" Migrate " 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 Danja , with additional songwriting from The Clutch and the tracks featured artist , T @-@ Pain . An up @-@ tempo hip hop club track , it is about Carey 's movement on a girls ' night out , ranging from the club , the bar , the VIP lounge , the after party and the hotel . Critical response was mixed , with many critics disapproving of Carey 's decision to use Auto @-@ Tune on her vocals . " Migrate " peaked at number ninety @-@ two on the United States ' Billboard Hot 100 chart , ninety @-@ five on the Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Songs chart and sixty @-@ nine on the Pop 100 chart . Carey and T @-@ Pain performed the song on Saturday Night Live .

= = Background and composition = =

" Migrate " was written and produced by Mariah Carey and Danja , with additional songwriting from The Clutch and the tracks featured artist , T @-@ Pain , for Carey 's eleventh studio album , E = MC 2 (2008) . Carey produced the track for Maroon Entertainment and by Danja on behalf of Dan Jahandz Productions . Copyright is held by Rye Songs which is administered by Songs of Universal (BMI) / Dan Jahandz Musik (SESAC) , administered by W.B.M. Music Corp. (SESAC) / Universal @-@ Polygram International Tunes / Jahqae Joints (SESAC) / Nabbypub Music - Universal Songs - Z Songs (BMI) . The song was recorded by Brian Garten at Roc the Mic Studios in New York and at Honeysouth Studios and Circle House Studios , both in Miami . Additional recording was carried out by James " Scrappy " Stassen . It was mixed by Marcella " Ms. Lago " Araica at The Hit Factory in Miami ; she was assisted by Miguel Bustamante . Carey and MaryAnn Tatum performed backgrounds . T @-@ Pain appears courtesy of Jive Records .

" Migrate " is an up @-@ tempo hip hop club track . Lyrically , it is about the freedom and independence of a girls ' night out . It documents Carey 's whereabouts and where she migrates from and to : " from the car to the club to the bar to the VIP lounge to the after @-@ party to the hotel " and contains a reference to Patrón , a brand of Mexican tequila . As the song is about movement from one place to another , T @-@ Pain tells her to " bounce " in response . Carey displays a sense of " confident , social forwardness " on " Migrate " . Nick Levine of Digital Spy thought that Carey sounded her " most diva @-@ like " on the song , with the references to champagne being " compliments of the club " while the DJ plays her " jam " . Melodically , Carey delivers the track over a " repeating " chorus backed by a " descending echo @-@ synth " . It contains a reduced number of notes in order to further accentuate the hook . While Carey employs a " sassy " tone of voice , both her and T @-@ Pain 's vocals are processed with Auto @-@ Tune . Stephen Thomas Erlewine of AllMusic thought that the use of Auto @-@ Tune on Carey 's vocals served a " dual purpose " , and explained that while it " camouflages her slightly diminishing range " it also made her sound " modern " . Ben Ratliff of The New York Times felt that T @-@ Pain sounded more interesting than Carey despite the use of Auto @-@ Tune .

= = Critical reception = =

Sarah Rodman of The Boston Globe described " Migrate " as " a frivolous , funky , self @-@ referential jam " . The New York Sun Jayanthi Daniels thought the track sounded like something that R. Kelly would release , and continued to write that Carey " is no longer looking for a ' Dreamlover ' to come and rescue her , as she did in 1993 : In ' Migrate , ' she 's already rescued , and enjoying the after @-@ party " . He also said that the song is " much stronger " than $E = MC^2$ ' s lead single , " Touch My Body " . Writing for The Wichita Eagle , Mary Moore 's review on the song was positive , calling it as " an irresistible hip @-@ hop groove that works " . The Guardian 's Alex Macpherson labelled the track as " sinister " . Evan Sawdey of PopMatters was critical of " Migrate " , and called it " grating " and " a tepid and uninvolving attempt at a club anthem " . He continued to write that the song is void of a proper melodic structure and expressed disapproval of its use of processed vocal

filters . Sawdey concluded by writing that despite the added production from Danja and guest vocals by T @-@ Pain , " it serves as a painfully dull opener " . Similarly , J. Freedom du Lac felt that the Auto @-@ Tune " needlessly distorts [Carey 's] greatest gift " . Jim Farber of the Daily News felt that the use of processed vocals was more appropriate for " stars " who cannot sing .

= = Live performances = =

Carey was announced as a musical guest on an episode of Saturday Night Live , her fourth appearance during her career . Hosted by Jonah Hill , Carey substituted for Janet Jackson , who was scheduled to perform but had caught the flu and was unable sing . Carey performed " Migrate " , accompanied on stage by T @-@ Pain , and " Touch My Body " .

= = Charts = =