

= Could 've Been You =

" Could 've Been You " is a rock song first performed by American rock singer Bob Halligan and later popularized by American singer @-@ actress Cher . The song was written by Halligan and Arnie Roman for Halligan 's 1991 album , Window In The Wall . Cher 's cover version was produced by Peter Asher and released exclusively for the European market in early 1992 as the fourth single from Cher 's twenty @-@ first studio album , Love Hurts . Lyrically , " Could 've Been You " is a message from the song 's protagonist to his or her ex .

Cher 's version of " Could 've Been You " received positive reviews from critics and peaked at number thirty @-@ one on the UK Singles Chart . Cher promoted the song through appearances at Top of the Pops and Aspel and Company .

= = Background = =

In 1991 , Bob Halligan released his album Window In The Wall under Atco Records . The only single released from the album was its lead track , " Could 've Been You " , which Halligan had co @-@ written with Arnie Roman . According to Halligan , Atco Records had been going through a " political upheaval " that year and his record " was one of several recordings that was allowed to slip gently into the night " . Halligan " dryly notes , ' [" Could 've Been You "] lasted three weeks at radio . It came out to the sound of one hand clapping ' " .

Later the same year , Cher covered " Could 've Been You " for her album Love Hurts . Her version was produced by Peter Asher , who had previously worked with Cher on her 1991 UK number one hit " The Shoop Shoop Song (It 's in His Kiss) " . The B @-@ side of the first UK 7 " single release was " One Small Step " , a duet with American singer @-@ songwriter Richard Page , while the B @-@ side of the second UK 7 " single was " Love and Understanding " . The second UK 7 " single and the Germany Maxi @-@ single were both released with the same cover , an image of Cher in a baby doll dress , while the first UK 7 " was released with the same photo cut to show only Cher 's legs . The whole photo was later reused for the cover of the Love Hurts tourbook . The UK 12 " single was the last released ; its cover has a transparent vinyl and shows Cher in a long , smooth black wig . In 1993 , " Could 've Been You " was rereleased as the B @-@ side of Cher 's " Whenever You 're Near " UK 7 " single .

Cher promoted " Could 've Been You " with a live performance on Top of the Pops on April 9 , 1992 , six days before the beginning of her first European tour , the Love Hurts Tour in Berlin , Germany . For the performance Cher wore a curly red wig and a suit with the jacket open to show a leather bra . On April 11 , 1992 , Cher appeared on the Aspel and Company show to perform the song and be interviewed by Michael Aspel .

= = Critical reception = =

" Could 've Been You " received positive reviews from critics . Rock critic Jim Farber of Entertainment Weekly said of the album that " [i] t 's that much more fun in numbers like ' Could 've Been You ' , in which , seeking revenge , she gets to reach between the jerk 's legs and squeeze . " David Wild of the Guilford County , North Carolina News & Record called " Love and Understanding " , " Save Up All Your Tears " and " Could 've Been You " " strong tracks " that " show that she is still an effective pop singer " . The review of the Worcester , Massachusetts Telegram & Gazette newspaper noted " Cher attempts to display her sexual prowess on the song , ... a great vehicle for her , an ' in @-@ your @-@ face ' song directed to a former lover " .

= = Chart performance = =

The song debuted on the UK Singles Chart at number thirty @-@ two on the week of April 18 , 1992 . In its second week it peaked at number thirty @-@ one , dropping the next week to number forty @-@ three and then to number sixty in its fourth and final week on the chart . The song also

entered the German Singles Chart in late May 1992 , spending seven weeks on the chart and peaked at number seventy @-@ five .

= = Track listings = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Artwork ? Kevin Reagan

Management ? Bill Sammeth , John Kalodner

Photography ? Herb Ritts

Producer ? Peter Asher

Recorded and mixed by ? Frank Wolf

= = Charts = =