

= Forever ( Mariah Carey song ) =

" Forever " is a song by American singer and songwriter Mariah Carey from her fifth studio album , Daydream . It was released by Columbia Records on March 10 , 1996 , as an airplay @-@ only single from the album . The song was written and produced by Carey and Walter Afanasieff , and was composed throughout 1995 . Its lyrics describe a situation where the protagonist knows her relationship with her lover has withered away , however he will continue living in her memory forever .

The song 's music video is a collage of snippets from Carey 's shows at the Tokyo Dome , during her Daydream World Tour in 1996 . Most of the video is the performance of the song during one of the three Japanese shows on the tour . Serving as an airplay only song in the US , and a limited release around the world , the song achieved minimal chart success . In the United States , Billboard rules did not allow the charting of non @-@ commercially released songs . For this reason , it did not chart on the Hot 100 , however peaking at number two on the Adult Contemporary chart . Outside the US , the song peaked at number 11 in Canada , 40 in New Zealand and 44 in the Netherlands .

= = Composition = =

" Forever " was written and produced by Carey and Walter Afanasieff in early 1995 . The song is written in the key of A ? major and features a basic chord progression of A ? -C / G @-@ Fm / E ? -D ? -E ? . Throughout " Forever , " Carey 's voice spans from the low note of G3 to the high note of A5 . According to author Chris Nickson , the song 's instrumentation and throw @-@ back melody bring reminders of 1950s and 60s balladry . The throw @-@ back was featured through the chord changes , and in the way that the guitar arpeggios " stayed at the forefront of the music . " " Forever " finds Carey displaying subtle and harmonizing vocals , with Nickson describing her voice as " undeniably rich . " Stephen Holden from The New York Times described it as a " 50 's @-@ style rock @-@ and @-@ roll ballad , " while calling Carey 's voice " magnificent . "

= = Reception = =

Ken Tucker , an editor from Entertainment Weekly praised the song 's instrumentation , writing " I like the brisk waltz tempo of ' Forever . ' " " Forever " was released as an airplay only single in the US , and received a limited European release . Due to Billboard rules at the time of its release , " Forever " wasn 't eligible to chart on the Hot 100 . However , the song charted on the Adult Contemporary chart , peaking at number two . In Canada , the song peaked at number 11 on the Canadian RPM Singles Chart issue dated September 30 , 1996 . In New Zealand , the song entered the singles chart at its peak of number 40 , spending only one week in the chart . On the Dutch Singles Chart , " Forever " peaked at number 47 , fluctuating in the chart for a total of nine weeks .

= = Music video and live performances = =

" Forever " was first performed in October 1995 in Carey 's concert at Madison Square Garden . The next year it was performed throughout all the shows on Carey 's Daydream World Tour in 1996 . The music video for " Forever " was filmed at one of the Japanese shows during the tour . It presents Carey singing the song on stage at the Tokyo Dome , and inter @-@ cuts scenes from other segments of the show . For the show and video , Carey wore a pair of black pants and matching blouse , together with a long leather trench coat . Her hair teased in a long wavy fashion , and is a golden @-@ auburn color . The video features three back @-@ up singers , one male and two female and a large projection screen on the stage 's rear . The live audio of this performance was released on the single .

= = Formats and track listing = =

European CD Single

" Forever " ? 4 : 01

" Forever " ( Live ) ? 4 : 12

Australian CD Single

" Forever " ? 4 : 01

" Underneath the Stars " ? 3 : 33

" Forever " ( Live ) ? 4 : 12

" Make It Happen " ( Live ) ? 4 : 43

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits adapted from the Daydream liner notes .

Mariah Carey ? co @-@ production , songwriting , vocals

Walter Afanasieff ? co @-@ production , songwriting

= = Charts = =