

= Hustler 's Ambition =

" Hustler 's Ambition " is a song by American rapper 50 Cent . Written by 50 Cent and produced by B @-@ Money " B \$ " , the song was released as the first single from the soundtrack to the film Get Rich or Die Tryin ' ( 2005 ) . Built around a soul ? influenced production sampling the Frankie Beverly and Maze song " I Need You " , " Hustler 's Ambition " features lyrics regarding 50 Cent 's rise to fortune and fame , intended to mirror the experience faced by 50 Cent 's character in the film : it marks a shift from influence of hardcore hip hop present in 50 Cent 's earlier work . " Hustler 's Ambition " was released to digital retailers in the United States in October 2005 via Interscope Records , with a CD release following in February 2006 .

The song received generally favorable reviews from music critics , many of whom complimented the soulful production and 50 Cent 's delivery . Some also found the song to be more musically diverse than the music 50 Cent recorded at the beginning of his career . The song achieved commercial success on a number of music charts , reaching the top 25 of charts across Europe and Australasia , although it only reached number 65 on the US Billboard Hot 100 , making it one of 50 Cent 's least successful songs in the country . A music video for " Hustler 's Ambition " was directed by Anthony Mandler , and shows 50 Cent performing the song inside a warehouse whilst preparing for a boxing match .

= = Background and recording = =

In late 2003 , following the commercial success achieved by 50 Cent 's debut studio album Get Rich or Die Tryin ' , Interscope Records head Jimmy Iovine asserted that 50 Cent had a high enough profile to move into making films . Plans for a film were revealed the following year , when 50 Cent revealed that he would be writing and directing his first motion picture , a semi @-@ autobiographical work based on his difficult childhood experiences , with the Oscar @-@ nominated director Jim Sheridan assisting in the production of the film . The film was originally known under the title Locked and Loaded , although this later became Get Rich or Die Tryin ' . Get Rich or Die Tryin ' was released to cinemas in 2005 , and received generally mixed reviews from contemporary film critics .

50 Cent wrote the whole of " Hustler 's Ambition " during a break from filming Get Rich or Die Tryin ' in his trailer on the set of the film . The song 's title was to match that of the film , which had the other working title of Hustler 's Ambition at the time , although the then upcoming release of the film Hustle & Flow , which featured Terrence Howard , a co @-@ star of Get Rich or Die Tryin ' , in its cast led 50 Cent to change the title of the film . American soul singer Frankie Beverly is also credited as having written " Hustler 's Ambition " , as a sample of his song " I Need You " ? a collaboration with funk group Maze from their 1978 album Golden Time of Day ? is included in the song 's introduction . The production for " Hustler 's Ambition " was provided by record producer Brian Hughes under his production name B @-@ Money " B \$ " , with recording carried out by Ky Miller at G @-@ Unit Studios ? a recording studio in New York City . The song 's mixing process was carried out by Pat Viala , with mastering handled by Brian " Big Bass " Gardner .

= = Composition and lyrics = =

" Hustler 's Ambition " is a hip hop song of three minutes and fifty @-@ seven seconds in length . After opening with a sample of the Frankie Beverly and Maze song " I Need You " , the instrumentation provided by B @-@ Money " B \$ " is built around a " solid bassline " , and features background vocals that harmonize with 50 Cent 's voice . As with much of the material from earlier in 50 Cent 's career , the song follows a rags to riches theme of " getting rich or dying trying " , according to Azeem Ahmad of musicOMH . 50 Cent 's lyrics muse " exactly how far he wants to go " in the entertainment business following his rapid rise to fame over the preceding two years , as well as his believed superiority to other contemporary artists : " Look at me , this is the life I chose / Niggaz around me so cold , man my heart done froze ... I 'm just triple beam , dreamin / niggaz be ,

schemin " . Writing for The Michigan Daily , Andrew Kahn noted the " old @-@ school , pre @-@ fame hunger " present in " Hustler 's Ambition " due to the use of the " I Need You " sample . Steve Juon of RapReviews commented on 50 Cent 's enunciation on the song , observing how the background vocals " never distract from 50 's words " and that his " skills as an orator helped him rise to his current station in life " .

= = Reception = =

" Hustler 's Ambition " received generally favourable reviews from music critics . David Jeffries of AllMusic called the song " a clever number " and compared it to the material found on 50 Cent 's debut album , Get Rich or Die Tryin ' , commenting that it " recall [ s ] the looser moments of his debut " . Although Azeem Ahmad noted " Hustler 's Ambition " to be more musically diverse than 50 Cent 's previous work in his review of the song for musicOMH , he also wrote that " it 's hardly inspiring to those expecting a slice of raw hip @-@ hop " , although he concluded that that the song sounded better after repeated listenings and that 50 Cent had " once again hit the jackpot " . Andrew Kahn of The Michigan Daily felt the song to be " by far [ his ] best solo song on the album " , and also wrote that it sounded " superior to most of The Massacre 's tracks " . In his review for the Get Rich or Die Tryin ' soundtrack for PopMatters , Mike Schiller observed that " Hustler 's Ambition " effectively represents the struggles that 50 Cent 's character faces in the corresponding film , pointing out that it emphasizes his " hunger for money " and also noted the song to be a " subtle shift in perspective " of 50 Cent 's music , in that it had moved from " club bangers that serve no particular purpose other than to get people dancing " to " raps ... spit through the voice of a fictionalized version of his own younger self " .

= = Chart performance = =

Despite being released in the wake of several commercially prosperous singles from 50 Cent 's preceding studio album , The Massacre ( 2005 ) , including " Candy Shop " and " Just a Lil Bit " , " Hustler 's Ambition " did not match the chart success of previous 50 Cent singles . In the United States , the song first appeared at number 4 on the US Bubbling Under R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Singles chart for the week ending October 22 , 2005 , and debuted at number 22 on the US Bubbling Under Hot 100 Singles chart the following week . It debuted at number 73 on the US Billboard Hot 100 for the chart dated November 5 , 2005 , and went on to peak at number 65 , making it 50 Cent 's second lowest peaking song at the time , behind only the 2004 single " If I Can 't " , which reached number 76 . It also reached a peak of number 64 on the US Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Songs chart , and number 49 on the now @-@ defunct US Pop 100 chart .

Outside the United States , " Hustler 's Ambition " was also modestly commercially successful , although it achieved little longevity on the charts . It debuted and peaked at number 23 in Australia for the week dated March 5 , 2006 , charting for a total of seven weeks , and appeared at number 17 in New Zealand on March 20 in its first of five chart appearances . The song made appearances on several singles charts in mainland Europe , peaking at number 41 in Austria , number 22 in Germany and number 40 in The Netherlands . The song 's highest peak position was achieved in Switzerland , where it debuted and reached its peak of number 10 , and charted at number 39 in the Flanders region of Belgium and number 25 in the Wallonia region . In the British Isles , " Hustler 's Ambition " reached number 11 on Ireland and peaked at number 13 in the United Kingdom .

= = Music video = =

A music video for " Hustler 's Ambition " was directed by Anthony Mandler , and is of four minutes and 54 seconds in length . It opens with an off @-@ camera monologue from 50 Cent , explaining the hardships often faced by those in poorer communities , whilst ? on @-@ camera this time ? he enters a warehouse , passing two men as he arrives , containing several pieces of recording equipment . Shots of 50 Cent travelling around the warehouse are then interspersed with those of

him performing " Hustler 's Ambition " into a microphone : after arriving in one room , he is shown to be repeatedly hitting a punching bag and lifting weights , as he trains for an upcoming boxing match .

Other members of G @-@ Unit Records , including singer Olivia , are then shown to be present in the warehouse as 50 Cent continues to perform the song . Arriving at another boxing match and watching it from a balcony , 50 Cent recognizes a member of the crowd as one of the men he saw outside the warehouse : he then leaves the warehouse , with the video concluding with the fight ending and 50 Cent facing the camera on the street outside the warehouse .

= = Track listing = =

Digital download ( United States )

" Hustler 's Ambition " ? 3 : 58

" Hustler 's Ambition " ( Clean Version ) ? 3 : 58

CD single ( Germany )

" Hustler 's Ambition " ? 3 : 58

" In da Club " ( Live Glasgow Version ) ? 3 : 06

" P.I.M.P. " ( Live Glasgow Version ) ? 2 : 42

" Hustler 's Ambition " ( UK Edit Version ) ( Video ) ? 4 : 55

= = Credits and personnel = =

The credits for " Hustler 's Ambition " are adapted from the liner notes of the soundtrack to Get Rich or Die Tryin ' .

Recording

Recorded at G @-@ Unit Studios , New York City .

Personnel

50 Cent ? songwriting , vocals

B @-@ Money " B \$ " ? songwriting , production

Frankie Beverly ? songwriting

Ky Miller ? recording

Pat Viala ? mixing

Brian " Big Bass " Gardner ? mastering

Samples

Contains a sample of " I Need You " , as written by Frankie Beverly and performed by Frankie Beverly & Maze .

= = Charts = =

= = Release history = =