

= I 'm Not a Girl , Not Yet a Woman =

" I 'm Not a Girl , Not Yet a Woman " is a song recorded by American singer Britney Spears for her third studio album , Britney (2001) . It was written and produced by Max Martin and Rami , with additional writing from Dido . The song was released on February 18 , 2002 , by Jive Records . In the United States and Canada , the song was released as the second single from her third studio album Britney ; internationally , it served as the third . " I 'm Not a Girl , Not Yet a Woman " is a song which speaks about the angst and heartache of puberty . Spears considered the song inspirational and one of her favorite songs to perform .

" I 'm Not a Girl , Not Yet a Woman " received positive reviews from music critics . The song was considered to be Spears ' standout statement on Britney , while comparing the song to the powerful ballads written by Diane Warren . However , it won the Golden Raspberry Award for Worst Original Song . While the song did not perform well in the United States , " I 'm Not a Girl , Not Yet a Woman " reached the top ten in Australia , Germany , Ireland , Sweden and United Kingdom . An accompanying music video for the song was filmed at Antelope Canyon , Arizona and directed by Wayne Isham , being released along with Crossroads (2002) , Spears ' first movie as a protagonist . Spears performed " I 'm Not a Girl , Not Yet a Woman " as part of her Dream Within a Dream Tour , and on several TV shows .

= = Background = =

In early 2001 , Spears and her team developed a script for a movie where the singer could be the main role . " I talked to [Rhimes] and told her what I wanted the movie to be about and she elaborated on it , " Spears said . " It was my little project . When you do a movie , I think you have to be really passionate about it . I was having a lot of offers , but this is something my heart was into . " After finishing the script , the movie , which was later titled Crossroads , had the working titles of What Are Friends For and Not a Girl . " I 'm Not a Girl , Not Yet a Woman " , written by Dido , Max Martin and Rami , was originally intended to be included on the movie 's soundtrack , but after JIVE Records decided not to release a soundtrack , Spears later decided to use it on her third studio album , Britney (2001) .

= = Composition = =

The song was produced and mixed by Max Martin and Rami Yacoub . Max Martin began working on the song at Maratone Studios in Stockholm , Sweden in mid @-@ 2001 and Spears recorded in June of the same year at Battery Studios in New York City , New York . The June 20 , 2001 recording session aired on MTV Diary on September 1 , 2001 . Background vocals were provided by Martin and Jeanette Oison . Spears considered the song as one of her favorites , while praising Dido for her input into its songwriting , saying " it was truly an honor for you to be part of my album . Thanks for your input . " " I 'm Not a Girl , Not Yet a Woman " is a pop power ballad , founded on a strong piano melody , that lasts for three minutes and 49 seconds . The song is composed in the key of E ? major and is set in time signature of common time , with a moderately slow tempo of 76 beats per minute . The song 's lyrics talk about the angst and heartache that teenage girls suffer with puberty , where Spears claims , " I used to think I had the answers to everything . " " I 'm Not a Girl , Not Yet a Woman " has a basic sequence of E ? ? A ? 2 ? Fm7 ? B ? as its chord progression .

= = Reception = =

= = = Critical response = = =

" I 'm Not a Girl , Not Yet a Woman " received positive reviews from music critics . Yale Daily News

writer Catherine Halaby called it a " well @-@ executed ballad " , while observing that " it comes across as a hybrid of advice to her young female fans on how to deal with puberty , and an explanation of her girly but not childlike attitude . " Jim Farber of the Daily News while reviewing the Dream Within a Dream Tour , called the song " sugar pop dittie " , along with Spears ' previous ballad single " Don 't Let Me Be the Last to Know " . Nikki Tranker of PopMatters considered the song " Britney 's standout statement on [Britney] , [...] a power ballad that allows [the singer] to showcase her expert vocals while still adhering to the rules of safe pop . " Tranker compared the song to powerful ballads written by Diane Warren . Katie Perone of the Loyola Greyhound said the song " clearly defines the theme of the record : Britney 's growing up , and wants to do her own thing . " Despite the positive response from critics , the song won a Golden Raspberry Award for Worst Original Song in 2003 .

== Chart performance ==

" I 'm Not a Girl , Not Yet a Woman " achieved moderate commercial success . The song did not make much impact in the United States , peaking at number two on the Billboard Bubbling Under Hot 100 , but failing to reach the Billboard Hot 100 . However , the song did manage to peak at number 21 on Billboard Pop Songs , and debuted in its peak position of number two in the United Kingdom . In Australia , the song peaked at number seven , and was certified Gold by the Australian Recording Industry Association for selling over 30 @, @ 000 physical units of the single . It also peaked inside the top ten in Austria , Germany , Ireland , and Sweden .

== Music video ==

The accompanying music video for the track was directed by Wayne Isham , who wanted it to show Spears " out in nature " . The video was filmed completely on location , with none of the scenes shot on green screens . The video primarily consists of Spears , whilst wearing cowboy boots , performing the song whilst standing on the edge of a cliff , and inside a cave : despite her " trepidation " and heavy winds which " almost dropped [her] over " , she performed the scene without a safety cable . Isham praised Spears ' attitude to the filming of the scene , claiming that she " had not a blink of fear " during the shoot , Spears is sitting on top of a cliff , surrounded by cliffs . Isham also considered the music video one of his favorites , commenting that he had " nothing but positive things to say about my experience with her and what she 's doing right now " and that Spears " stepped into it with positive energy . She ended up stepping out and kicking ass , There are 3 versions of the video , Version 1 and 2 has clips from the movie " Crossroads " and Version 3 is the original version . " The music video won the award for " International Music Video of the Year Short @-@ Form " on the 2003 Japan Gold Disc Awards .

== Live performances ==

" I 'm Not a Girl , Not Yet a Woman " was performed on Spears 's Dream Within a Dream Tour . After the performance of " Boys " , Spears sat down next to a piano player and talked to the audience before moving into a performance of the song . Spears also performed the song in several television appearances , including on The Rosie O 'Donnell Show , the Late Show with David Letterman , the American Music Awards of 2002 , The Oprah Winfrey Show , and Saturday Night Live . " I 'm Not a Girl , Not Yet a Woman " was also performed on the show Wetten , dass .. ? in Germany , and on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno . A MTV special titled " Total Britney Live " included an exclusive performance of the song , along with performances of " I 'm a Slave 4 U " and " Stronger " .

== Track listings ==

= = Credits and personnel = =

Britney Spears ? lead vocals

Dido Armstrong ? songwriting

Max Martin ? songwriting , producer , mixing , background vocals

Rami Yacoub ? songwriting , producer , mixing

Jeanette Olsson ? background vocals

Esbjörn Öhrwall ? guitar , piano

Tom Coyne ? audio mastering

Source :

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications = =

= = Release history = =