

= Young Blood (Sophie Ellis @-@ Bextor song) =

" Young Blood " is a song by English recording artist Sophie Ellis @-@ Bextor from her fifth studio album *Wanderlust* (2014) . The song was released as the album 's lead single on 21 November 2013 . It was co @-@ written by Ed Harcourt and Ellis @-@ Bextor ; the former also produced it . The song is a chamber pop piano ballad , which features instrumentation from subdued drums and various string instruments . In the track , Ellis @-@ Bextor sings with restraint , incorporating a low register in the verses and hitting her highest note in the chorus . A demo version of the track was offered online in March 2013 .

" Young Blood " received mostly positive reviews from music critics , who complimented Ellis @-@ Bextor 's vocals and the song 's tenderness . The song became her first single to enter the UK Singles Chart since her 2011 single " Bittersweet " . On its component UK Indie chart , the track peaked within the top five . Sophie Muller was commissioned to direct its video , which shows Ellis @-@ Bextor on a pier and inside a living room . The song was performed on some television programmes in the United Kingdom .

= = Composition = =

As with the rest of *Wanderlust* , " Young Blood " was composed by the English musician Ed Harcourt , with additional songwriting from 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 piano ballad , with a viola , a violin , muffled drums , a cello and a double bass .

According to the sheet music published by Universal Music , it is set in a tempo of 60 beats per minute . It is written in the key of F major , and its verses follow the chord progression B ? mai7 ? F. The song begins with a gentle piano melody , transitioning into Ellis @-@ Bextor 's sung section . During the verses of the song , she sings in a low register , reaching her lowest note of F4 ; conversely , in the chorus , her voice reaches C6 and trembles . Throughout the song , her vocals are restrained and incorporate the melisma technique . The bridge of the song features " choral harmonies " . The song 's lyrics are written in first and second @-@ person narrative , following the common verse ? chorus form . According to Ludovic Hunter @-@ Tilney from *Financial Times* , the track discusses " the joys of growing old with one 's spouse " .

= = Reception = =

For *Time Out* magazine , Clare Considine described " Young Blood " as a " delicate love song " and opined that the strings and piano melodies effectively complement Ellis @-@ Bextor 's vocals . Michael Cragg of *The Guardian* stated that the song 's sonority " fits [Ellis @-@ Bextor] like a glove " , and also deemed its melody " gorgeous " . James Gareth from *Clash* characterised the song as " sincerely beautiful " , and *Digital Spy* 's Robert Copsey agreed , calling it " doe @-@ eyed " and " fantastically pretty " . From *Virgin Media* , Matthew Horton called the track " heart @-@ stinging " , while Hermoine Hoby , writing for *The Observer* considered that the song is " surprisingly successfully " similar to the works of Adele . Sam Lansky of *Idolator* complimented the song for being " beautiful " and " timeless " . Louise Bruton from *The Irish Times* wrote that Ellis @-@ Bextor 's " icy vocals forgive [d] " the " blunders " of *Wanderlust* , while *musicOMH* 's Kate Bennett provided a polarized review for the song . Although she praised Ellis @-@ Bextor 's vocals , Bennett described the track as " heroine @-@ gazing @-@ forlornly @-@ into @-@ the @-@ distance " due to its instrumentation . David Farrell , writing on behalf of *PopMatters* , commented that " Young Blood " was the best of the album and highlighted Ellis @-@ Bextor 's vocal performance .

The song only charted in the United Kingdom . Reaching number 34 on its singles chart , the song became Ellis @-@ Bextor 's first to enter the chart since " Bittersweet " , which was released in 2010 and peaked at 25 . " Young Blood " spent three weeks on the chart , and as of January 2014 , it is her fifteenth best @-@ selling song in the country . On the UK Indie chart , the track reached number 3 .

== Release and promotion ==

A demo version of " Young Blood " was released on 27 March 2013 , as a complimentary download on Ellis @-@ Bextor 's website . Selected as the lead single of Wanderlust , the song was released as a standalone digital download on 21 November of that year . A CD single of the track was sent to radio stations in that month , including the album version of it as well as a radio edit ; the song was eventually playlisted by hot adult contemporary UK station BBC Radio 2 . Ellis @-@ Bextor revealed that she chose " Young Blood " as the first single from Wanderlust because she found it representative of the album 's sound .

The official music video of " Young Blood " was filmed by Sophie Muller , and released on 25 November 2013 . It mostly depicts Ellis @-@ Bextor , dressed in a striped dress , lip @-@ synching the song 's lyrics , walking through an abandoned pier " in terrible weather " . Those scenes are interspersed with clips of her sat on a red sofa , wearing a " buttoned up , Victorian @-@ styled lace dress " inside a lounge room . Writing for Idolator , Mike Wass characterised the visual as " simple " , noting that it is adequate for the song 's tone . On 9 April 2014 , Ellis @-@ Bextor performed " Young Blood " on ITV 's morning programme Daybreak ; fifteen days later , she sang it on the first episode of the channel 's Weekend , aired on 26 April 2014 . She performed the song in an unplugged setting on ZDF Morgenmagazin , a programme of German channel ZDF , on 23 January 2014 .

== Track listing ==

Promotional CD single

Details adapted from the liner notes of the " Young Blood " promotional CD single .

" Young Blood " (Radio edit) ? 3 : 45

" Young Blood " ? 4 : 28

Digital download

" Young Blood " ? 4 : 28

== Credits and personnel ==

== Weekly charts ==

== Release history ==