

= Sad (Maroon 5 song) =

" Sad " is the ninth track from American band Maroon 5 's fourth studio album Overexposed (2012) . It was written by Adam Levine and James Valentine ; they produced the song together with Noah " Mailbox " Passovoy . Valentine started composing the song on his home piano , before introducing the melody to Levine , who wrote the lyrics and called the song his most personal track on the album . " Sad " is a piano ballad that is similar to the works by British singer @-@ songwriter Adele . It received generally mixed reviews from music critics ; some of them called it a standout track on Overexposed , however , others criticized Levine 's voice on the song . Following the release of the album , due to strong digital downloads , the song peaked at number 12 on the singles chart in South Korea .

= = Background and production = =

" Sad " was written by Maroon 5 's lead singer Adam Levine together with band 's guitarist , Valentine . According to Valentine , the development of the song began one morning , " before he was even awake " he was dreaming of his living room 's piano playing the melody . He further stated that it was cool and he liked the chords to the verse . He later went to the studio where Levine had a concept for the song including couple of lines for the chorus . It was produced by Levine and Valentine together with Noah " Mailbox " Passovoy . For an interview with MTV News , Levine told that " Sad " is his most personal track on the album , although not revealed the inspiration behind it . The song was recorded at Conway Studios in Los Angeles by Noah Passovoy while Eric Eylands served as engineering assistant . Serbian Ghanea mixed it at Mixstar Studios in Virginia Beach together with John Hanes and Phil Seaford who served as mixing engineer and mixing assistant respectively .

= = Composition = =

" Sad " is a piano ballad with a length of three minutes and fourteen seconds . It is written in the key of E minor , in common time , with a tempo of 116 beats per minute . Levine 's vocal range spans from the low note of D4 to the high note of G5 . " Sad " highlights Levine 's soulful tone that his voice possesses . Nick Levine of NME labeled the song as " an Adele @-@ apeing weepie " . Similarly , The New York Times ' Nate Chinen compared " Sad " to Adele 's 2011 single " Someone Like You " . Rick Florino of Artistdirect wrote that it " echoes Elton John in terms of epic scope and shows just how vulnerable Levine can get . " Lyrically , " Sad " is a song on which Levine " achingly " declares the end of his relationship and his heartbreak . According to Jacqui Swift , it was inspired by the singer 's break up with Victoria 's Secret model Anne Vyalitsyna . The song begins with the lyrics , " Man , it 's been a long day stuck thinking ' bout it . " The chorus is simple and consists of Levine singing " I 'm so Sad " .

= = Critical reception = =

The song received generally mixed reviews from music critics . Both Vivecka Nair of The UrbanWire and Suzanne Byrne of RTÉ.ie called the song a standout track on Overexposed . Jacqui Swift of The Sun labeled " Sad " together with " Beautiful Goodbye " and " Love Somebody " as an emotive moments on the album . Alex Lai of Contactmusic.com called the song " bearable " . Digital Spy 's Robert Copsey stated that the track lacks the honest and raw emotion of the band 's 2004 single " She Will Be Loved " . Evan Sawdey of PopMatters called the song a " coldly calculated " moment on Overexposed and further wrote that it doesn 't match well with Levine 's voice . According to him his vocals are too " showy " to make the " Sad " 's chorus sound genuine . Similarly , Bruce Dennill of The Citizen criticized Levine 's voice and wrote that he " doesn 't adapt his voice to change the mood ? it 's as high and shrill as it is in the songs with fuller arrangements . " Rolling Stone 's Rob Sheffield labeled " Sad " as a " boring moment " on the album with a " droll " title . Nate Chinen of

The New York Times criticized the song 's chorus and further stated , " no one bothered to upgrade a place @-@ holder lyric during the process of songwriting . No machine is perfect . "

= = Credits and personnel = =

Recording and mixing

Recorded at Conway Studios , Los Angeles , California ; mixed at Mixstar Studios , Virginia Beach .

Personnel

Credits adapted from the liner notes of Overexposed , A & M / Octone Records .

= = Charts = =

Upon the release of Overexposed , due to strong digital downloads " Sad " debuted on the South Korea Gaon International Chart at number 12 on June 24 , 2012 , with sales of 28 @,@ 107 digital copies . The next week , it fell to number 19 and sold additional 13 @,@ 044 copies . It stayed on the chart for total of six weeks .