

= Bye Bye (Mariah Carey song) =

" Bye Bye " is a song by American singer @-@ songwriter Mariah Carey , taken from her eleventh studio album , E = MC ² (2008) . It was written by Carey , Mikkel S. Eriksen , Tor Erik Hermansen and Johntá Austin , and produced by the former three . It was released as the album 's second single on April 15 , 2008 . The song is influenced by pop and R & B music genres , and features a piano and keyboard @-@ driven melody . Lyrically , the song is a dialogue in between Carey and her deceased father throughout the verses , and a universal salute to departed loved ones on the chorus .

The song received generally positive reviews , with many critics considering it a highlight from the album . Though expected by critics to have surely become Carey 's 19th chart @-@ topping single in the United States , following the success of " Touch My Body " , the track only managed to reach a peak position of number 19 on the Billboard Hot 100 . In the other countries the song achieved relatively weak charting , peaking within the top ten in New Zealand , and the top @-@ fifty in Canada , Ireland , Slovakia , and the United Kingdom .

" Bye Bye " was performed on few live televised appearances , in comparison to the large promotional boost given to " Touch My Body " . Carey first performed the song on T4 , followed by Good Morning America and The Oprah Winfrey Show . Carey performed " Bye Bye " for the final time on the seventh season of American Idol , where she was featured as a mentor for the top @-@ seven week . The song 's accompanying music video was directed by Justin Francis on the island of Antigua in the Caribbean . The video features behind @-@ the @-@ scenes footage of Carey and her then fiancé Nick Cannon , the singer promoting the album in the United Kingdom , as well as photos of several of Carey 's close friends , family and past collaborators .

= = Background = =

During the conception of her ninth studio album Charmbracelet in 2002 , Carey 's estranged father , Alfred Roy , was diagnosed with cancer . After divorcing from Patricia , Carey 's mother , when the singer was only three , he kept only limited contact with her throughout the years , as Patricia continuously moved due to their poverty . During this period of Carey 's life , when she was just recovering from a breakdown and career slouch , she began reconnecting with her father during his short time in hospital care . In a song titled " Sunflowers for Alfred Roy " , present on Charmbracelet , Carey refers to a moment she shared with him on his death @-@ bed . Critics described the song as " the album 's most lyrically personal song " and appreciated its simple piano accompaniment , while Carey retells of a visit she shared with her father in his hospital room , " Strange to feel that proud , strong man / Grip tightly to my hand . "

After the release of Charmbracelet and its succeeding album , The Emancipation of Mimi (2005) , Carey began working on material for her eleventh studio effort , the yet untitled E = MC ² (2008) . It was one of the most anticipated albums of 2008 , with many critics weighing their opinions on whether Carey would be able to deliver significant success , following her achievements with The Emancipation of Mimi . " Bye Bye " was released as the album 's second single , following " Touch My Body " , and premiered on radio on April 7 , 2008 , and became available to download at iTunes on April 15 , 2008 . The single officially went for adds on April 22 , 2008 on Mainstream and Rhythm / Crossover stations . Carey recalled in an interview with MTV :

" Sometimes when I 'm writing a song , it does come from such a raw place that I 'm actually crying while writing it , " Mariah admitted . Her second single , a tribute to her late father , is also meant to reach anyone else who has suffered a loss of a loved one . " Sometimes I hear it and feel that this is going to touch a lot of people , and that 's why it 's important that no matter what 's ever happened to me over my career , that I stay the course and continue to write and try and reach people who need . " Anyone who manages to do the reverse , and touch Mariah with one of their songs , " I 'm indebted to them forever . "

= = Composition = =

" Bye Bye " is a slow @-@ tempo " inspirational power ballad " , which is influenced by R & B and pop music genres . The song is built on an understated and simple piano @-@ driven melody , that is decorated with a soft bass @-@ line . Written by Carey , Mikkel S. Eriksen , Tor Erik Hermansen and Johntá Austin , and produced by the former three , the song drew comparisons to several of Carey 's previous musical arrangements featured in both " We Belong Together " and " Don 't Forget About Us " . According to the sheet music published at Musicnotes.com by Sony / ATV Music Publishing , " Bye Bye " is set in common time with a tempo of 68 beats per minute . It is composed in the key of B @-@ flat major , with Carey 's vocal range spanning from the low @-@ note of F3 to the high @-@ note of F6 in whistle register , and F5 in chest voice . The song follows in the chord progression of Bm7 ? Am7 ? Gmaj7 .

Lyrically , the song was described by critics as a " larger than life anthem " , and an " inspirational lighter @-@ in @-@ the @-@ air ballad " , where Carey remembers both her father , as well as any lost loved ones . " Bye Bye " begins with an understated chorus , then working into the first verse , in which Carey retells her childhood , and her relationship with her father years ago : " As a child there were them times / I didn 't get it , but you kept me alive / I didn 't know why you didn 't show up sometimes / And its more than saying ' I miss you ' / But I 'm glad we talked through / All them grown full things separation brings / You never let me know it , you never let it show " . Then , the pre @-@ chorus continues describing Carey 's emotions in the present , " And everyday life goes on / I wish I could talk to you for a while " , and how the loss of her father still affects her day @-@ to @-@ day life .

While the verses are dedicated to him , the chorus was written in a third @-@ person point of view , for her fans : " This is for my peoples who just lost somebody / Your best friend , your baby , your man or your lady / Put your hand way up high / We will never say bye / Mamas , daddies , sisters , brothers , friends and cousins / This is for my peoples who lost their grandmothers / Lift your hands to the sky / Because we won 't ever say bye bye " . As Carey sings the second chorus , she reverts to the singular conversation with her deceased father , however now revisiting 2005 , " And you never got a chance to see how good I 've done / And you never got to see me back at No. 1 " , referencing her return to the top of music with The Emancipation of Mimi . The song does not feature a bridge , instead repeating the chorus twice , once in the same key as the rest of the song , while the other in a raised octave . During the last chorus , Carey 's voice is doubled , with her regular tone voice singing softly over the piano chords , while her more prominent and higher pitched vocals are laid over it .

= = Critical reception = =

" Bye Bye " received mostly positive reviews from music critics , and was heavily speculated to have become Carey 's 19th number @-@ one single on the Billboard Hot 100 . Many reviewers complimented its simple and understated musical arrangement and personalized lyrics , while some felt the song was too simple for an artist of Carey 's stature . Jeffrey Mitchell from The Hollywood Reporter described it as a " high point " on the album , and wrote " Mariah softly and sweetly lamenting the loss of any kind of loved one on the truly touching ' Bye Bye ' . Mitchell concluded his review put stock in the song 's success , and ended with " Thankfully , it looks like we won 't be saying ? bye ? to Mariah for a long time . " An anonymous journalist writing in for MTV UK called " Bye Bye " a " tear jerking ode to people who have passed away " , and assumed it would " have reality pop contestants singing away for decades to come ! " The Houston Chronicle 's Goey Guerra highlighted the song as " truly trademark Mimi " , and described it as " a lighters @-@ and @-@ hands @-@ in @-@ the @-@ air tribute to deceased loved ones " . Dan Hinkley of Daily News branded it " the album 's most potentially personal song " , and assured it would become Carey 's 19th chart @-@ topping single in the United States . The song received positive response from both Rolling Stone 's Christian Hoard and Yahoo ! Music writer Dann Gennoe , who describes the track as a " piano @-@ based big @-@ voiced " and " lighter @-@ friendly " ballad . In his review of E = MC ² , a writer from the Los Angeles Times described the song 's lyrics and production in detail :

When Carey tries to open up a bit more , her sentiments are the equivalent of a Hallmark Precious Moments figurine . In a ballad ' Bye Bye ' , Carey isn 't taking chances , designing the lyrics for mass appeal by dedicating them to anyone who ever lost somebody , be it ' your best friend , your baby , your man or your lady ' . But Carey gracefully pulls off the universality of the lyrics , and the tune will likely be a massive hit .

A columnist from the British newspaper New ! described " Bye Bye " as their " favorite track " and wrote , " the delicious ' Bye Bye ' is a classic slushy Mariah ballad , with a swoonsome chorus . " Jonathan Reyes from Rap @-@ Up felt the track would get listeners " teary eyed " , and due to it being a " song everyone can relate too " , assure it would become Carey 's next number @-@ one single . While ABC News writer , Steve Jones , described how " Bye Bye " packed the bum with " an emotional wallop " , The Washington Post 's Freedom De Luc compared it heavily to " Don 't Forget About Us " , Carey 's 2005 single . De Luc wrote how both shared similar piano instrumentation , however different lyrical settings ; " Don 't Forget About Us " finds Carey playing a " broken @-@ hearted lover " , while " Bye Bye " an " inspirational song that comes with its own set of suggested demographics and instructions . " Some reviewers felt the song was a sub @-@ par effort from an artist of Carey 's stature , with many describing it as unoriginal and not a good follow @-@ up single to " Touch My Body " . Entertainment Weekly 's Margeaux Watsman felt " Bye Bye " was an " odd choice " for a second single , and called it " somber edgy " . Nick Levine from Digital Spy described the track as a " shmaltzy ballad " , while an anonymous VH1 critic wrote " with the ? We Belong Together ? sonic template and lyrics tailored appeal to everyone on such a basic level seems like too easy of a combination for someone as established as Mimi . This one ? s like insurance ? in case nothing else is a hit , here ? s a sure @-@ shot . But ultimately , it turns out that the album is too good for that . "

= = Chart performance = =

" Bye Bye " served as the second single from the album $E = MC^2$. Though released in the United States , the United Kingdom , Australasia and other select parts of Europe , the song was not sent to radio stations in countries like the Netherlands , France , Norway and Switzerland , where " I 'll Be Lovin ' U Long Time " , the album 's third official single , was released instead . " Bye Bye " debuted at number twenty @-@ three on the Billboard Hot 100 as the " Hot Shot Debut " , selling 60 @,@ 000 downloads . Following her performance of the song on American Idol and The Oprah Winfrey Show , it eventually peaked at number nineteen on the Hot 100 , and at number thirty @-@ three on the Billboard Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Songs . The track eventually peaked at number thirty @-@ four on the Canadian Hot 100 , and stayed within the chart for a total of twelve weeks . As of February 2014 , " Bye Bye " had sold 598 @,@ 000 copies in the United States .

On the main chart in Europe , " Bye Bye " peaked at number eighty @-@ four on the European Hot 100 . It debuted and peaked at number seventy in Germany , and debuted at number eighty @-@ eight on the UK Singles Chart . Six weeks later , on July 5 , 2008 , the song peaked at number thirty , due to the release of the song 's music video . In Asia , " Bye Bye " charted on the Japan Hot 100 , peaking at number seventy @-@ three . In New Zealand , the song achieved its highest peak , reaching number seven in its third week . After a total of eight weeks , the song dropped out of the top 40 . The song achieved relatively low peaks throughout each country it charted , including number forty @-@ three in Australia , forty in Ireland and number fifty in Slovakia .

= = Remixes = =

The main official remix , the " So So Def Remix " , produced by Carey and Jermaine Dupri , features a verse by Jay @-@ Z (Carey provided new background vocals on his verse) and Jermaine Dupri on background vocals . In an interview with MTV News , Dupri described the remix as " crazy " , and said " Young Hov and Mariah crank it up , and myself , JD ? a.k.a. Barry Bonds ? cleans up . " When asked if it would sound awkward due to the song 's melancholy nature , he answered " we 'll forget about the sad sentiments " . A writer from Rap @-@ Up gave the remix a

positive review , calling it " FIRE ! " . An additional remix was released , titled the " R & B Remix " , and features vocals from Akon , and an under @-@ stated rap from Lil Wayne .

= = Music video = =

The music video was directed by Justin Francis , and co @-@ directed by Nick Cannon on the island of Eleuthera in the Bahamas . The video became notable for the pair , due to the fact that it was during its conception and recording that they began dating , and eventually wed two months later . The video was shot in early April 2008 , but was delayed until May , with several critics suggesting it because of the couples engagement . In an interview with Fox News , Cannon spoke of his feelings when first speaking with Carey regarding the video : " From the first time we sat down to discuss the video at the Beverly Hills Hotel , we connected . We had so much in common spiritually , and we laugh at the same things . I didn 't have to put on my Mac Daddy suave mode . I was able to be myself with her . We are both eternally 12 years old . " The pair eloped in the Bahamas , at Carey 's private estate in Eleuthera , and wed on April 30 , 2008 . The couple stayed on the island for over two weeks after the nuptials for their honeymoon , which is why the video was delayed until mid @-@ May , so Carey would be able to promote it in time .

The video consists of multiple scenes with Carey and (now husband) Cannon , who plays her love interest . This is shown along with various behind @-@ the @-@ scenes footage of Carey at various promotional events in the United Kingdom . The video begins with grainy footage of a plane landing in the Bahamas , with Carey and Cannon exiting the aircraft with her dog . Throughout the video , scenes of Carey laying on a sofa , writing lyrics and tearing , as well as the singer in a darkened stage are shown . Several behind @-@ the @-@ scenes clips of Carey promoting the album in the United Kingdom are shown , as she arrives at a CD signing , and connects with fans . Following the signing , Carey is shown at a fashion show , as well as modelling in several outfits . Other scenes that intermingle are of Carey looking out of her hotel suite window in London , as well as candles being put out . During the second verse , the couple is seen spending time together on the island , spending time with friends at a small gathering at the pool , as well as moments of Carey modeling for her bikini photo shoot for the June issue of Vibe . The video 's final segment is of Carey performing the song at a concert in a large theatre , while several photos are sporadically shown . Photographs of several of Carey 's deceased friends and family members are shown , including her dog , Jack , her father Alfred Roy , her grandmother , David Cole , Luciano Pavarotti , Ol ' Dirty Bastard , and Luther Vandross , all of whom Carey had collaborated with during her career . Critics complimented the inclusion of the photos with both Pavarotti and Vandross , and considered it Carey 's way of honoring them . The music video peaked at # 4 on Billboard 's Hot Videoclip Tracks chart .

= = Live performances = =

On the seventh season of the popular talent competition American Idol , Carey was featured as a mentor for the top @-@ seven week . Titled " Mariah Carey Week " and airing live on April 14 , 2008 , the contestants were to perform a song from Carey 's catalog . After all seven contestants sang their individual songs , they all came together for a live rendition of Carey 's 1996 collaboration with Boyz II Men , " One Sweet Day " . Overall , critics noted how a Carey themed week would be extremely difficult for the performers , due to their vocally strenuous nature . Following their joint performance , Carey emerged onto the stage in a black mini @-@ dress , and performed " Bye Bye " live , while backed by a trio of supporting vocalists . Tamara Jones of The Washington Post jokingly commented on Carey 's flailing hand movements during the performance , writing how she was " waving like a malevolent homecoming queen " . Gil Kaufman from MTV News complimented Carey 's performance , commenting on her " barely there micro @-@ dress " and writing how she " serenaded the audience with her homage to lost ones . " The Calgary Sun 's Lindsey Ward described it as a " less @-@ than @-@ fab performance " , although complimenting on Carey 's leaner figure , " Oh , who am I kidding ? She would look hot in a paper bag . "

On April 25 , 2008 , Carey opened the Good Morning America " Summer Concert Series " with a live performance in Times Square . Carey , wearing a pink mini @-@ skirt , began the set with " Touch My Body " in front of thousands of fans . During the song , Carey 's backing vocals began to malfunction , causing it to repeat phrases and play during her main vocal moments . In order to let the sound engineer know of the problem , she substituted part of the lyrics for " stop singing my part now baby " , and completed the final chorus . She continued on with " I 'm That Chick " , and completed the three @-@ song set @-@ list with her follow @-@ up single , " Bye Bye " . After marking the album 's stateside launch with her appearance on Good Morning America , Carey took to Europe to perform on several programs , one of which included a live rendition of " Bye Bye " . She began with an interview on the British radio station , BBC Radio 1 , and continued onto a live performance of the song on T4 . On April 12 , 2008 , Carey made an appearance on The Oprah Winfrey Show . Winfrey interviewed the singer on her weight loss , $E = MC^2$, and even showed footage of Carey in her New York apartment , showing off her lingerie closet . Following the interview , Carey , dressed in a purple and black ensemble , performed a live rendition of " Bye Bye " for the audience , with three background vocalists assisting her . Kevin Johnson from St. Louis Post @-@ Dispatch described the performance as " touching " , and complimented the song 's appeal .

= = Track listings and formats = =

European CD single

" Bye Bye " (Album Version) ? 4 : 26

" Bye Bye " (So So Def Remix feat . Jay @-@ Z) ? 3 : 57

UK CD single

" Bye Bye " (Album Version) ? 4 : 26

" Bye Bye " (So So Def Remix feat . Jay @-@ Z) ? 3 : 57

US CD maxi @-@ single

" Bye Bye " (Album Version feat . Akon & Lil Wayne) ? 4 : 35

" Bye Bye " (R & B Remix) ? 4 : 26

" Bye Bye " (Video)

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits for $E = MC^2$ adapted from the album 's liner notes .

Mariah Carey ? songwriting , producer , vocals , background vocals

Mikkel S. Eriksen ? songwriting , producer

Tor Erik Hermansen ? songwriting , producer

Christopher Stewart ? songwriting , producer

Johntá Austin ? songwriting

Josh Houghkirk ? audio mixing

Bernie Grundman ? mastering

Maryann Tatum ? background vocals

= = Charts = =

= = Release history = =