

= Distant Lights (song) =

" Distant Lights " is a song recorded by American indie rock band Ivy . It was released as the lead single from their sixth studio album , All Hours (2011) . It was issued in the United States on June 7 , 2011 as a digital download by Nettwerk . The single was written and produced by Adam Schlesinger and Andy Chase .

After its release , " Distant Lights " received generally favorable reviews from music critics , who complemented the track for being " completely different " when compared to Ivy 's previous material . However , one reviewer found the track to be " boring " and " outdated " . The track was made available as a free download for a short amount of time in support of the release of All Hours .

= = Background = =

After the release of In the Clear (2005) , Ivy embarked on an extended hiatus to focus their time on their children and solo careers . Member Adam Schlesinger was busy with his side project Fountains of Wayne , while Andy Chase was working on a new band named Brookville . In 2008 , they worked on a new record , even completing most of the project . However , after listening to the completed material , they found it to be " awful " ; Chase stated that " it was the first time [they] doubted whether [they] even had another Ivy album left in [them] . "

Afraid that Ivy would become " unrecognizable " and " boring " , Durand stated that " [she] really can 't stand when [she sees] musicians , great songwriters , and after having kids they become so boring , [she talks] about that all day . [She doesn 't] need to talk about that in [her] songs , " concluding that she needed " escape " . Durand was determined to create " the best album yet " and set up dates and recording sessions with Chase and Schlesinger to work on what would become All Hours . The new album explores new genres for Ivy , including EDM and electronic music , something Chase stated " seem [ed] natural and ma [de] sense . "

= = Composition and release = =

" Distant Lights " was written and produced by Adam Schlesinger and Andy Chase . According to Nettwerk , the single " is a slow @-@ building , hypnotic and danceable track " , yet managing to sound like Ivy . In a review by Lauren Stern of Pop Break , she called the single " completely different " compared to Ivy 's previous material . In an interview with Jody Rosen of Rolling Stone , Durand stated that " ' Distant Lights ' is , in a sense , the most important song on All Hours . It 's the song that created and led to the direction of this record " ; in the same interview , Rosen claimed that the track had a " sleek beat " and " wistful melody " that served as the background for Durand 's vocals that come off " halfway between a coo and a sigh " .

The single was released on June 7 , 2011 through the iTunes Store , where it came with B @-@ side single " Lost in the Sun " . It became Ivy 's first single release since 2005 recording " Thinking About You " . In September of the same year , Nettwerk made the single temporarily available as a free download to promote All Hours . A remix EP was released on January 20 , 2012 in the United States and France and featured the original composition , a Douze remix , and a Douze dub version of the single .

= = Critical reception = =

" Distant Lights " received generally favorable reviews from contemporary music critics . Jody Rosen of Rolling Stone praised the single for being " seductive " , while Frank Mojica of Consequence of Sound called the " essential " track the " perfect choice for a lead single , " further stating that " ' Distant Lights ' is the most danceable work from Ivy yet " . John Bergstrom , writing for PopMatters , was impressed by the single , stating that " it sounds deceptively effortless " . Kaitlyn Henaghan of Buzz Weekly found it to be " the obvious choice for a single , as it is extraordinarily catchy with a great , upbeat melody " . Dorian S. Ham , writing for The Agit Reader , had mixed

feelings towards the single , calling it " slightly worrying " and panning the " clubby beat " as being foreign to Ivy 's catalog . Shawn Connelly of SecretSoundShop found the track " boring " and " outdated " .

= = Track listings and formats = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits and personnel adapted from All Hours liner notes and Ivy 's AllMusic discography .
Personnel

= = Release history = =