

= Best Mistake =

" Best Mistake " is a song by American recording artist Ariana Grande that features American hip hop recording artist Big Sean . The song served as a promotional single from Grande 's second studio album , My Everything (2014) , and was released at midnight on August 12 , 2014 . Written by Denisia " Blu June " Andrews , Brittany Coney , Grande , Big Sean , and produced by Key Wane , the song is a ballad with piano , string , and drum machine instrumentation that lyrically deals with a couple trying to decide on what their future , troubled relationship is going to be like . Grande has claimed it is her favorite track off My Everything .

" Best Mistake " has earned positive reviews from critics , who have praised the song 's production and Grande 's talent . However , response to Big Sean 's verse on the track has been mixed . It peaked on the US Billboard Hot 100 at number 49 , and within the top 50 on other record charts in North America , Europe , and Oceania . On the US Digital Songs chart , it debuted at number six , making Grande the first act since Michael Jackson , and also the first female artist , to have three songs in the top ten on that chart the same week , with the other two songs being " Bang Bang " (with Jessie J and Nicki Minaj) and " Break Free " (featuring Zedd) . Grande and Big Sean have performed the song live , including at the iHeartRadio theater in Los Angeles .

= = Production and composition = =

" Best Mistake " was written by Denisia " Blu June " Andrews , Brittany Coney , Ariana Grande , Big Sean , Corey Jackson Carter , and with production , programming and instruments done by Key Wane . The vocals were produced by Curtis " Sauce " Wilson , with Gregg Rominiecki engineering Big Sean 's vocals . Serban Ghenea handled the mixing of the track , which was engineered by John Hanes , and finally the mix was mastered by Aya Merrill and Tom Coyne . It is a minimal hip @-@ hop piano ballad lament that utilizes instrumentation from strings and a drum machine . It is about a couple trying to " make up their minds about the future of their relationship , with deep affection buried underneath their problems . " Grande revealed that " Best Mistake " was her favorite track on My Everything : " I just think the world of [Big Sean] and I 'm obsessed with his writing on this song in particular . I 'm a huge fan of his in general but I feel like his writing on this song is so , so fantastic , it like strikes a chord in my heart . I love it so much . "

= = Release and commercial performance = =

Grande first confirmed the title of " Best Mistake " on June 28 , 2014 , the same day that she confirmed the name of her second studio album , My Everything . On July 8 , 2014 , Grande released a 15 @-@ second snippet of " Best Mistake " onto her Instagram profile . The song finally came out on August 12 , and the release added more speculation to the relationship rumors between Grande and Big Sean .

In the United States , shortly after its release , the song reached number two on the weekly Billboard Twitter Real @-@ Time chart and topped the iTunes singles chart . It sold 104 @,@ 000 units in its first week , landing at number six on the Digital Songs chart . This made Grande the first female to have three songs in the top ten on that chart , the other two being " Bang Bang " and " Break Free . " The last artist to do this was Michael Jackson , shortly after his death , on the issue dated July 18 , 2009 . The sales of " Best Mistake " also helped it land at number 49 on the Hot 100 . On the Canadian Hot 100 , it appeared at number 39 .

In European nations , " Best Mistake " debuted at number 49 and 10 on the Flanders Ultratop 50 and Urban chart respectively , number 29 on the Danish Tracklisten chart , 23 on the Finnish Singles Chart , 103 on the French SNEP chart , 5 on the Billboard Greek Digital chart , 67 on the Netherlands Mega Single Top 100 , 35 on the Spain PROMUSICAE chart , and number 154 on the UK Singles Chart . In Oceania , it reached number 45 and 19 on the Australian ARIA pop and urban songs chart respectively , and 29 on the Official New Zealand Music Chart . On the Japan Hot 100 , it peaked at the 74th spot .

== Critical reception ==

" Best Mistake " received acclaim from critics . Evan Sawdey , a Popmatters interview Editor , called it the second best song from My Everything , coming close to " Love Me Harder " , and Bustle writer Kadeen Griffiths called it " one of Grande 's best love songs so far . " HollywoodLife 's Caitlin Beck said it was " sure to be another hit ! " Carolyn Menyes of the Music Times applauded Grande for her calming vocals and transition into a more mature sound of music . Billboard 's Jason Lipshutz called the production " impressive " and said the song " rows stickier upon each listen " . Digital Spy writer Lewis Corner and Entertainmentwise 's Shaun Kitchener noted the song showed her R & B roots , the latter stating that it " wouldn 't have sounded out of place on Kelly Rowland 's under @-@ rated last album [Talk a Good Game] . " The Official Charts Company critic Rob Copsey felt it was " like an extension of Yours Truly , albeit moodier and more grown up . " Brennan Carley of Spin called it " classic Grande , eshcewing any of the bells and whistles that she 's fond of , instead focusing entirely on her carefully sung vocals and the quiet piano line in the song 's background . " Newsday critic Glenn Gamboa described " Best Mistake " as a " gorgeous hip @-@ hop " song that " showcases her wide @-@ ranging voice , without focusing on the upper notes too much . " Sydney Gore of The 405 called it an improvement of the two 's previous collaboration " Right There " , writing that " the singer and rapper serenade us on the grounds that sneaking around with each other was the best mistake they ever made . "

There were , however , some mixed reviews of " Best Mistake " . Idolator 's Kathy Iandoli described it as " the average looking cousin of their previous duet " Right There " " . Reviewing for Slant Magazine , Andrew Chan said it " makes the mistake of hemming her into her frail middle register , where she has a habit of delivering every word as if it were a pout . " Big Sean 's appearance on " Best Mistake " also got varied reception . Pitchfork Media 's Meaghan Garvey said his rap on the track made " a mockery of the song 's serious tone with hysterically awful lines like " How can we keep the feelings fresh / How do we Ziploc it ? " " Lipshutz found his verse " unnecessary , yet [it] has morphed into an interesting confessional now that the dating rumors are on . " Sawdey called it a " pretty outstanding verse , " with " his own voice never overpowering the sparse atmosphere , his rhymes measured and metered in a way that fits the song perfectly " , while James Shotwell of Under the Gun Review said " Grande is a treat , but I think it 's Big Sean who steals the show . "

== Live performances ==

In 2014 , Grande and Big Sean performed " Best Mistake " on the Honda Stage at the iHeartRadio Theater in Los Angeles . They also performed " Best Mistake " at A Very Grammy Christmas on November 18 , 2014 . Grande also performed the song during The Honeymoon Tour . Big Sean performed the song with her at the tour 's stop in Detroit .

== Credits and personnel ==

Credits are adapted from the liner notes of My Everything .

== Charts ==

== Sales ==