

= Discipline (Nine Inch Nails song) =

" Discipline " is a single by American industrial rock band Nine Inch Nails . It is the band 's first single since severing its ties with Interscope Records and publishing music independently . Unlike previous NIN singles , no physical release of the song was issued . The song was first released to radio stations on April 22 , 2008 , sent by Nine Inch Nails frontman Trent Reznor .

The MP3 download contains an embedded album art image , full lyrics , and the comment : " Go to www.nin.com May 5 " . Subsequently on May 5 , 2008 a new Nine Inch Nails album , The Slip , was revealed for download . " Discipline " charted on Billboard 's Hot Mainstream Rock Tracks and Hot Modern Rock Tracks charts , and was Nine Inch Nails ' sixth consecutive top ten single on the Hot Modern Rock Tracks chart .

= = Recording = =

Nine Inch Nails front man Trent Reznor announced in 2007 that the band had completed its contractual obligations to its record label , Interscope Records , and would no longer be working with the company . Reznor also revealed that Nine Inch Nails would likely distribute music independently . Since the announcement , Nine Inch Nails released the 36 @-@ track instrumental album Ghosts I ? IV in March 2008 on Reznor 's independent label The Null Corporation . After the release of Ghosts , Reznor began writing and recording what would become the next full @-@ length album , The Slip .

During recording sessions for The Slip , Reznor sent the track " Discipline " to radio stations himself on April 22 . The track was sent before the remainder of the album was completed , and less than 24 hours after the track had been mastered by Alan Moulder . On the same day , the track was also made available for download at the official Nine Inch Nails website for free , as well as multitrack files of the song for remixing . Reznor reflected on the quick turnaround by saying " that was fun [...] you never could have done that before " , referring to his past career on major record labels . " Discipline " was the first Nine Inch Nails single to be released independently via The Null Corporation .

= = Music and lyrics = =

The largely electronic instrumentation of " Discipline " has been compared to Depeche Mode , Bauhaus , Siouxsie and the Banshees , and Giorgio Moroder . Rolling Stone magazine described the track as " the closest Reznor has ever come to disco , right down to a splashing high @-@ hat , boosted way up in the mix " . Eric Harvey of Pitchfork Media also compared the song to disco , saying that the song " eschews a typically monstrous chorus for an airtight industrial disco grind ventilated by an airy piano and falsetto cooing . "

Lyrically , Spin magazine wrote that " As is true of nine out of every ten NIN tracks , ' Discipline ' is about submission and domination " . Harvey compared " Discipline " to one Nine Inch Nails 's first singles , " Head Like a Hole " , saying " [' Discipline '] comes from a long @-@ established and now label @-@ free artist trying to reflexively reassert his position in the pop landscape , on his own terms . [...] ' Discipline ' evinces Reznor 's desire for some sort of framework [...] In relative terms , ' I need your discipline / I need your help ' is sure a long way from the nearly 20 @-@ year @-@ old ' Head Like a Hole ' refrain ' I 'd rather die / Than give you control ' . "

= = Release and reception = =

" Discipline " was released on April 22 , 2008 , and was the first single from The Slip . The song was also the first single released from the band under Reznor 's newly formed independent label , The Null Corporation . The ID3 tag of the downloadable track came with the message " Go to www.nin.com May 5 " , the day that The Slip would eventually be released as a free download .

" Discipline " was only made available for airplay and download ; a physical release was never

issued . Though no music video was created for the song either , retail versions of The Slip included a DVD featuring a live @-@ rehearsal of the song by the Nine Inch Nails live band . The rehearsal video has since been posted on the band 's official Vimeo and YouTube pages . The song was written and composed by Trent Reznor , and produced by Alan Moulder and Atticus Ross . Like the entirety of The Slip , " Discipline " was released under a Creative Commons attribution @-@ noncommercial share @-@ alike license , in effect allowing anyone to use or rework the material for any non @-@ profit purpose , as long as credit is provided and the resulting work is released under a similar license .

" Discipline " reached number six and number 24 on Billboard 's Hot Modern Rock Tracks and Hot Mainstream Rock Tracks charts , respectively , and failed to top any charts . The song was the band 's sixth consecutive top ten single on the Hot Modern Rock Tracks chart , but had no involvement at Top 5 . The song also charted at number nine on Billboard 's " iLike Libraries : Most Added " chart , which tracks total downloads over the iLike online service .

Pitchfork Media 's review of The Slip called the track " another solid pop song about constraint from the guy who , following Prince , brought kinky sex odes to strip @-@ mall bars . " Spin magazine 's review of the album called " Discipline " " the most conventional tune " from The Slip .

= = Track list = =

" Discipline " (Trent Reznor) ? 4 : 30

= = Chart positions = =