

= Moonshine (Bruno Mars song) =

" Moonshine " is a song recorded by American singer @-@ songwriter Bruno Mars for his second studio album Unorthodox Jukebox (2012) . It was written by Bruno Mars , Philip Lawrence , Ari Levine , Andrew Wyatt , Jeff Bhasker and Mark Ronson who also served as its producer along with the former three , under their alias , The Smeezingtons , and Bhasker . " Moonshine " is a midtempo dance @-@ pop , power pop and R & B record . In addition to be heavily influenced by quiet storm style and a " disco groove " . Development of " Moonshine " began while Mars , Ronson and Bhasker " went out one night " and drunk moonshine all night long . When they returned to the studio they started jamming , while Mars screamed " Moonshine , take us to the stars ! " .

The song was released as the second promotional single on November 19 , 2012 . It was set to be issued on contemporary hit radio as the fourth single of the album in Europe and South America , as announced by Brazilian Warner Music Group in their official website . However , it was replaced by " Gorilla " , which had already been released in the United States and Oceania at the time . Commercially , " Moonshine " charted only in South Korea , where it reached number 17 , along with the release of its parent album . It eventually charted in both Belgium charts in 2013 , peaking at number 30 on the Ultratop 50 Flanders and Ultratip Wallonia , a component of the Ultratop 50 Wallonia at number four . On the following year , it debuted in France , spending 11 weeks on the chart , Netherlands and Poland , during the month of January , peaking at number 117 , 32 and 11 , respectively .

It received generally favorable reviews from music critics , who compared its composition to the works of Michael Jackson , Prince and Madonna . Musically , the track has a " retro " vibe , which is noted on the " flanged guitar notes " , " moody chord progressions " and " cheesy flecks of synthesizer " . Its lyrics , had different interpretations with some using its denotative meaning , saying that Mars tries to escape " to ecstasy in a bottle of his favorite vice " , while others took a connotative approach by writing that " Moonshine " is about " longing for the high water mark of a relationship " , which becomes " impossible to reach " . The track was performed on the Moonshine Jungle Tour (2013 @-@ 2015) as the opening act .

= = Background and release = =

During an interview , with Rolling Stone , Mars explained the origin of " Moonshine " , by saying " We all [Mars , Ronson and Bhasker] went out one night , and they had actual moonshine on the menu . We drank it all night , then headed to the studio ? Jeff got on keyboards , Mark starts playing electronic drums that sound like Eighties Prince and I started screaming , ' Moonshine , take us to the stars ! ' There were a lot of nights like that " .

" Moonshine " was written by Bruno Mars , Philip Lawrence , Ari Levine , Andrew Wyatt , Jeff Bhasker and Mark Ronson . Mars , Lawrence , and Levine , Bhasker and Ronson were in charge of the production . The song was recorded by Levine , with additional engineering by Charles Moniz . The guitar was played by Wyatt and Ronson , the latter also handled the bass and other beats , while the former contributed with backing vocals along with Bhasker . The lead singer performs the keyboards on the recording . The mixing of the track was done at Larrabee Sound Studios in North Hollywood by Manny Marroquin . David Kutch mastered the track .

Upon the song lifting , Mars tweeted " Ive been jammin to this song for a while now . I hope yall can groove wit me and slide wit me but most important BOK wit me # Moonshine " . " Moonshine " was released digitally as a promotional single in the United States on November 19 , 2012 as part of the iTunes countdown through Atlantic Records . In countries outside of the US it as liberated by Warner Entertainment Group on the same date . On September 16 , 2013 a promotional CD single containing the song was made available by the former label . It was announced on the Brazilian website of Warner Music Group that the track was set to be released on contemporary hit radio as a single on October 25 , 2013 in Europe and South America , while " Gorilla " had been sent to United States and Oceania mainstream radio . Nevertheless , it was replaced by Gorilla as the fourth single .

A remix of the song , made by The Futuristics (Alex Schwartz and Joe Khajadourian) , was exclusively released as bonus track on the Target edition of the album , on December 11 , 2012 . Almost a year later , on November 5 , 2013 , the remix of the song was also included on the deluxe edition of the album , released worldwide .

= = Composition and lyrics = =

" Moonshine " has a length of three minutes and forty @-@ nine seconds . It has been described as a midtempo dance @-@ pop , power pop , and R & B song . Critics noticed being heavily influenced by quiet storm style and having a " disco groove " , as well as , having a " retro " and " slightly ? 80s @-@ informed " vibe . Mitchell Peters , while writing the Billboard cover story where Mars was featured , called " Moonshine " a " sexed @-@ up rocker " According to the sheet music published at Music Notes by Alfred Music , the recording is composed in the key of A minor with a time signature in common time , and a moderate groove of 104 beats per minute . Mars 's vocals range spans from the note of C4 to Eb5 . As the track progresses " flanged guitar notes and moody chord progressions " can be heard with " cheesy flecks of synthesizer " . The song lope is " amusing Simple Minds @-@ like " and its chorus is similar to ' Heartbeat ' by Don Johnson . A bass guitar , drums and additional beats are also part of its instrumentation .

The subject addressed in the recording lyrics has divided the critics , while Spin 's Chris Martins was " slightly disappointed " when he realized that " the song was not , in fact , an ode to bootleg liquor " , but a " longing for the high water mark of a relationship that now seems impossible to reach " , despite the fact that " Mars ? lyrics intoxicate in their own way " . On the other hand , a writer for Neon Limelight commented that the " Mars croons about escaping to ecstasy in a bottle of his favorite vice " ; using the lyrics on the first verse and the chorus , " Oh moonshine , take us to the stars tonight / Take us to that special place / That place we went the last time , the last time " , as evidence . Pop Crush 's Jessica Sager felt the lyrics subject could be " about alcohol addiction " or " a girl who feels like it " .

The recording 's composition brought attention due to its similarities to the works of Michael Jackson . Martins of Spin stated that the track finds Mars channeling " the King of Pop with a markedly more reverent aplomb " . Similarly , Neon Limelight writer , stated that " Bruno Mars channels Michael Jackson in his new single " . The writer furthered that the track was " Built on a very Off The Wall @-@ era , mid @-@ tempo disco groove " . Sam Lansky of Idolator concurred , writing that the artist is channeling " 80 's pop icon : Michael Jackson " . Nevertheless , Lansky discovered a " a little bit of Prince in there " , as well , " but Mars ? vocals sound eerily like Jacko in his prime " . The song has drawn comparisons to Daft Punk due to its " disco groove " , with Sarah Rodman from The Boston Globe calling the it " wistful " and Los Angeles Times ' Mikael Wood called it " conflict @-@ free tune " gritting with " desperation " . Mars said that the primary influence for the track was American musician Prince .

= = Critical reception = =

The song has received generally favorable reviews from critics , who couldn 't help to avoid comparisons between the track and Michael Jackson 's work . Chris Martins of Spin called the recording " ' wonderfall ' , stating that was something that " Mars might say " . He also wrote that the track was an " 80 's @-@ informed backing track " . Sam Lanksy of Idolator praised the track , saying " fortunately " the drinking during the recording sections " paid off on the song " since it " is probably our favorite effort from Mars to date " . A reviewer for Neon Limelight believed that Mars " channels Michael Jackson in his intoxicating new single " . Tina Jamias from AXS.com recommended , " Watch the turning point of an 80s movie and listen to " Moonshine " . Perfect match " . Having previously stated " The ' 80s are revisited in " Moonshine " with Mars taking on the sounds and styles of Michael Jackson and Madonna " . Jason Lipshut of Billboard wrote that " The production is so buttery that the listener can 't help but get another sugar rush " . Jessica Sager of Pop Crush opined " echoes and sparse production make this sound similar to a Phil Collins track ,

but in Mars ? song , a midtempo beat kicks it into modern gear .

In a mixed review , Metro ' Amy Dawson , while reviewing the album , commented that " Moonshine " s melodic , mid @-@ tempo disco makes a genuinely decent stab at channelling Michael Jackson " . On the other hand , Jon Caramanica of New York Times called it " melodramatic and spry " , furthering " the song feels bigger than the contours Mr. Mars can give it . It demands a yowler . It could use Adam Lambert " .

= = Chart performance = =

Following the release of Unorthodox Jukebox in 2012 , " Moonshine " debuted at number 17 on the South Korea International Download Chart , with 11 , 360 copies sold . In 2013 , the track entered in the Ultratop 50 Flanders chart , debuting at its peak position 30 . Around the same time , it also appeared on the Ultratip Wallonia , a chart that depends on both airplay and sales , peaking at number 4 . On January 4 , 2014 , it debuted at number one on the Tipparade in Netherlands . On the following week , the song entered the Dutch Top 40 and eventually it peaked at number 32 . During the month of January , it also charted on the French single charts , spending 11 weeks , peaking at number 117 in its fourth week ; and in Poland , it peaked at number 11 .

= = Track listing = =

Digital download

" Moonshine " ? 3 : 49

Promo CD single

" Moonshine " ? 3 : 49

= = Credits and personnel = =

Recording

Recorded at : Levcon Studios in Los Angeles , California

Mixed at : Larrabee Sound Studios in North Hollywood , California .

Personnel

Credits adapted from the liner notes of Unorthodox Jukebox , Atlantic Records .

= = Chart performance = =

= = Release History = =