with a length of three minutes and 12 seconds . The song is a slow mid @-@ tempo ballad of the country pop genre . Nonetheless , several critics , such as Nicholas Köhler and Ken MacQueen Maclean 's , have described the track to be a piece of pop music , rather

than country music . It commences with a sole piano accompanying Twain 's voice , and later progresses to an assortment of banjo , string instruments , and other instrumentation . However , the production is maintained sparse , leaving Twain 's vocals at center . The lyrics are written in second person and discuss optimism and personal upliftment . In the bridge , she sings , " Brush yourself off no regrets / This is as good as it gets / Don ' t expect more or less / Just go out and give it your best " , meaning one must be able to disregard dreaming for a better day because " today is all you ' ve got " . Melinda Newman of HitFix presumed , considering Twain 's back story , that Twain wrote " Today Is Your Day " as message for herself .

= = Reception = =

= = = Critical reception = = =

The song received mixed reviews from music critics . Melinda Newman of HitFix said it was " a bit snoozy " , however complementing Twain 's reasonably strong vocals . Newman added , " She ' s not pushing or belting in any way , but she ' s upfront and center . However , her delivery is hardly the peppy rallying call that the lyrics call for and if a song ever demanded to be uptempo , this would be it . " Sean Daly of the St. Petersburg Times called the song " a shocking stinkeroo every which way . " Daly criticized Twain 's vocal delivery , noting she sounded as though she sang through the side of her mouth much like James Cagney , and said the track reinforced the skeptics who insisted Lange was the reason for Twain 's success . He concluded , " If ' Today Is Your Day ' is a sign of things to come , you might want to hold your breath on that comeback . " Jenna Hally Rubenstein of MTV was disappointed with " Today Is Your Day " , but said she would " take it " following the singer 's long absence from music . Rubenstein commented that the song was undoubtedly saccharine , yet Twain 's lush and rich voice prevailed .

= = = Chart performance = = =

On the week ending July 2 , 2011 , " Today Is Your Day " debuted at number 14 on the Canadian Hot 100 . The following week , it descended to number 45 . Since , the song has spent six weeks on the Canadian Hot 100 . On the week ending July 2 , 2011 , " Today Is Your Day " also entered on the US Billboard Hot 100 , at number 66 with 46 @, @ 000 digital downloads ( its sole week on the chart ) . This marked Twain 's first entry on the Billboard Hot 100 chart since " Party for Two " ( 2004 ) spent its last week on the chart in February 2005 . On the same week , " Today Is Your Day " entered at number 40 on the US Hot Country Songs chart , ranking Twain 's fourth @-@ highest debut . Two weeks later , on the week ending July 16 , 2011 , the track reached its peak at number 36 , and spent a total of six weeks on the chart .

= = Track listing = =

Digital Download

" Today Is Your Day " ? 3 : 14

= = Charts = =