

= Out from Under =

" Out from Under " is a song by American recording artist Britney Spears , taken from her sixth studio album , Circus ( 2008 ) . The song was written by Shelly Peiken , Arnthor Birgisson , and Wayne Hector , initially for the soundtrack of Bratz : The Movie , featuring vocals of American recording artist Joanna Pacitti . After approaching Spears and Guy Sigsworth in 2008 , the songwriters suggested the singer to re @-@ record the song for her album . " Out from Under " is a soft rock song that alludes to the ending of Spears ' marriage with Kevin Federline , and blends the singer 's breathy vocals with acoustic guitars in the background .

Despite not being released as a single , " Out from Under " managed to peak at number nineteen on Billboard Bubbling Under Hot 100 Singles , following the release of Circus , and at number thirty @-@ two in Sweden . The song was featured on the fifth season of MTV 's The Hills .

= = Background = =

In early 2007 , songwriters Shelly Peiken , Arnthor Birgisson , and Wayne Hector wrote a song titled " Out from Under " for the soundtrack of Bratz : The Movie . The song was recorded by Joanna Pacitti in Stockholm , Sweden . In 2008 , it was confirmed that Spears was in the process of recording her sixth studio album . Her manager Larry Rudolph confirmed the singer would spend " her summer in the recording studio " to work on it . Despite no official album confirmation at the time , Rudolph revealed they were happy with her progress and that she had been working with a range of producers , such as Sean Garrett , Guy Sigsworth , Danja and Bloodshy & Avant . Sigsworth and Spears were approached by the songwriters of " Out from Under " , who suggested the singer to re @-@ record the song for the album . Spears recorded her vocals for the song at Conway Recording Studios in Los Angeles , California , while audio mixing and vocal recording was done by Andy Page . Background vocals were provided by Leah Haywood . The song appeared on a six @-@ song mix of Circus that was released on November 13 , 2008 . In an interview included on the deluxe edition of Circus , Spears revealed that she " [ has ] always loved ballads . It 's like , there is always a time on the show , a transition where you can gather your thoughts , and [ ... ] just chill " . The singer also said she wrote " My Baby " during the recording sessions of " Out from Under " .

= = Music and lyrics = =

" Out from Under " is a soft rock song that alludes to the ending of Spears ' marriage with Kevin Federline which is perceived in lines such as " We tried everything we could try / So let 's just say goodbye forever " . Poppy Cosyns of The Sun noted that " a starker vocal and acoustic guitar backing herald " the song , while considering its lyrical content as " a sincere story of a suffocating relationship " . " Out from Under " lasts for three minutes and fifty @-@ three seconds , and features Spears singing the song with breathy vocals , over a background with acoustic guitars . Anna Dimond of TV Guide noted the song 's lyrics also relates to Spears ' conservatorship , from which the singer was " becoming more independent every day " . Caryn Ganz of Rolling Stone noted that Spears vocals aren 't heavily processed , saying , " Britney 's vocals on Blackout sounded phoned in , but on Circus , she put in real studio time , actually singing some slow jams " , naming " Out from Under " as an example .

= = Critical reception = =

The song has received mixed reviews from music critics . Ann Powers of the Los Angeles Times noted that " Out from Under " and the other ballads from Circus " have [ Spears ] hiccuping emotion from deep in the back of her throat " . Chris Richards of The Washington Post commented that the singer " emerges from her media bender hoping to forget the past " with the song , and Caryn Ganz of Rolling Stone considered it " Spears ' best ballad since ' I 'm Not a Girl , Not Yet a Woman ' " . Jon Pareles of The New York Times said " Out from Under " " gleam with acoustic guitars " , and that the

song , " My Baby " and " Unusual You " , " are the album 's only attempts at warmth . " Stephen Thomas Erlewine of Allmusic considered the song , along with " My Baby " , " a couple of not @-@ good @-@ at @-@ all ballads " , while Dave Donnelly of Sputnikmusic said both " subtly evoke the Britney of old : airy pop ballads that benefit from the former Frou Frou producer 's sophisticated , layered arrangements . " While comparing Circus to Blackout , Alexis Petridis of The Guardian noted , " the ballads are back , bringing with them the inevitable sprinkling of tedium " . Genevieve Koski of The A.V. Club felt that both songs " are about five years out of date , and [ Spears ] vocals seem anemic and distracted in spite of the confessional lyrics . " Steve Jones of USA Today commented that " Spears tosses in a couple of ballads along [ Circus ] , but these really aren 't her forte . The slew of top @-@ flight producers [ ... ] bolsters her vocal variety of echoes and gimmicky effects , but they don 't really help the breathy ' Out From Under ' or saccharin ' Unusual You ' " . Mike Newmark of PopMatters described the song as " nearly @-@ emo " along with " Unusual You , " saying both " try for heartfelt and come off flabby . "

= = Commercial performance = =

Following the release of Circus , " Out from Under " peaked at number nineteen on Billboard Bubbling Under Hot 100 Singles , on the dated week of December 20 , 2008 . The song became a radio hit on commercial radio stations in Sweden , and also entered the Swedish Singles Chart on the dated week of August 14 , 2009 , at number forty , peaking at number thirty @-@ two the following week . " Out from Under " stayed over a month on the chart , peaking at number forty @-@ one in the last week of its appearance .

= = Appearances in media = =

" Out from Under " was featured on the fifth season of MTV 's The Hills , during a scene where Lauren Conrad comforts Heidi Montag .

= = Live performances = =

" Out from Under " was performed Live A Winter Circus Promo Tour

= = Credits and Personnel = =

Credits for " Out from Under " are adapted from Circus liner notes .

Technical

Published by ROR Songs ( BMI ) , Maratone Publishing ( ASCAP ) , Sony / ATV Tunes LLC ( ASCAP ) .

Vocal recording and audio mixing at Conway Recording Studios in Los Angeles , California .

Personnel

= = Charts = =

= = Cover versions = =

The song was released as a single in Europe with rewritten lyrics as " Now Or Never " by Swedish pop singer Emilia de Poret in 2009 . A video for " Now Or Never " can be found on de Poret 's official YouTube channel . That same year , reggae singer and former UB40 frontman Ali Campbell released his version as a single .