

= I Stay in Love =

" I Stay in Love " is a song by American singer and songwriter Mariah Carey from her eleventh studio album , *E = MC ²* (2008) . It was written and produced by Carey and Bryan @-@ Michael Cox , with additional songwriting from Adonis Shropshire and Kendrick Dean . It was released by Island Def Jam on October 28 , 2008 , as the fourth single from the album .

= = Background and composition = =

" I Stay in Love " was written and produced by Mariah Carey and Bryan @-@ Michael Cox , with additional songwriting from Adonis Shropshire and Kendrick Dean , for Carey 's eleventh studio album , *E = MC ²* (2008) . Carey produced the track for Maroon Entertainment and by Cox for Blabby Inc . Copyright is held by Rye Songs which is administered by Songs of Universal (BMI) / W.B.M. Music Corp. O / D / O itself and Songs in the key of B Flat / Noontime South / EMI Foray Music O / B / O itself and Phoenix Ave . Publishing / Christian Combs Publishing (SESAC) . The song was recorded by Brian Garten at Stone Groove Studios in New York , and mixed by Phil Tan for Riotproof Productions , Inc . All instrumentation was performed by Cox , while Carey sung all the lead and background vocals . In an interview with Ed Lover for the radio station Power 105 in New York City , Carey revealed that the song was one of her favorites from the album and that she recorded her vocals within a day . Following the commercial underperformance of the album 's third single , " I 'll Be Lovin ' U Long Time " , " I Stay in Love " was released as the fourth single from *E = MC ²* . In the United States , it was serviced to mainstream , rhythmic and urban radio stations on October 28 , 2008 . A four @-@ track EP consisting of remixes by Jody den Broeder and Ralphie Rosario was released in the United States on December 16 , 2008 .

" I Stay in Love " is a " beat @-@ driven " and " piano @-@ laced " ballad , that is influenced by pop and R & B music genres . The song 's instrumentation is derived from a piano melody , and is backed by a strong computerized drum @-@ beat . It is composed in the key of D ? major , with Carey 's vocals spanning from the low note of D ? 3 to the high note of G ? 5 . The song moves at a slow tempo of 65 beats per minute in cut time , and it follows a chord progression of D ? ? B ? m7 ? G ? ? A ? . The song features a " double voice " effect during its final chorus , where Carey 's normal singing tone throughout the rest of the song is combined with her raised pitch . She raises the pitch one octave , and layers it over her normal tone . Lyrically , the song finds Carey getting " her cry on with the connect @-@ the @-@ dots break @-@ up track . " She describes the old time she shared with her lover . She also admits that even though they did attempt to save their relationship , and that she knows that it is definitely over , she still " stays in love with him " .

On the United States ' Billboard Dance Club Songs chart , " I Stay in Love " became Carey 's fourteenth number @-@ one song on February 14 , 2009 . The track peaked at thirty @-@ seven on the Rhythmic chart , number eighty @-@ one on the Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Songs chart , and number ninety @-@ five on the Pop 100 chart . The track reached number ninety @-@ five on the UK Singles Chart .

= = Reception = =

= = = Critical reception = = =

" I Stay in Love " garnered generally positive reviews from music critics . Many complimented the song 's piano @-@ driven melody , as well as Carey 's vocals , while some felt it was too similar to her previous single , " We Belong Together " (2005) . In his review of *E = MC ²* , Kevin O 'Hare of The Republican wrote that Carey " shines " on the song , while Fox News ' Roger Friedman described it as " a killer ballad . " People 's Chuck Arnold named it the best ballad on the album , calling it " pretty " . The Houston Chronicle 's writer Joey Guerra described the single as a " gently grooving ballad that Janet Jackson should be recording instead of wasting her time on tired sex

clichés " , while commenting , " It 's doubtful , however , that Jackson could reach the notes Carey effortlessly hits at the end of the song " . Richard Cromelin from the Los Angeles Times highlighted Carey 's raw form of singing on the track , writing , " its unadorned , and her voice is almost leathery in the lower notes . It 's not flattering , but it rings true emotionally . " Nick Levine of Digital Spy called " I Stay in Love " a " fairly modern Mariah track " and that although he believed it was a " retread " of one of Carey 's previous singles " We Belong Together " (2005) , it is not an " unpleasant retread " .

Michael Slezak from Entertainment Weekly wrote that the song is " a slower , less addictive variation " of " We Belong Together " . Newsday critic , Glenn Gamboa , also called it a " We Belong Together @-@ sh ballad " . In separate reviews of the song , both David Balls and Nick Levine of Digital Spy also compared the song to Carey 's " We Belong Together " ; the former rated " I Stay in Love " three out of five stars , and wrote , " It may not be the most original of songs , but Carey 's emotion @-@ packed vocals make this a pleasant treat after some vacuous recent offerings . " Freedom De Luc from The Washington Post described the song as an " emotive ballad " , while Nekesa Mumbi Moody from Foster 's Daily Democrat noted " it could have been recorded in her early ' 90s heyday ? except it 's not as saccharine as some of her early work " . However , Evan Sawdey of PopMatters described it as one of the album 's " worst songs " .

= = Music video play = =

= = = Background = = =

Directed by Carey 's husband Nick Cannon , the music video for " I Stay in Love " was filmed in Las Vegas , Nevada , using a story line that Cannon and Carey co @-@ wrote . Carey filmed the video on October 5 , at The Bank Nightclub of The Bellagio Hotel and Casino Resort , and in the Mojave Desert on October 6 , 2008 . In an interview with Ryan Seacrest , Cannon spoke about the video and said that there is a scene where Carey is in bed with a man (played by Andrew Karelis) , and that " Mariah plays the showgirl and there 's a guy who cheated and there 's flashbacks " . The music video for " I Stay In Love " was featured on BET 's Access Granted for a behind @-@ the @-@ scenes look and a world premiere on October 27 , 2008 . The entire video was shown every hour on BET until October 28 , 2008 . " I Stay in Love " music video peaked at # 16 on Billboard 's Hot Videoclip Tracks chart .

= = = Synopsis = = =

The video , black @-@ and @-@ white , begins with Carey parking her antique automobile in desert . She gets out , with customized black boots with an ' M ' on them , and as , she walks towards the camera , the vehicle explodes . As the music begins and the scene shifts to another where Carey applying her eye make @-@ up and earrings . As a form of product placement , her fragrance is shown on a dresser in her Boudoir . As Carey finishes getting ready , scenery of Las Vegas is shown , before shifting to Carey , now dressed as a Vegas performer . As she walks down a runway dressed in white garments ad feathers , she catches the attention of a man . He turns out to be Carey 's ex @-@ lover , who in turn came to the show to meet with one of Carey 's fellow dancers . As he caresses the female in the dressing room , Carey sees them , and walks by them , bumping into him purposely . Additional scenes are shown of Carey laying alone on the dark runway , apparently after the show has finished , as well as preparing herself for the show . During the second verse , the video then shows Carey driving down a highway in the desert , and as she drives , past memories of the pair are shown , holding each other intimately in a bed . She then pushes old gifts he had given her into the passengers seat , and pulls over the car , continuing the scene from the beginning of the video . After the car explodes , Carey tears off her necklace in despair , and begins to flail her arms in desperation . The video ends with Carey back at the show in Vegas during the finale , as glitter drops from the top of the stage . Carey , now back in the desert , looks for

another ride , and gets into a black Cadillac Escalade driven by Nick Cannon .

= = = Reception and Luscious Pink commercial = = =

Nick Levine from Digital Spy complimented the video , commenting that it managed " to be both ridiculous and a little bit moving - quite an achievement . " Entertainment Weekly writer Michael Slezak described Carey 's boots as " hot " , and considered the cinematography of the music video " gorgeous " . He also complimented several aspects of the video , saying , " Mariah ? s bod looks totally smokin ? , even if her entire wardrobe should be donated to a charity benefiting teenage strumpets and / or truck @-@ stop hookers . Also : That Wentworth Miller 2 @.@ 0 ain ? t hard on the eyes , either (in reference to the man who played her love interest in " We Belong Together ") .

The commercial for Carey 's Luscious Pink fragrance uses part of the " I Stay in Love " music video , with a clip of the song used as audio . The short clip shows Carey getting ready for the Vegas show , by applying her make @-@ up and lipstick , and also applying the fragrance on her neck and cleavage . The release published on Carey 's official website described the concept of the commercial as " a combination of Mariah 's two passions - music and fragrance . "

= = Live performances = =

Due to promotion for E = MC ² and the single , Carey was featured as a guest judge and musical act on the fifth series of the popular British talent competition , The X Factor . During that week , all the contestants would have to sing songs from Carey 's catalog . Prior to her arrival , one of the show 's judges Dannii Minogue said " Could it get any more nerve @-@ wracking for the contestants ? " , due to the general strenuous nature of Carey 's songs . Before any of the performances by the finalists , Carey performed " I Stay in Love " , accompanied by three background vocalists . She received a standing ovation from the audience and judges , and continued backstage for a taped session with the contestants . At the end of the program , she performed her classic " Hero " (1993) , and was eventually joined by the finalists for the finale of the song . " Hero " was re @-@ recorded by the 2008 UK X Factor finalists and released as a single , becoming the second best @-@ selling single of 2008 in the United Kingdom . According to reports , the episode gained a large increase in viewers due to Carey 's presence , and was able to surpass its long @-@ time rival program , Strictly Come Dancing , in the ratings . Carey also made an appearance at the American Music Awards of 2008 on November 23 , at the Nokia Theatre . Wearing a long black gown , she performed the song after receiving an honorary award for her achievements in music . Chris Harris from MTV News described it as a " riveting performance " .

= = Formats = =

Remix EP

" I Stay In Love " (Jody den Broeger Radio Edit) ? 4 : 08

" I Stay In Love " (Ralph Rosario Melodic Radio Edit) ? 3 : 50

" I Stay In Love " (Jody Den Broeder House Mix) ? 8 : 29

" I Stay In Love " (Ralph Rosario Big Vocal) ? 8 : 12

= = Charts = =