

= Dive (Usher song) =

" Dive " is a song recorded by American recording artist Usher for his seventh studio album Looking 4 Myself (2012) . It was written and produced by Rico Love , Jim Jonsin , Danny Morris and Frank Romano . " Dive " is a slow @-@ paced R & B ballad with elements of pop music , with Usher making use of his falsetto range . Its lyrics use the metaphor of diving , which was interpreted by critics to discuss a commitment to a relationship . The song was announced by Usher via Twitter as the fifth single from Looking 4 Myself on August 21 , 2012 . It was released to urban radio on August 28 , 2012 .

" Dive " was received well by critics , who praised its production and Usher 's vocals , particularly his falsetto . An accompanying music video directed by Chris Applebaum , portrays Victoria 's Secret Angel model Chanel Iman as Usher 's love interest , showing them being intimate and making love in several scenes . Upon the release of Looking 4 Myself , the song debuted at number 50 on the South Korea Gaon International Chart , with sales of 6 @,@ 546 digital copies . " Dive " peaked at number 34 on the US Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Songs , remaining on the chart for twelve weeks before dropping out .

= = Composition and lyrics = =

The track is a slow @-@ paced R & B ballad with elements of pop music , that runs for a length of three minutes and 47 seconds . Throughout the song , Usher makes use of his falsetto range , to which Billboard 's Erika Ramirez described as " soulful " . Chuck Arnold of People complimented Usher 's falsetto on both " Dive " and lead single " Climax " , adding that the songs show " that he 's a " better singer than ever " . Matt Cibula of PopMatters wrote that " Dive " contains a triple entendre in its lyrics : seemingly singing about diving or oral sex , " only to realize that what he 's really discussing " is commitment to a relationship . Trent Fitzgerald of PopCrush perceived that the song 's lyrics " metaphorically compares love to the crashing waters of the ocean " . Carrie Battan of Pitchfork interpreted the lyrics as " explicit " which might " make you cringe if they 'd come from of anyone else " in the line : " It 's raining inside your bed / No parts are dry / Lovin ' made you so wet / Your Legs / Your thighs " .

= = Critical reception = =

" Dive " received universally positive acclaim from music critics . DJ Booth described its production as " sultry " and noted the song as a potential hit for Usher . Erika Ramirez of Billboard also saw the song as a success , writing that it is " slower and more sensual " than Jim Jonsin and Rico Love 's " Motivation " (2011) performed by Kelly Rowland . Ramirez also praised Usher 's vocals , more specifically his falsetto , the reasoning to why " we fell in love with the singer to begin with " . Complex 's Brad Wete perceived the song as a " sexy slow @-@ winding cut " , that is " powered by Usher 's falsetto " . Ryan Hadfield of Consequence of Sound also praised Usher 's vocals , with " Dive " and lead single " Climax " showing his " superior R & B vocal range " . Pitchfork 's Carrie Battan wrote that Usher 's " vocal mastery " allows him to turn the chorus of " Dive " ? which she viewed as " cornball " ? into something " more specific , as if he were addressing just one woman [...] " . PopMatters ' Matt Cibula saw the lyric 's as " clever " for incorporating a triple @-@ entendre . Cibula further lauded Usher 's falsetto , which he wrote Usher sings in an " urgent " whisper .

= = Music video and live performances = =

The music video for " Dive " was filmed in July 2012 , directed by Chris Applebaum , and released to VEVO on August 25 , 2012 . In the video , Victoria 's Secret Angel model Chanel Iman plays as Usher 's love interest . Set on a luxury Yacht in the open sea , the video begins with Usher talking , before showing him singing the first verse . The video intercuts to Iman , and Usher inside a cabin with water gushing in . For the chorus , Usher and Iman are being intimate , with water further

entering the singer 's cabin . Usher and Iman are once again being intimate for the second verse , sat outside of the Yacht , with water now level with Usher 's waist inside the cabin , entering the second chorus , where Usher and Iman make love . During the bridge , both are romancing within the cabin 's bathroom , with the video intercutting to different romantic scenarios . Further scenarios are shown in the final chorus , with the water now fully submerging the cabin and Usher . The video closes with Usher swimming to safety , but before reaching the surface , he and Iman approach each other , embracing in the water . Opening the 2012 iTunes Festival , Usher performed " Dive " for the first time along with " Can 't Stop Won 't Stop " , " Twisted " and " Numb " and other songs .

= = Credits and personnel = =

Recording

Vocal recording ? Parkland Playhouse , Parkland , FL ; Circlehouse Studios , Miami , FL

Mixing ? Parkland Playhouse , Parkland , FL

Personnel

Credits adapted from the liner notes of Looking 4 Myself , RCA Records .

= = Charts = =

Upon the release of Looking 4 Myself , due to digital downloads , " Dive " entered the singles chart in South Korea . It debuted on the South Korea Gaon International Chart at number 50 on June 10 , 2012 , with sales of 6 @,@ 546 digital copies . It debuted at number eight on the US Bubbling Under Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Singles chart for the chart issue dated September 8 , 2012 . On the US Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Songs chart , " Dive " peaked at number 34 , remaining on the chart for twelve weeks before dropping out .

= = Release history = =