

= Don 't Judge Me =

" Don 't Judge Me " is a song by American recording artist Chris Brown on his fifth studio album , Fortune ( 2012 ) . It was written by Brown , Adam Messinger , Nasri Atweh and Mark Pellizzer , and produced by The Messengers . The song was sent to urban contemporary radio stations in the United States on August 14 , 2012 as the fifth and final single from the album . " Don 't Judge Me " is a midtempo ballad , with lyrics in which Brown asks his lover to forgive him " for his past indiscretions " and " move on with the future . " The lyrics reportedly referred to Brown 's former relationships with aspiring American model and fashion designer Karrueche Tran and Barbadian recording artist Rihanna .

" Don 't Judge Me " received positive reviews from music critics ; some complimented the song and considered it a highlight on Fortune , while others criticized its production . In the United States , " Don 't Judge Me " reached number 10 on the R & B Songs chart , number 18 on the Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Songs chart , and number 67 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart . It also appeared on the singles chart in Australia , Austria , Belgium , France , Germany , Hungary , and the United Kingdom . The accompanying music video was directed by Colin Tilley and Brown . In the video , Brown goes on a " suicide mission " into outer space to save the world from an alien ship invading Earth . The video received a positive reception from most critics , particularly for its presentation .

= = Development and release = =

" Don 't Judge Me " was written by Chris Brown , Adam Messinger , Nasri Atweh and Mark Pellizzer , and was produced by The Messengers . The audio mixing was completed by Jaycen Joshua , with assistance from Trehy Harris . Amber " Sezyn " Streeter sang background vocals . " Don 't Judge Me " was leaked on the Internet on June 26 , 2012 , three days before the official release date of Fortune . The artwork for the song debuted online on July 28 , 2012 ; it features Brown , wearing a " white dress shirt and skinny black tie " , striking a pose in front of a blue backdrop . " Don 't Judge Me " was sent to urban contemporary radio stations in the United States on August 14 , 2012 , as the fifth single from the album . On November 2 , 2012 , the song was released as an extended play in Australia , Canada , France , and New Zealand , featuring the album version and three remixes . The single version of " Don 't Judge Me " was released on iTunes Stores in Belgium , Denmark , Ireland , Netherlands , and Sweden on November 23 , 2012 . A remix extended play , featuring the album version , music video and three remixes , was released in Austria , Germany , and Switzerland on November 23 , 2012 . In the United States , a remix extended play , featuring the single version and five remixes , was released on November 27 , 2012 .

= = Composition and lyrics = =

" Don 't Judge Me " is a midtempo ballad that runs for three minutes and fifteen seconds , with instrumentation provided by drums . Amy Sciarretto of PopCrush noted that " Don 't Judge Me " features " a slow , sensuous romp , " which she found reminiscent of Michael Jackson . Lyrically , Brown asks his lover to forgive him " for his past indiscretions " and " move on with the future . " In the song , Brown encourages his lover that there is nothing going on between him and his ex @-@ girlfriend as he sings , " You 're hearing rumors about me / And you can 't stomach the thought / Of someone touching my body / When you 're so close to my heart / I won 't deny what they saying / Because most of it is true / But it was all before I fell for you . " He later declares " that he is a changed man who can now be trusted " as shown in the lines , " Take me as I am / Not who I was / I 'll promise I 'll be / The one that you can trust . " During the chorus , Brown sings " So please don 't judge me / and I won 't judge you / because it could get ugly / before it gets beautiful . " Mesfin Fekadu of the Associated Press noted that Brown " sings in his signature semi @-@ high pitch " , and critics speculated that the lyrics were about Brown 's former relationships with aspiring American model and fashion designer Karrueche Tran and Barbadian recording artist Rihanna . Holly Frith of Entertainment Wise noted that Rihanna " may be the inspiration " for the lyrics . Rolling

Stone 's Maura Johnston described " Don 't Judge Me " as " a tender love song , " while Andrew Hampp of Billboard magazine referred to it as a " take me as I am " type of ballad . Hazel Robinson of California Literary Review noted that " Don 't Judge Me " is similar to Brown 's 2009 song , " Changed Man . "

= = Critical reception = =

" Don 't Judge Me " generated positive reviews from music critics . Trent Fitzgerald of PopCrush and Mesfin Fekadu of the Associated Press viewed it as one of the standout tracks on Fortune . Amy Sciarretto ( also writing for PopCrush ) , noted that the song " demonstrates that [ sensitive ] side we don 't often see " from Brown . Jamel Coles , in the UAB Kaleidoscope described " Don 't Judge Me " as an " emotional track " and wrote , " when hearing songs like this , you can 't knock his ability to make good music . " Jasmine Grant of Juicy magazine viewed the song as a " heartfelt ballad , " and Maura Johnston of Rolling Stone wrote that it sounds like " a Twitter rant against haters . " Melissa Ruggieri of The Atlanta Journal @-@ Constitution described " Don 't Judge Me " as a " lilting ballad " and noted that Brown is " semi @-@ serious " in the song . A reviewer on 4Music called the song " undeniably emotional " and wrote , " we 're wondering is if this is a heart @-@ wrenching plea to Rihanna ? " Sharon O 'Connell of Time Out magazine commented on the song 's title : " it 's a little late for that . " The Chicago Sun @-@ Times ' Thomas Conner called it a " bland , breathy ballad . " In his review of Fortune , Nick Levine of BBC Music wrote that the song was one of the reasons why the album felt " cripplingly pointless . " Scott Kara of The New Zealand Herald described " Don 't Judge Me " as " weak and wincing , " and stated that the lyrics are " the words of someone who still doesn 't quite grasp the extent of what he has done in the past . "

= = Chart performance = =

In the United States , " Don 't Judge Me " debuted at number 85 on the Billboard Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Songs chart dated September 1 , 2012 . It peaked at number 18 in the January 26 , 2013 issue . On the Billboard R & B Songs chart , the song debuted at number 13 in the October 20 , 2012 issue . The following week it rose to number 12 , and peaked at number 10 in the November 17 , 2012 issue . " Don 't Judge Me " peaked at number one on the Bubbling Under Hot 100 Singles chart dated November 3 , 2012 , before it debuted at number 95 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart dated November 17 , 2012 . The song peaked at number 67 in the January 5 , 2013 issue . On October 13 , 2012 , " Don 't Judge Me " debuted at numbers 84 and 17 on the UK Singles Chart and UK R & B Chart respectively . The following week , it rose to number 42 on the UK Singles Chart and number eight on the UK R & B Chart . The song peaked at number seven on the UK R & B Chart dated October 27 , 2012 . In Belgium , " Don 't Judge Me " peaked at number two on the Ultratip Flanders chart , and number 25 on the Ultratip Wallonia chart . On the French Singles Chart , it debuted at number 168 on October 13 , 2012 , and peaked at number 22 on January 12 , 2013 . In Hungary , " Don 't Judge Me " debuted and peaked at number 10 on November 26 , 2012 . On December 7 , 2012 , the song debuted on the Austria Singles Chart at number 66 . In Australia , " Don 't Judge Me " debuted at number 44 on the ARIA Singles Chart dated December 10 , 2012 . The following week , it ascended to number 42 .

= = Music video = =

= = Background and synopsis = =

The accompanying music video for " Don 't Judge Me " was directed by Colin Tilley and Brown , and was filmed in August 2012 . On August 29 , 2012 Brown released an image from the shoot , showing himself seated on the floor of an abandoned room in an unbuttoned jacket . On September 11 , 2012 Brown released a similar image , tweeting , " ' Don 't Judge Me ' video coming soon ! " .

The video premiered on Vimeo on September 27 , 2012 . It begins with Brown walking through the desert , while intercut scenes of himself sitting in front of a couch ( with his girlfriend , played by Runa Lucienne , sleeping behind him ) are shown . As the chorus begins for the first time , Brown is seen catching a ride from an army truck . He eventually arrives at an army base to prepare for a " suicide mission " , which involves him riding a spacecraft into outer space to save the world from an alien ship invading Earth . A news reporter at the base ( Brown 's girlfriend ) runs to him with the question , " People are saying this is a suicide mission , why are you doing this ? " Brown replies , " I 'm doing a service for my country and my planet . If that means saving the people I love and I care about , then that 's what I 'll do . " As the spacecraft takes off , tears run down Brown 's face before the spacecraft crashes into the alien ship , killing him . Brown and his girlfriend are then shown , hugging on the couch .

= = = Reception = = =

JusMusic of Singersroom magazine praised the video , writing " This is definitely art at its finest ! " A writer for Rap @-@ Up described the video as " cinematic " and " emotional , " while Billboard 's Erika Ramirez called it an " emotional visual . " Jasmine Grant of Juicy magazine noted that the video has a " futuristic soldier at war theme . " Colin Greten of MTV 's Rapfix agreed , writing that it " has a futuristic look and feel , " and that fans would also cry as Brown " makes the ultimate sacrifice " to save the world . A reviewer on The Huffington Post compared Brown 's character in the video to actor Bruce Willis in the 1998 film Armageddon , and wrote that " it 's certainly memorable , and sure to send Chris Brown 's fans ? and huge army of critics ? into a fresh flutter of support . " Idolator 's Sam Lansky wrote that " Brown is just as likable and subtle as ever in the video . " He continued : " It 's impressive to see that Breezy [ ... ] continues to find opportunities to depict himself as a hero " , when he makes headlines for the wrong reasons . A writer for Heat magazine stated that the video is " a mini disaster movie , complete with over @-@ acting and melodramatic slow @-@ motion shots . "

= = Formats and track listings = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits adapted from the liner notes for Fortune

= = Charts = =

= = Release history = =