

= Up Out My Face =

" Up Out My Face " is a song by American singer and songwriter Mariah Carey from her twelfth studio album , *Memoirs of an Imperfect Angel* (2009) . Written and produced by Carey , Tricky Stewart and The @-@ Dream , it is a club music song which includes a marching band in its instrumentation . It received a mixed response from music critics , but its humorous lyrics attracted praise . Brian Mansfield of USA Today believed that the lyrics were directed at Eminem , whom Carey has a longstanding feud with , at one point singing " I know you 're not a rapper , so you better stop spittin ' it . " Carey released " Up Out My Face " as a remix featuring Nicki Minaj in January 2010 for a proposed *Memoirs of an Imperfect Angel* remix album called *Angels Advocate* , which was ultimately shelved .

= = Production and composition = =

" Up Out My Face " was written and produced by Mariah Carey , Tricky Stewart and The @-@ Dream , for Carey 's twelfth studio album , *Memoirs of an Imperfect Angel* (2009) . Copyright is held by Rye Songs (2009) which is administered by Songs of Universal (BMI) / WB Music Publishing (ASCAP / Songs of Peer / March 9 Publishing (ASCAP) . It was recorded by Brian Garten , Chris " Tex " O 'Ryan and Brian " B @-@ Luv " Thomas at The Boom Boom Room in Burbank and Honeywest Studios in New York City . They were assisted by Luis Navarro . It was mixed by Jaycen @-@ Joshua Fowler and Dave Pensado (for Penua Project / Innersound Management) at Larrabee Studios in Universal City , and were assisted by Giancarlo Lino .

A club music song that lasts for three minutes , forty @-@ one seconds , " Up Out My Face " appears as the ninth track on the album ; track ten is a fifty @-@ one second reprise called " Up Out My Face (The Reprise) " . Its instrumentation makes use of a " thumping " marching band coda , while its lyrics are about expressing " anger at an incompatible lover " . Brian Mansfield of USA Today highlights the lyrics " If we were two Lego blocks , even the Harvard University graduating class of 2010 couldn 't put us back together again " as one of the album 's " many funny lines " . Rolling Stone writer Jody Rosen wrote that the singer " gets in touch with her funny bone " on " Up Out My Face " . Sal Cinquemani of Slant Magazine described the references to Lego , Harvard University and Humpty Dumpty as " a whole new level of lyrical ridiculousness " .

= = Lyrical interpretation = =

Brian Mansfield speculated that Carey was addressing Eminem in the lyrics , with whom she has had a longstanding feud . Carey has reportedly been romantically linked with several male celebrities during the course of her career , some of which she has openly spoken about and acknowledged , while others she has denied dating . Eminem has claimed on multiple occasions that he dated Carey , but Carey has always firmly denied that she knew him on a romantic level . In 2001 , Carey contacted Eminem to discuss the possibility of writing a song together for inclusion on Carey 's ninth studio album *Charmbracelet* (2002) , and they reportedly started dating soon after .

In 2002 , Eminem mentioned the singer twice on The Eminem Show , his fourth studio album , on the tracks " Superman " and " When the Music Stops " , both of which were revealed to have been inspired by their relationship in Eminem 's 2008 autobiography , *The Way I Am* . The former track contained the lyrics " What you trying be ? My new wife ? / What , you Mariah ? Fly through twice , " while the latter suggested that he begged to be taken back by Carey . Later that year , Eminem confirmed that they had been in a relationship in an interview for Rolling Stone , but claimed to have not been fully committed to it and that he disliked her as a person , while Carey told Maxim that it was never a " sexual relationship " and interviewer Larry King " I hung out with him , I spoke to him on the phone . I think I was probably with him a total of four times . And I don 't consider that dating somebody . " Carey recorded a song called " Clown " for *Charmbracelet* which " ambiguously addressed the relationship " with the lyrics " Should 've left it at I like your music too " and " You should 've never intimated we were lovers / When you know very well we never even touched each

other . "

In 2005 , Eminem played voicemails to the audience during his Anger Management Tour allegedly from Carey and reported as saying " Why won 't you see me ? Why won 't you call me ? " . Eminem reiterated his dislike of Carey the following year on a track called " Jimmy Crack Corn " from his compilation album , Eminem Presents : The Re @-@ Up , with the lyrics " Your mind 's on us like mine 's on Mariah / And y 'all are just like her , you 're all fucking liars / But I 'll just keep fucking you like I fucked her / Right in the ass with KY yes sir . " 50 Cent referenced Carey 's denial of the relationship on a track called " All of Me " from his third studio album Curtis in 2007 : " Em predicted it all , I don 't know how he knew it / He said women from Hollywood they liars , liars , liars / You fuck them , they get you heated , deny it like Mariah . " Two years later , Eminem released a song called " Bagpipes from Baghdad " , on which he took aim at Carey 's husband Nick Cannon by calling him a " prick " and wishing him " luck with the fucking whore " . The lead single from Memoirs of an Imperfect Angel was " Obsessed " . Many critics believed the track to be about Eminem , and its accompanying music video portrayed Carey being followed by a male stalker which critics also thought bore a strong resemblance to the rapper . Mansfield thought that the lyrical content of " Up Out My Face " appeared to be a continuation of " Obsessed " and her feud with Eminem , as Carey sings " I know you 're not a rapper , so you better stop spittin ' it . "

= = Critical reception = =

Bill Lamb of About.com placed " Up Out My Face " in his list of the album 's top four tracks . Although J. Edward Keyes of Newsday described the track as " exuberant " , he was critical of its placement on the album : " The production , courtesy of the reliable Tricky Stewart and The @-@ Dream , feels boilerplate at best . At 17 songs , the record is far too long , and by the time the exuberant ' Up Out My Face ' arrives , it feels like it was grafted on from a better record . " Ann Powers of Los Angeles Times thought that Carey lacked conviction in her approach to the song , writing that despite its aggressive tone , " restraint stops serving her agenda " .

= = Remix single featuring Nicki Minaj = =

= = = Background and release = = =

Carey revealed that she intended to re @-@ release Memoirs of an Imperfect Angel as a remix album in early 2010 , titled Angels Advocate , consisting of remixes of the standard songs with new featured artists , including Mary J. Blige , Snoop Dogg , Trey Songz , R. Kelly , T @-@ Pain , Gucci Mane and OJ da Juiceman . " Angels Cry " and " Up Out My Face " from Memoirs of an Imperfect Angel were released as remix singles with Ne @-@ Yo featuring on the former and Nicki Minaj on the latter . The remix version of " Up Out My Face " featuring Minaj was released to rhythmic contemporary and urban contemporary radio in the United States on January 26 , 2010 . It was made available for digital download on February 16 , 2010 .

In an interview for MTV News at Dylan 's Candy Bar , Minaj revealed that she had kept the collaboration a secret from everyone she knew because she was " so surprised " at being asked to work with Carey and did not believe that the collaboration would actually come to fruition . " That one , I didn 't believe until I was physically in the studio that I was doing with something with Mariah , " Minaj said . " She 's an icon , I 've loved her since I was little , like ? Vision of Love , ? ? Someday . ? I was one of those little girls in the mirror singing her songs with my mother . ? A release date of February 23 , 2010 , for the album was slated , and then pushed back to March 9 . It was then further pushed back to March 30 . However , it was confirmed in March 2010 that production of Angels Advocate had halted and the project was shelved indefinitely . Island Def Jam stated that the singer was instead working on a new project and " new surprises " . Metro revealed that Carey was possibly recording a Christmas album .

== Composition ==

Musically , the remix does not greatly differ from that of the original apart from added rap verses by Minaj interspersed throughout the track . She adds some " spunky rhymes " including " Mariah , I was in the million dollar meetin ' s , he was cheatin ' / All up in the church he was sneakin ' with the deacon , " and references Trey Songz 2009 single " LOL : -) " in a British accent . While the original version is three minutes , forty @-@ one seconds in duration , the remix lasts for four minutes , twenty @-@ three seconds .

== Reception ==

Similar to the original track , the remix had a blended reception . The Washington Post Alison Stewart praised the track , writing that the addition of Minaj made it more lively : " Sometime in the past six months , Minaj became the go @-@ to girl for artists who wanted to add some skank to their tracks without sullyng themselves in the process . Here , she enlivens an otherwise polite track from Carey 's upcoming remix disc " . Robbie Daw of Idolator felt that the track was too reminiscent to one of Carey 's previous singles " Don 't Forget About Us " , which he thought in turn was very similar to another preceding single , " We Belong Together " . He contained to add " But still , if Mimi 's going to mine from her own extensive back catalog of ballads , those are the primo melodies to go for . " A reviewer for DJ Booth thought that Minaj " ruined " the song .

== Music video ==

The accompanying music video for the remix of " Up Out My Face " was directed by Carey 's husband , Nick Cannon . Minaj spoke about filming a video with Carey and how she did not believe that the video would ever be released : " I didn 't even tell anyone I shot a video with Mariah , because I didn 't even believe . In the back of my mind , I felt like , ' This video is not gonna come out . There 's no way I 'm gonna do a video with Mariah Carey before I even put out my album . ' Then , when it came out , I think it was the # 1 video on YouTube in one day , something crazy like that . " It premiered simultaneously with the video for " Angels Cry " with Ne @-@ Yo on Vevo on January 28 , 2010 . Carey and Minaj play different characters , include Barbie dolls who escape from their boxes , sexy nurses in matching outfits , two women in a nail salon and two divas shopping . Carey 's doll box has " She sings " written on the front , while Minaj 's say " She raps " . Cannon makes a cameo appearance in the video , which Chris Ryan of MTV Buzzworthy thought was a reference to the 2002 film , Drumline . According to Anna Pickard of The Guardian , the escape from their packaging demonstrates a theme of being independent women and that they will not be restrained by men . Minaj spoke about the video in an interview for MTV News : " A lot of times , more famous artists or more confident artists take from a younger artist but they 'll never include you in that . I feel like she liked the whole doll thing and she wanted to do it with me . But she said that : She said , ' Everybody 's gonna say ' she 's doing Nicki . ' But I told her , she 's always had a doll persona , like all that ' doll baby ' [stuff] . So it goes perfect with Barbie and we had fun . That 's all that matters . "

Melina Newman of HitFix thought that it looked like one of Carey 's lowest @-@ production budgets for a music video to date , but explained that it was not necessarily " a bad thing " , and that Carey looked " adorable " in a nurses outfit . She likened the use of a red and white color scheme for the video to a Target commercial . Anna Pickard commented that Carey and Minaj looked " grumpier " than what dolls usually do because " their men are low @-@ down dirty dogs who should henceforth get up out of Mimi and Nikki 's faces " . She compared the use of a red and white palette to Kylie Minogue 's music video for " Can 't Get You Out of My Head " , Cheryl Fernandez @-@ Versini 's " Fight for This Love " and Lady Gaga 's " Bad Romance " , and that it appeared to be a " go @-@ to device for directors who want their pop video to pop visually , without the need for too much pesky plot to worry about " . Chris Ryan thought that Minaj outshined Carey in the video . In a review of Minaj 's ten best videos in December 2014 , Rolling Stone ranked the video for " Up Out My Face "

at number eight , and wrote that Carey and Minaj had " great on @-@ camera chemistry " .

== Charts ==

== Release history ==