

= Farewell (Rihanna song) =

" Farewell " is a song by Barbadian recording artist Rihanna , from her sixth studio album Talk That Talk (2011) . The song was written by Ester Dean and Alexander Grant , with production helmed by Grant under his production name Alex da Kid . Instrumentation consists of a piano .

Music critics were divided in their response to " Farewell " . Rihanna 's vocal performance was praised and criticized alike , with some critics citing the song as her best vocal performance to date , while others wrote it lacked any sense of feeling . It also received comparisons to Beyoncé 's " Halo " and Adele 's " Someone like You " , as well as Rihanna 's own " Fire Bomb " (from her album Rated R) . Upon the release of Talk That Talk , the song debuted at number 69 on the South Korea Gaon International Chart and number 155 on the UK Singles Chart .

= = Composition and lyrics = =

The song was written by Ester Dean and Alexander Grant , with production helmed by Grant under his production name Alex da Kid . " Farewell " contains lyrics that revolve around saying goodbye to a lover who is not able to be physically present in the relationship for long periods of time . Instrumentation consists of a piano . The song was composed in the key of G major and set in common time signature , and has a moderately slow tempo of 88 beats per minute . Rihanna 's vocals span from the low note of G3 to the high note of D5 . Jason Lipshutz of Billboard magazine noted that the song 's structure was similar to Beyoncé Knowles ' song " Halo " , while Priya Elan for NME wrote that the song was reminiscent of Rihanna 's song " Fire Bomb " , from her fourth studio album , Rated R (2009) . Lipshutz also noted that Rihanna delivered the bridge with " powerhouse " vocals . A reviewer for Flavour Magazine wrote that Rihanna displayed " great vocals " in the lyric " Somebody 's gonna miss you ... Farewell . " Melissa Maerz for Entertainment Weekly wrote that Rihanna " wails " the lyrics " ' Even though it kills me that you have to go / I know I 'd be sadder if you didn 't hit the road . "

= = Critical reception = =

Music critics were divided on " Farewell " ; Rihanna 's vocal performance was praised as well as criticized . Kyle Jamon for Parlé Magazine wrote that " Farewell " is a " fitting finish to an album that presents a brand new Rihanna . " He praised the song for not incorporating a " morbid " feel or " dark " tones , which were prominent on Rated R. T 'Cha Dunlevy for The Montreal Gazette described the song as " epic , " and is a " stark contrast " to the songs which appear before it on the album , specifically " Roc Me Out " and " Watch n ' Learn " . A reviewer for Flavour Magazine described the song as " epic " and " heart @-@ curdling " . The reviewer concluded by writing that " Farewell " is a " winning end " to Talk That Talk . Pip Ellwood for Entertainment @-@ Focus wrote that the song " puts paid to any criticism concerning Rihanna 's vocal ability . " Claire Suddath for Time Entertainment did not praise nor criticize " Farewell , " but simply wrote that it is an " obligatory torch ballad that every female pop singer is required to include on an album these days . "

Andy Kellman from Allmusic was critical of the ballads " Farewell " and " We All Want Love " , labeling the former as " bombastic " and the latter " drippy . " Jon Caramanica for The New York Times called " Farewell " the most " bombastic " song on Talk That Talk , and cited his reason as " it 's tough to tell if the words have feeling , because Rihanna 's voice doesn 't . " Nathan Slavik for DJ Booth was critical of the song , writing that it lacked any originality . Slavik continued to write that the song is not necessarily bad , but it is " not good in any meaningful way . " Simon Price of The Independent slated " Farewell " , writing that it is a " shameless rewrite " of Adele 's " Someone like You " .

= = Track listing = =

Album version

" Farewell " ? 4 : 16

= = Credits and personnel = =

Recording

Recorded at Sofitel Paris Le Faubourg , Room 538 ; Fasthalle Venue Dressing Room , Frankfurt , Germany .

Personnel

Credits adapted from the liner notes of Talk That Talk , Def Jam Recordings , SRP Records .

= = Charts = =

Upon the release of Talk That Talk , " Farewell " charted in South Korea and the United Kingdom on the strength of digital download sales . The song debuted on the South Korea Gaon International Chart at number 69 on November 26 , 2011 , with sales of 6 @,@ 547 digital downloads . It also debuted on the UK Singles Chart at number 155 in the chart issue December 3 , 2011 .