

= Runaway Daydreamer =

" Runaway Daydreamer " is a song by the English recording artist Sophie Ellis @-@ Bextor for her fifth studio album *Wanderlust* (2014) . The song was released on 31 March 2014 as the second single of the album . Composed by Ed Harcourt with additional writing by Ellis @-@ Bextor , it is a chamber pop track which features percussion and string instruments . Its lyrics , written in a way resemblant of nursery rhymes , expound on escapism and " self discovery " .

" Runaway Daydreamer " received mostly positive reviews from music critics , who praised Ellis @-@ Bextor 's vocals and its sound ; some denoted it as a highlight of *Wanderlust* . The song was promoted with a music video directed by Sophie Muller , which largely shows Ellis @-@ Bextor in a lounge room and walking through an abandoned pier . It was also performed on programmes including ITV 's *Loose Women* , and peaked at number 29 on the UK Indie chart . The song was featured on the regular and OW Version of the Theme Park Playlist .

= = Composition and reception = =

" Runaway Daydreamer " , as with the rest of *Wanderlust* , was co @-@ written by its producer Ed Harcourt along with Ellis @-@ Bextor . It was recorded at the State of the Ark studios , mixed and engineered by Richard Woodcruft , and mastered by Miles Showell . It is a chamber pop track which includes string arrangements and " shuffled percussion " . Clare Considine of *Time Out* compared its sonority to that of a Humphrey Bogart movie soundtrack . AllMusic 's Stephen Thomas Erlewine described the track as a " girl group homage " . Davidf Farrell of *PopMatters* opined that the song and " Until the Stars Collide " set a " soaring , dreamy " atmosphere for *Wanderlust* . According to the sheet music published by Music Sales Group , the song contains 116 beats per minute in crotchet . Its introduction follows a chord progression of C ? F / C ? C ? F / C ? C ? F / C ? C ? F , and transitions into the verse section in which the notes C ? F ? C are followed . The track is composed in the traditional verse ? chorus form . Ellis @-@ Bextor 's vocals during the song incorporate the melisma technique and span from G3 to E5 .

The song 's lyrics , which discuss escapism , are constructed in a way resemblant of nursery rhymes . During the chorus , Ellis @-@ Bextor sings " It 's just my imagination / Running away / Girl 's gotta have a little daydream / It 's a secret escape / It 's just my imagination / Running away / Don 't worry baby , I 'm here to stay " . Considine highlighted " I could tie up the bed sheets and slide down the house / Be gone before the morning comes " as lyrics exemplificative of Ellis @-@ Bextor 's " artistic freedom " in *Wanderlust* . Reviewing the song for *Loud and Quiet* , Stuart Stubbs wrote that it " sees our protagonist pull herself out of squalor and onto a road of self discovery . " The song concludes with a short outro where Ellis @-@ Bextor repeats the line " Don 't worry baby , I 'm here to stay " twice .

On behalf of Virgin Media , Matthew Horton opined that " Runaway Daydreamer " was the standout of *Wanderlust* , describing Ellis @-@ Bextor 's vocals in it as " prim and gorgeous " . James Fyfe of *The 405* echoed his view , praising Ellis @-@ Bextor 's vocal performance , as well as highlighting its sonority , despite observing it was not " musically adventurous " . Writing for *Digital Spy* , Robert Copsey billed the song as beautiful and " shimmering " . Thomas Erlewine highlighted the song as a standout , commenting that the album was " at its best when it 's slightly dexterous " , citing the song as an example . The Irish Times ' Louise Bruton wrote that the song explores " twee danger zones " and called it a " blunder " .

= = Release and promotion = =

A promotional CD single including " Runaway Daydreamer " ' s radio edit , with a length of 3 minutes and 27 seconds , was sent to radio stations in March 2014 . The song was released in the United Kingdom on 23 March 2014 . The music video for " Runaway Daydreamer " was directed by Sophie Muller , and released on 8 March 2014 ; it was mostly filmed during the taping of the video for " Young Blood " ? *Wanderlust* 's previous single . Ellis @-@ Bextor lip @-@ synchs the song 's

lyrics inside a lounge room , wearing a white lace dress , with her hair gathered into a ponytail ; she is also seen walking through an abandoned pier , dining at a restaurant and posing in front of a small white house . The visual 's aspect ratio is changed throughout , ranging from windowbox to letterbox . Ellis @-@ Bextor performed the song in an acoustic setting , on the morning programme ZDF Morgenmagazin , aired on 23 January 2014 on German channel ZDF . On 17 March of that year , she sang it on ITV 's Loose Women . The song charted on the UK Indie Singles at number 29 .

= = Track listing = =

Promotional CD single

Details adapted from the credits of the CD single of " Runaway Daydreamer " .

" Runaway Daydreamer " (Radio edit) ? 3 : 27

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits adapted from the liner notes of Wanderlust .

Sophie Ellis @-@ Bextor ? lead vocals , songwriting

Ed Harcourt ? songwriting , production , background vocals , samples , synth , keyboards , piano

Gita Langley ? violin

Richard Woodcraft ? engineering , mixing

Miles Showell ? mastering

= = Weekly charts = =

= = Release history = =