

= Savior (Rise Against song) =

" Savior " is a song by American rock band Rise Against , featured on their fifth studio album Appeal to Reason (2008) . Written and performed by the band , the song deviates from the social and political topics normally discussed in Rise Against songs , and is instead about forgiveness and broken relationships . It is a punk rock song , with a " frenetic pace " that John Hanson of Sputnikmusic described as reminiscent of tracks from the band 's 2003 album Revolutions per Minute . It was released as Appeal to Reason 's third single on June 3 , 2009 .

" Savior " was well received by critics , with praise directed towards its lyrics , and remains one of the band 's most commercially successful singles to date . It peaked at number three on both the Hot Rock Songs and Alternative Songs music charts , and holds the record for the most consecutive weeks spent on either chart , with sixty @-@ three and sixty @-@ five weeks respectively . The accompanying music video depicts actors in animal costumes engaging in a mosh pit .

= = Background = =

" Savior " was written by American rock band Rise Against , with lyrics by lead vocalist Tim McIlrath , and produced by Bill Stevenson and Jason Livermore . Stevenson and Livermore engineered the song with Andrew Berlin , while Chris Lord @-@ Alge assisted as the mixer . It was recorded at the Blasting Room in Fort Collins , Colorado and was mastered by Ted Jensen . Rise Against released the song as the Appeal to Reason 's third and final single on June 3 , 2009 . It impacted radio stations on June 16 .

When writing the lyrics for Rise Against songs , McIlrath will often sing nonsensical words over completed melodies , in order to identify the lyrical tone that each song will eventually convey . For " Savior " , McIlrath remarked that while he mostly sang gibberish , he always found himself singing the line " I don 't hate you " . McIlrath used this line as a base to construct the lyrics and themes present within " Savior " . In a 2014 interview , McIlrath commented on how he had originally voted to cut the song from Appeal to Reason , but was eventually overruled .

= = Composition = =

" Savior " is a punk rock song , and has been described by Aaron Burgess of The A.V. Club as an " uptempo anthem " . The song 's composition is written in the time signature of common time , with a moderate tempo of 94 beats per minute . It follows verse @-@ chorus form , and is composed in the key F ? minor , with a melody that spans a tonal range of E4 to C ? 6 . John Hanson of Sputnikmusic noted that the song had a " frenetic pace " , which was reminiscent of many of the tracks from the band 's 2003 album Revolutions per Minute .

Lyrically , " Savior " deviates from the social and political topics normally discussed in Rise Against songs , and is instead about forgiveness and broken relationships . It tells the story of a couple who have recently split up . The two attempt to reconcile their differences , with lines such as " I don 't hate you , boy / I just want to save you while there 's still something left to save . " Hanson and Liz Ramanand of Loudwire have characterized the lyrics as " poignant " , and " poetic " .

= = Reception and chart performance = =

" Savior " was well received by critics . Hanson and Davey Boy of Sputnikmusic both praised the song ; Hanson described it as " one of the most inspired songs [Rise Against] have written to date " , while Boy wrote that " ' Savior ' sees absolutely everything come together perfectly to make for one hell of a song " . Burgess opined that " Savior " was one of three Appeal to Reason tracks that would " satisfy anyone still uneasy about Rise Against 's radio aspirations " . Bob Hoose of Plugged In complimented the positive and hopeful lyrics .

Commercially , " Savior " remains one of Rise Against 's most successful singles to date , and spent a considerable amount of time on multiple Billboard music charts . Reaching as high as number two

on the Bubbling Under Hot 100 Singles chart , it spent thirty @-@ six weeks on the chart , the fourth most amount of time for any song on the chart . " Savior " peaked at number three on both the Hot Rock Songs and Alternative Songs charts , and holds the record for the most amount of time spent for both charts , with sixty @-@ three and sixty @-@ five weeks respectfully . It was later certified platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America , denoting shipments of 1 @,@ 000 @,@ 000 copies . In Canada , the song reached number sixty @-@ eight on the Canadian Hot 100 .

= = Music video = =

The accompanying music video was directed by Kevin Kerslake , who had previously directed the band 's music videos for " Ready to Fall " , and " Re @-@ Education (Through Labor) " . The video centers around actors wearing animal costumes , who in the beginning , engage in a mosh pit . One of the animals , a polar bear , is constantly being punched and kicked by an elephant , and decides to leave . While traveling on a bus , it sees the same elephant limping . The polar bear reluctantly asks the driver to stop and let the elephant on , who sits next to the polar bear , and the two hold hands . Scenes of Rise Against performing and destroying their instruments are shown throughout .

McIlrath had originally envisioned a simple performance video , with the band " going nuts in a parking lot , trashing equipment , having fun and showing the physical nature of Rise Against " . However , Kerslake came up with the idea for the animals , as he felt it would be a bizarre element that would keep people watching . Despite its humorous nature , Kerslake stated that there were some political undertones in the video , with the polar bear representing endangered species , while the elephant represents the Republican Party of the United States .

= = Personnel and credits = =

Credits adapted from the liner notes of Appeal to Reason .

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications = =