

= Not Afraid =

" Not Afraid " is a song by American rapper Eminem from his seventh studio album Recovery ( 2010 ) . It was released as the album 's lead single on April 29 , 2010 , by Interscope Records . " Not Afraid " was first revealed as a single by Eminem via Twitter , after which the song debuted on radio . To promote the single 's release , a freestyle rap , " Despicable " , was released on the Internet and received attention for its tone and lyrical content . " Not Afraid " was written and produced by Eminem , Boi @-@ 1da , Jordan Evans and Matthew Burnett ; keyboardist Luis Resto was also attributed with songwriting credit . According to Eminem 's manager Paul Rosenberg and music critics , " Not Afraid " carries a positive message and depicts Eminem 's change in direction from drugs and violence . The hip hop song features a choir that assists Eminem in a heavily layered chorus and vocals are sung over a guitar , synthesizer and piano ; no Auto @-@ Tune was used on the sung vocals , but many reverberation tools were .

" Not Afraid " received mixed to positive reviews from music critics , who praised the song for being anthemic in nature and carrying a positive message . The song did , however , face criticism for its sudden change in theme from previous singles , and was considered to be less affecting than some of his other songs . Despite mixed reception , " Not Afraid " became the 16th song in Billboard history to debut on the US Billboard Hot 100 at number one ; it also debuted as a chart @-@ topper in Canada . In June 2014 the song was certified 10 x Platinum by RIAA , making Eminem the first artist with digital diamond awards for two songs . " Not Afraid " has earned Eminem MTV Video Music Awards , MTV Video Music Awards Japan , Grammy Awards , Billboard Music Awards and Detroit Music Awards .

The song was accompanied by a music video , which Rich Lee directed in May 2010 . New York City and Newark , New Jersey were chosen as settings to shoot the video . Reviewers praised the video as it followed the lyrics and praised the video for such depictions . However , the product placement in the video by Nike shoes and Beats by Dr. Dre headphones was criticized . In 2010 , Eminem performed " Not Afraid " at Electronic Entertainment Expo 2010 ( E3 2010 ) , Oxegen 2010 , T in the Park 2010 and the 2010 MTV Video Music Awards . He has also performed the song at the Bonnaroo Music Festival , Lollapalooza and the V Festival . Rolling Stone ranked it the 24th best song of 2010 .

= = Writing and recording = =

In 2009 , Eminem planned to release a sequel of his sixth studio album Relapse titled Relapse 2 , but cancelled the project and released a completely different studio release titled Recovery . He said , " as I kept recording and working with new producers , the idea of a sequel to Relapse started to make less and less sense to me , and I wanted to make a completely new album . " " Not Afraid " was primarily produced by the Canadian hip hop musician Boi @-@ 1da . According to Mike Strange , who recorded " Not Afraid " , he wanted to work with Boi @-@ 1da after listening to his " Forever " , which he had produced for the rapper Drake . Boi @-@ 1da sent Strange many tracks , to some of which Eminem wrote lyrics . These tracks were opened in Pro Tools , as Strange proceeded to record Eminem 's vocals . Recording sessions took place at Effigy Studios , in Ferndale , Michigan but Boi @-@ 1da was absent during the sessions .

The original tracks sent to Strange included mostly drums and keyboard pads ; they were placed under an inactive track titled " Orig beatz " . The instrumentation included a Roland TR @-@ 808 kick , a regular live kick , a hi @-@ hat , a ride cymbal and a snare drum . Underneath the track , there were horn , orchestra hit and pads , including a Mellotron sound that plays the chord progression . Strange told Sound on Sound magazine , " I like to have the vocal tracks at the top of the Session , because in hip @-@ hop they are the most important element . " Two of Eminem 's were placed underneath his main vocal track , as one of them featured his introductory words . Each play of the chorus was an overdub and not copies of a sample ; the only exception was the intro . The vocals for the bridge were overdubbed six times ; Auto @-@ Tune was not used at all in the song . The Detroit musician Luis Resto provided keyboard tracks on the bridge , including piano and

guitar sound effects . Resto also added orchestration in the chorus and bridge of the song .

Strange arranged the Pro Tools session in a more traditional manner by laying out the drums , bass instruments , guitars , keyboards , main vocals and overdubs from left to right . While mixing , he began with drums , then the main vocals . He added the chorus and bridge , followed by other instrumentation . Strange mixed the track to satisfy Eminem , who , after entering the studio , made his own adjustments , providing additional production ; by then , Resto 's tracks were added . Strange made adjustments to Boi @-@ 1da 's tracks , using SSL equalization ( EQ ) and some compression . To keep the track in tune from pitch fluctuation , Strange used Trim and Auto @-@ Tune on Resto 's TR @-@ 808 kick . Strange arranged reverberation tools , including the Bricasti , Eventide 2016 , the Lexicon 480 , Lexicon PMC70 , and the Yamaha SPX90 .

The two rap tracks in the session used the Massenburg EQ plug @-@ in , " the ' 9' send goes to the eighth @-@ note delay track immediately above the two rap tracks " and Digidesign Extra Long Delay . Strange also used compressors , including the Alta Moda Unicom , which he felt works well on vocals , as well as the kick and snare drums . Boi @-@ 1da 's track mostly used SSL and compression , but the bass used an API 550a . A Digidesign compressor limiter was set up on one of the horn sounds while the Massenburg EQ was used on an OB8 sound . Answering Eminem 's request , string overdubs were arranged and recorded by Jordan Evans and Matthew Burnett ? providing additional production ? and Robert Reyes recorded the choir 's vocals .

= = Composition = =

" Not Afraid " is a hip hop song written and produced by Boi @-@ 1da , Eminem , Evans and Burnett ; Resto did additional writing . Boi @-@ 1da provided drums ; Evans and Burnett provided string sounds . The lyrics focus on a positive change from Eminem 's past experiences , including an end to drug abuse , feuds and violence . The Los Angeles Times noted that a person hearing this song for the first time may identify it as Christian hip hop . MTV News writer Shaheem Reid noted that " There are no jabs at pop @-@ culture icons , no jovial goofballing . " Led by a guitar , synthesizer and piano , " Not Afraid " is published in the key of C minor and has a moderate tempo of 86 beats per minute , according to the sheet music published by Sony / ATV Music Publishing . A writer for MuchMusic website noted that Eminem chose to use his Marshall Mathers ego for the song , rather than Slim Shady . He follows a chord progression of Cm ? A ? ( maj7 ) ? E ? ? B ? in the chorus .

The song begins with a brief introduction in which Eminem says while the chorus plays underneath , " Yeh , it 's been a ride . I guess I had to go to that place to get to this one . " When he begins the first verse , his lyrics threaten people who have looked down on him : " You can try to read my lyrics off of this paper before I lay ' em / But you won 't take the sting out these words before I say ' em . " On the second verse , Eminem says that he has indeed made mistakes , commenting on his Relapse album : " That last Relapse CD was ehh / Perhaps I ran them accents into the ground / Relax , I ain 't going to do that now . " When he says " All I 'm trying to say is get back , click clack , pow " , a gunshot is heard . Approaching the end of the second verse , Eminem raps about his personal experiences : " But I think I 'm still trying to figure this crap out / Thought I had it mapped out , but I guess I didn 't / It 's time to exorcise these demons / These motherfuckers are doing jumping jacks now . " After the chorus , Eminem sings a bridge and focuses on a positive change , as he says " I just can 't keep living this way , so starting today I 'm breaking out of this cage . " Before the final chorus , he says that he " shoots for the moon " . The song features a choir composed of Kip Blackshire , Christal Garrick II , Terry Dexter , Rich King , Kristen Ashley Cole and Sly Jordan .

= = Release and reception = =

On April 26 , 2010 , Eminem posted a message through his Twitter account that read , " I 'm ' Not Afraid ' " , without any elaboration . Fans and news organizations were able to interpret the message and announced that Eminem 's first single from his seventh studio album , Recovery would be titled

" Not Afraid " . Radio personality Angela Yee , from radio station WWPR @-@ FM , confirmed that the new single would debut on Eminem 's uncensored radio station , Shade 45 . The singer 's manager , Paul Rosenberg , told Billboard that " It 's not a dark song , it 's an uplifting song . "

The new single was initially slated to impact radio on April 30 , 2010 ; however , the date was changed to one day earlier and the song eventually aired at 10 am ET , on Shade 45 's show The Morning After with Angela Yee . On May 5 , 2010 , the single was made available for digital download at online retailers through Aftermath Entertainment and Interscope Records . In the song , Eminem makes a reference to Relapse and spoke at Friday Night with Jonathan Ross about it : " ... looking back on it now in retrospect , I feel like there was a lot of stuff on there that was humorous and shock value and I had to go back and listen to my older material and figure out why ... Relapse didn 't make me feel like [ what ] used to and kind of put the feeling back into what I do . "

The song was featured in a trailer for the war film Act of Valor and is played during the ending credits to the film .

= = = Pre @-@ release promotion = = =

Two days before " Not Afraid " 's slated release , Eminem released a freestyle rap video to promote the release of the album 's lead single . Titled " Despicable " , the vocals in the video are played over the instrumental versions of " Over " by Canadian rapper Drake and " Beamer , Benz or Bentley " by G @-@ Unit member Lloyd Banks ; the verse switches to the latter well into the two @-@ minute song . Lyrics make a reference to football quarterback Ben Roethlisberger in the line " I ? d rather turn this club into a bar room brawl / Get as rowdy as Roethlisberger in a bathroom stall . " These lyrics refers to sexual assault allegations in March 2011 at a nightclub in Milledgeville , Georgia , causing controversy . Other references include those to fictional comic book character Superman : " I give as much of a flying fuck as that Superman dude " and to general popular culture : " Like a leaf suck in a vacuum , y ? all / there ain ? t nothing but a whole lotta sucking going on in rap . " Eminem 's final lyric makes a reference to Looney Tunes character Daffy Duck .

Music critics commented on the freestyle rap . Ray Roa of music website Consequence of Sound noted Eminem 's obvious frustration in the song , saying that he " sounds pissed off as ever on a new freestyle " . He also added , " The first minute and a half of the track is mellow by his standards , but when the beat switches to Banks ' track , Eminem goes apeshit . " Melinda Newman of HitFix gave a positive review and wrote that the freestyle sounds like a " blast that sucks all the air out of room . It 's better than anything on Relapse , and the sheer dexterity of his rhyming skills is awe @-@ inspiring . " Thaindian News 's Madhuri Dey felt that " Eminem takes his usual route of taking a hit at some personality " . Adam Downer of Sputnikmusic wrote positively : " Eminem spits with the crazed desperation we remember from the albums . "

= = = Critical reception = = =

Not Afraid is considered his most critically acclaimed song after Lose Yourself and Stan . Reception of " Not Afraid " was mixed to positive . Jon Dolan of Rolling Stone praised the song 's tone : " Over a dark , operatic beat . Eminem delivers rhymes that are typically acrobatic ? and typically heavy @-@ handed . But the anger has a gathering quality . " Dolan also praised the song 's inspirational theme . Henry Adaso of About.com gave a positive review on the song , noting " Boi @-@ 1da 's bouncy charm " and " heartwrenching lyrics from a master poet " as good aspects of the song and noted no negative aspects . In Adaso 's guide review , he praised Boi @-@ 1da 's production and Eminem 's affecting lyrics ; he considered the former 's work " shimmering " and Eminem 's " sensitive lyrics entwine on this knocker " ; overall , he gave the song four and a half stars out of a possible five . After the song 's release , AllHipHop called it " an anthem in nature and rebellious to the core . " In her review of the Recovery , Jody Rosen of Rolling Stone noted that even if Eminem ? reaching his late 30s ? is becoming " a grumpy middle @-@ aged man , at least he 's owning it " . Winston Robbins of music website Consequence of Sound called " Not Afraid " one of the songs on Recovery " with catchy hooks , choruses , and beats multiplied by the endless pool of wit and anger

that Eminem possesses ". In his album review , Thomas Nassiff wrote on behalf of AbsolutePunk ; he noted the song for being radio @-@ friendly and that it " doesn 't sacrifice anything to be friendly to the masses . " Andy Gill of The Independent said that this is where " the only completely commendable sentiment on the entire album comes " and called it a " proud rehab anthem " . In his review for Recovery , Benjamin Meadows @-@ Ingram of Spin magazine called " Not Afraid " a " stadium @-@ ready lead single " ; he went on to say , " Finally , Eminem addresses his personal and professional failings head @-@ on , rather than hiding behind a joke or inside a nightmare . It 's a necessary first step in moving on . "

The song also faced mixed and negative reviews . After " Not Afraid " leaked onto the Internet on April 29 , 2010 , Simon Vozick @-@ Levinson of Entertainment Weekly magazine commented on the song , noting both positive and negative characteristics ; he first complimented Eminem 's change of lyrical theme , calling it anthemic in nature and noting its inspirational and powerful message . He compared the song 's theme to Eminem 's 2002 single " Sing for the Moment " and his 2009 single , " Beautiful " . Vozick @-@ Levinson called Eminem 's rapping " wild " but was dismissive of the production , saying , " The track behind ' Not Afraid ' has the same tinny , repetitive , wannabe @-@ epic quality that 's annoyed me on Boi @-@ 1da productions like ' Forever . ' " Mayer Nissem of British site Digital Spy gave the song three stars out of a possible five , and wrote a mixed review ; the reviewer first commented , " Thank heavens ! ? Marshall Mathers III has opted against his usual trick of cobbling together a hook and some ' satire ' via two @-@ year @-@ old back issues of the Inquirer to trail it . " However , Nissem criticized other aspects of the song , saying that Eminem 's " decision to chronicle ... feels a little worthy and more than a touch dull . " He felt that Eminem 's previous songs never bored the listener , unlike " Not Afraid " . Jeff Weiss of the Los Angeles Times commented that " Not Afraid " was an improvement from the lead singles of Encore ( 2004 ) and Relapse , " Just Lose It " and " We Made You " , respectively , giving for a more serious and inspirational theme . However , Weiss misses the comic nature of Eminem 's classic singles , such as " My Name Is " ; instead , he felt that the song was composed of " vague self @-@ help bromides and a bombastic but nondescript beat from ... Boi @-@ 1da . " When discussing the chorus , Weiss commented that it " doesn 't make for very engaging listening . " Finally , he discussed possible influences by American rapper T.I. , but overall , he named it a disappointing lead single .

John Ulmer of website One Thirty BPM gave the song seven points out of a possible ten , and published a mixed review ; he praised it for being a more serious track compared to previous lead singles " Just Lose It " ( 2004 ) and " We Made You " ( 2009 ) but criticized it for being less powerful compared to his 2002 hit single , " Lose Yourself " , and " Beautiful " . According to Ulmer , " Upon first listen it 's a bit corny , but it 's appropriately anthemic , and not bad enough to deter from the strength of the overall track . " He noted that although Eminem does not have as much of a frustrated voice as he does in " Despicable " , he admits that Relapse was a silly album . Pitchfork Media 's Jayson Greene wrote a rather negative review on Recovery and was very dismissive on the song : " Eminem spends nearly half of Recovery insisting he 's the best rapper alive , but for the first time in his career , he actually sounds clumsy . " Kitty Empire of newspaper The Guardian also wrote negatively on the song in her album review , criticizing the song 's lyrics : " Rhyming ' through a storm ' with ' whatever weather / cold or warm ' in the chorus is unforgivable for a master rhymers . " As part of his album review , Greg Kot of daily newspaper Chicago Tribune criticized Eminem 's lyrics and rhymes in " Not Afraid " , comparing them to his rhyming skills back when his 2002 hip hop drama film , 8 Mile , premiered : " Doesn 't he realize that 's the kind of cheese that the battle @-@ rhyming Eminem of 8 Mile would 've mercilessly mocked ? "

== Chart performance ==

According to Nielsen SoundScan , " Not Afraid " sold 380 @, @ 000 digital copies in its first week , giving Eminem the biggest sales week for a digital single between the beginning of 2010 and the date of the song 's release . Three songs received higher sales during their first week : Flo Rida 's " Right Round " , The Black Eyed Peas ' " Boom Boom Pow " and Eminem 's " Crack a Bottle " , which

were all 2009 singles . " Not Afraid " proved to be successful when it debuted on the Billboard Hot 100 at number one , a feat only 15 songs had accomplished previously . The song was Eminem 's third number @-@ one single on the Hot 100 , coming after " Lose Yourself " and " Crack a Bottle " . " Not Afraid " was also the first to debut at number one since October 17 , 2009 , when American recording artist Britney Spears 's " 3 " debuted atop the chart . It is the first hip hop single by a male to debut at number one since American rapper Sean Combs ( known then as " Puff Daddy " ) topped the chart in 1997 , with " I 'll Be Missing You " , which features Faith Evans and band 112 .

After entering the Digital Songs chart at number one , the song fell down to number four the next week , and to number six on the Hot 100 , with sales of 202 @,@ 000 digital copies . On June 14 , 2010 , " Not Afraid " rose to number five again with sales of 157 @,@ 000 copies . On July 14 , 2010 , it rose from 22 to 24 on the Hot 100 ; by then , the song was downloaded a total of 1 @,@ 750 @,@ 000 times . On July 25 , 2010 , the song crossed the two million mark , based on total sales . As of August 2013 , the song has sold 5 @,@ 000 @,@ 000 digital copies . In June 2014 the song was certified 10 x Platinum by RIAA .

" Not Afraid " debuted at number one on the Canadian Hot 100 , remaining on the chart for 20 weeks . On the UK Singles Chart , the song debuted on June 5 , 2010 at number five , its highest position . It dropped to number six the following week , to number ten on July 10 , 2010 , and to number 14 the week after . On August 7 , 2010 , the song dropped to number 23 and its last UK Singles Chart appearance would be on September 4 , giving the song a total of 14 weeks on the chart . " Not Afraid " entered New Zealand 's Top 40 Singles chart on May 10 , 2010 at number eight , its peak position . Lasting on the chart for a total of 23 weeks , the song would not make its last chart appearance in New Zealand until September 9 , 2010 , at number 34 . On the ARIA Top 50 Singles , the song entered at number 16 in its first week and reached its peak at number four , the following week ; its lowest and final chart position occurred during the song 's 27th week on the chart , at number 48 .

On the Ö3 Austria Top 40 , Austria 's official singles chart , May 21 , 2010 marked the song 's chart debut , at number 22 . It reached its peak on August 13 , at number five and would stay at that position for another week . Before re @-@ entering on January 14 , 2011 at number 72 , the song made a last consecutive chart appearance on November 19 , 2011 at number 52 . The song dropped to the bottom of the chart ( number 75 ) on January 21 , 2011 , before exiting it . In Italy , the song only charted for one week , at number three ; the same occurred in France , on February 19 , 2011 , at number 97 . " Not Afraid " lasted 19 weeks on the Irish Singles Chart and made a final chart appearance on September 30 , 2010 , at number 36 . Flanders ' chart , Ultratop 50 , gave the song a debut position at number 13 on May 15 , 2010 ; the song would not reach a higher position and would drop to number 49 in its 16th and final week . On Wallonia 's chart , Ultratop 50 , the song debuted at number 14 and would not chart again until July 3 , 2010 , at number 40 . Longer than on any other chart , " Not Afraid " charted in Sweden for 43 consecutive weeks , debuting at number five and charting at number 49 in its final week .

= = Music video = =

= = = Development = = =

Before filming began , Eminem spoke to Paul Rosenberg on the telephone about his ideas for a music video of " Not Afraid " ; the two shared thoughts and started collaborating in May 2010 . American director Richard " Rich " Lee was hired to direct the video , which was shot on Market Street , in Newark , New Jersey as well as New York City . On the first day , Eminem filmed the opening scene on the rooftop of the Manhattan Municipal Building . Lee called the moment " sort of like a very internal feeling kind of video " . In an interview , while the video was being shot , Eminem spoke about working with Lee " as pretty anti @-@ climactic , for the most part , you know what I mean ... It 's good working with him , you know , he 's about his business " . The scene in which Eminem jumps from a cliff and dives , was done at Greenpoint Warehouse , in Brooklyn with Lee

and video producer Justin Diener . Also working with Eminem on the video included Dennis Dennehy and Chris Clancy for marketing . The final scene filmed on the first day was where Eminem would try to escape from a dark basement ; shooting in Newark also continued .

The second day of shooting focused on Eminem as he walked through Market Street in Newark . Eminem 's final shoot before wrapping up was a mirror scene , which included many glass mirrors , and a fake one among them , through which he would have to break through . On May 30 , 2010 , Eminem confirmed the video 's release date in a Twitter message : " For those ' patiently waiting , ' the NOT AFRAID video will premier Saturday 6 / 5 . Details later ... " The day before the video 's premiere , a teaser trailer was uploaded onto video sharing site YouTube , which combines many clips from the full video . The music video was uploaded on video website VEVO on June 5 , 2010 at 11 : 30 am ET . VEVO stylized their logo with the E reversed , similar to Eminem 's logo . On June 7 , the television premiere took place on MTV and VH1 , and the former featured a primetime encore the day after .

= = = Synopsis = = =

The music video opens with a scene in which Eminem stands on the rooftop of the Manhattan Municipal Building in New York , saying the introductory lyrics . The video cuts between scenes where he raps on the rooftop and another scene where Eminem is trapped inside a dark basement . Eminem moves closer towards the edge of the building until he leaves to go downstairs as the chorus begins . He starts walking down Market Street in Newark and jaywalks across the street , avoiding vehicles that pass by . Eminem sees distorted reflections of himself on the window of a car ; he continues on , only to be surrounded by a series of mirrors . Confused , Eminem tries to escape , and towards the end of the second chorus , he breaks through a mirror to find himself in the middle of the street . Interspersing scenes show Eminem as he tries to break out of the basement . As the camera zooms out , the viewers see him on the edge of a destroyed street while a subway tunnel can be seen below the road .

Eminem then jumps off the edge and makes a steep dive , but flies straight up again ; his speedy flight down Market Street causes sonic booms on vehicles nearby . Eventually , Eminem flies up , back to the rooftop of the Manhattan Municipal Building , in New York City , where the video began .

= = = Reception = = =

The video was received with generally positive reviews . Following the video 's VEVO release , Monica Herrera of Billboard named Eminem 's jumping sequence " a moment of triumph " and compared his flying scene to Superman . She also noted similarities of the video 's events and the song 's lyrics , deeming them a powerful word to Eminem 's haters , where Eminem raps about destroying one 's balcony . Daniel Kreps from Rolling Stone felt that Eminem " similarly puts his redemption in the spotlight " and notices courage . Kreps went on to compare Eminem 's flying scene to Canadian actor Keanu Reeves from the 1999 science fiction film The Matrix . In his review for Entertainment Weekly , Vozick @-@ Levinson wrote : " We are to understand that he is once again at wit 's end with the world , full of barely contained energy that he 's not yet sure how to direct . " Although he didn 't feel that the video was Eminem 's best , Vozick @-@ Levinson praised the video for its message in relation to the song 's vibe ; he also made a comparison to Eminem 's music video for " The Way I Am " , as both videos involve Eminem as he jumps from a great height . Patrick D 'Arcy of Spin thought that Eminem is " an satria unlikely motivational speaker , but an effective one . "

= = Live performances = =

On June 5 , 2010 , Eminem performed " Not Afraid " on Friday Night with Jonathan Ross . In celebration of the then @-@ upcoming release of Treyarch @-@ developed shooter game Call of

Duty : Black Ops , video game publisher Activision organized many artists to perform at the Electronic Entertainment Expo 2010 ( E3 2010 ) ? which took place at the Staples Center in Los Angeles ? including Eminem . Joined by Blink @-@ 182 drummer Travis Barker , Eminem performed songs from his album , including " Not Afraid " , " Love the Way You Lie " and " Won 't Back Down " . At E3 2011 , a choir , as well as hypeman Mr. Porter sung with Eminem during the chorus of " Not Afraid " , while his band played with an orchestra . The audience presumed the performance was over ; however , Eminem shortly returned to the stage to end with " Lose Yourself " . News distributor PR Newswire wrote , " Eminem ignited the crowd as he closed the all @-@ star event " . Matt Elias of MTV News also praised the show , and said that " Eminem performed an electrifying set ... , crushing any doubts that he is truly back in the game " . Antony Bruno of Billboard called the performance " a literal bang " while Seve Appleford of Rolling Stone wrote , " The rapper marched along the catwalk with his usual intensity , previewing new songs from next week 's release Recovery . " Activision reportedly spent six million dollars on party costs .

" Not Afraid " was included on Eminem 's set list as the final song before Eminem 's " Lose Yourself " encore in his performance at the T in the Park festival , which took place on July 10 , 2010 . This would be his first European concert in five years . Eminem wore black shorts and a hoodie . He commented on the weather , saying , " I know it 's muddy and sloppy and shit but this is fun " , and also thanked the crowd for supporting him . " Everybody who 's an Eminem fan , I just wanna say thank you so much for the support you 've shown over the years , for not giving up on me , " he said , " I hope you enjoyed the show as much as we did tonight . Peace . " At the end of the performance , Eminem said , " Edin @-@ borg , did you enjoy yourself tonight ? " That evening , members of the audience accused Eminem of lip syncing , but others defended him of such accusations . The T in the Park performance of " Not Afraid " is included as the second track on the " Love the Way You Lie " CD single . Eminem performed " Not Afraid " for a small audience in a small room at the beginning of the 2010 MTV Video Music Awards ; he performed the song once again at the Los Angeles Nokia Theatre , the main site of the ceremony , and performed " Love the Way You Lie " with Barbadian singer Rihanna . The audience voted his performance the best with 34 percent of all votes .

Eminem performed " Not Afraid " alongside Porter at the 2011 Bonnaroo Music Festival . He arrived in a Bad Meets Evil T @-@ shirt , camouflage shorts , a black hoodie and a black hat . His set list included other hits from previous years , including " Cleanin ' Out My Closet " , " The Real Slim Shady " , " Without Me " and " Like Toy Soldiers " ; he also performed with Bad Meets Evil partner Royce da 5 ' 9 " for " Fast Lane " and " Lighters " . Almost 80 @,@ 000 members of the audience chanted " Shady ! " for five minutes until Eminem returned to perform an encore with " Lose Yourself " . Before performing " Not Afraid " , Eminem told the audience , " All jokes aside ... Thank you for sticking by me and not giving up on me . " At one point during the show , he told them , " Everybody here tonight , I just wanna say thank you for sticking by me and not giving up on me . " News sources praised the performance ; James Montgomery of MTV News wrote , " what stood out the most about Em 's performance was the sheer tenacity with which he attacked it . " News agency Associated Press said that " Bonnaroo 's crowd may be a hippie enclave , but you wouldn 't have known it Saturday night " . HitFix blog 's Katie Hasty considered the " Not Afraid " performance " triumphant , perhaps due to crowd buzz " . Patrick Doyle of Rolling Stone wrote , " Eminem 's hour @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half set was a triumph , with the rapper constantly bouncing across the stage , performing hit after hit with the energy of a prizefighter . "

Eminem performed the song as part of a set list on the second day of Chicago 's Lollapalooza festival with Porter , in front of an audience of 90 @,@ 000 people . The Hollywood Reporter 's Steve Baltin wrote , " given the infrequency with which he tours , it 's sometimes easy to forget just how dynamic a performer he is , but after a spectacular 90 @-@ minute show , there was no denying the rapper 's power . " Adam Graham of The Detroit News said that " Eminem delivered the goods to the huge throng of people " . Gil Kaufman of MTV News felt that " Eminem came , saw and conquered his Lollapalooza debut . " Eminem performed a 28 @-@ song set list at Virgin Group 's V Festival ( V2011 ) on August 20 , 2011 and the following day , which included " Not Afraid " as the final song before the encore of " Lose Yourself " . The first day took place in Chelmsford , Essex and

the second day took place in Staffordshire . Eminem reportedly earned a total of £ 2 million for his two performances . Chris Salmon of The Guardian called Eminem 's performance of " Not Afraid " " majestic " ; he went on to writing that " It 's a set fit to close any festival , pop @-@ centred or otherwise . " BBC 's Chi Chi Izundu noted that Eminem 's performance was " fast @-@ paced " .

= = Awards and nominations = =

= = Track listings and formats = =

Digital download

" Not Afraid " ? 4 : 10

CD single

" Not Afraid " ? 4 : 10

" Not Afraid " ( Instrumental ) ? 4 : 10

= = Credits and personnel = =

The credits for " Not Afraid " are adapted from the liner notes of Recovery .

Recording

Recorded at : Effigy Studios in Ferndale , Michigan , Encore Studios in Burbank , California and Ajax , Ontario .

Personnel

= = Charts and certifications = =

= = Release and radio add history = =