

= Forgive Me ( Leona Lewis song ) =

" Forgive Me " is a song by British singer Leona Lewis featured on the North American version and on the international deluxe edition of her debut album *Spirit* ( 2008 ) . It was released as the fourth single of the album in the United Kingdom on 3 November 2008 . The song was written by Aliaune " Akon " Thiam , Claude Kelly and Giorgio Tuinfort , and produced by the former . Musically , " Forgive Me " is a R & B , dance @-@ pop and soul track written in A minor . Its lyrics address a girl who has found a new love and asks her old love for forgiveness .

The song received generally positive reviews from music critics , however some of them criticised Lewis 's voice for being very similar those of Whitney Houston and Mariah Carey voice . Lewis has performed it on some television shows , such as GMTV and The National Lottery Live . The music video ? inspired by Broadway musicals , including *Carousel* and *West Side Story* ? was released in September 2008 . It also features the Jabbawockeez dance crew . " Forgive Me " reached number five on the British and Irish charts , thus making it Lewis 's fourth single to peak within the top ten in the UK . It peaked atop the Slovakia singles chart and reached the top ten in Italy and Sweden . Lewis performed the song during her tour *The Labyrinth* .

= = Background and composition = =

" Forgive Me " was written by Claude Kelly , Giorgio Tuinfort and Aliaune Thiam , and produced by the latter . The single was pressed with one B @-@ side , " Myself " , written by Justin E. Boykin , Graham N. Marsh , Lewis and Alonzo Stevenson .

" Forgive Me " is an R & B , soul and dance @-@ pop song written in A minor . It moves at 120 beats per minute and is set in common time . On it , Lewis performs her highest pitch ( G5 ) in falsetto during the final chorus , and her lowest pitch ( A3 ) during each verse . The song refers to a protagonist in a one @-@ sided relationship who leaves her boyfriend and eventually finds someone to reciprocate her love . Though she has found love from someone else , she defends herself and asks her ex @-@ boyfriend for forgiveness . In an interview with *Digital Spy* , Lewis explained why she decided to change the musical genre of her previous singles , from contemporary R & B to dance @-@ pop . She said : " I wanted to do something a bit different and the chance to work with Akon came about . I 'm really pleased with how it 's turned out and it 's great that it 's different , rather than what I always do . " There are two versions of the song , the " album version " ( 3 : 41 ) and the " single mix " ( 3 : 25 ) , which was used in the music video . The album version repeats the bridge two times ,

= = Release and promotion = =

The single cover was released on 17 September 2008 , whilst the song was released in the UK on 3 November 2008 as the fourth single . Originally , the song was featured only in the North American version of the album *Spirit* , launched in 2008 . Despite this , it was not released as a single in the region . Later , " Forgive Me " was added in the deluxe edition of the album , which was released internationally in the same year .

Lewis performed the song on the television programmes *The National Lottery Live* on 29 October 2008 , and *GMTV* on 31 October 2008 . Outside of the UK , she also performed the song on the Italian television show *Carramba Che Sorpresa* and on the Swedish talent show *Idol* . In May 2010 , the song was added to the setlist of her tour *The Labyrinth* , performed as the eighth song of the show . A live performance from *The O2 Arena* was included on the live album 's DVD *The Labyrinth Tour Live from The O2* . In 2013 , Lewis added " Forgive Me " to the setlist of her *Glassheart Tour* .

= = Critical reception = =

" Forgive Me " received generally positive reviews from music critics . The BBC review of the single called " Forgive Me " a " danceable funky pop song " . Gavin Martin of *The Mirror* said , " [ the song ]

showcases her voice of fire and honey . No apologies necessary " . Nick Levine , Digital Spy music critic , gave the song three out of five stars , comparing it with Whitney Houston 's song " I 'm Your Baby Tonight " saying that after her previous three ballad singles , " it 's a nice change " . However , he also said , " the adultery @-@ themed lyrics are a poor match for the sweet , unassuming Hackney girl " . Chad Grischow noted that with the song Lewis " will not go down as a glorified one @-@ hit wonder " . Stephen Thomas Erlewine described " Forgive Me " , and another song ( " Misses Glass " ) from the album as " just slightly glitzier than the rest of Spirit . " Sal Cinquemani of Slant Magazine called the single ' bouncy and youthful ' . The New York Times criticised Lewis for being " a second @-@ tier Mariah " on the song .

= = Chart performance = =

" Forgive Me " debuted and peaked at number five in the United Kingdom on 15 November 2008 , becoming Lewis 's third single in debut within the top ten , after " A Moment Like This " and " Bleeding Love " . In Ireland , before its official release as a single , it was the second highest debut of the week of the Irish Singles Chart , at number five . In the Slovak Airplay Chart , it debuted at number seventy @-@ six and in its tenth week the song peaked at number one . Also , in the European Singles Chart the song reached the number 11 . In Italy , " Forgive Me " debuted at number nine , but fell off the chart next week . Elsewhere in Europe , the song reached number seven in Sweden , twelve in Switzerland , and fifteen in both Austria and Germany . The song entered the Australian charts at number fifty on 19 October 2008 , and next week peaked at forty @-@ nine . Later , " Forgive Me " dropped out of the chart , but on 10 November 2009 , it re @-@ entered at number fifty . In the 2008 UK year @-@ end chart , compiling the best @-@ selling singles of the year , " Forgive Me " was eighty @-@ fifth .

= = Music video = =

The music video for the song was filmed in May 2008 and directed by Wayne Isham . It premiered on 16 September 2008 . It starts out with Lewis receiving a text message from her boyfriend saying he is just a minute away from meeting up with her . The video then turns into a dream @-@ like sequence with Lewis dancing in four set @-@ ups inspired by the Hollywood musicals West Side Story , The Rocky Horror Show , Singin ' in the Rain and Carousel . The video ends with Lewis coming back to reality after a drop of rain lands on her hand and her boyfriend sent a message saying " Hurry ! Looks like there could be rain " . The Jabbawockeez dance crew also make an appearance in the Rocky Horror scene in the video , dancing behind Lewis .

= = Track listing and formats = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

= = Charts = =

= = = Weekly charts = = =

= = Release history = =