

= Can 't B Good =

" Can 't B Good " is a song by American recording artist Janet Jackson , taken from her tenth studio album Discipline (2008) . The song was written and produced by D. DoRohn Gough and Ne @-@ Yo , and was released as the fourth and final single from Discipline on March 18 , 2008 . The song is a soulful , " jazzy " R & B track about Jackson 's relationship with Jermaine Dupri .

The song received mostly positive reviews from music critics , who praised it for being smooth , tender and lovely , and picked the song as one of the best tracks on Discipline , with some others comparing the song to " Human Nature " (1983) , performed by her brother Michael Jackson . Commercially , the song only managed to reach number 76 on the US Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Songs chart .

= = Background and composition = =

" Can 't B Good " was written and produced by D. DoRohn Gough and Ne @-@ Yo . It was recorded between 2007 and 2008 at SouthSide Studios , in Atlanta , Georgia . Although Jackson didn 't write the song , Jackson described " Can 't B Good " as a song reflecting her seven @-@ year relationship with songwriter / producer Jermaine Dupri , saying , " I 'd been hurt before , and I was trying to protect myself . I 'm glad I allowed myself to accept it . He 's very attentive and affectionate , a beautiful soul " .

Princess P. from MWZA described the lyrics as " standard falling @-@ in @-@ love @-@ too @-@ deep far " , with the thwack of the snare contrasting heavily with the layers of cooing vocals . Musically , the song is a midtempo " smooth and jazzy " R & B ballad , featuring thundering bass , piano , with eighties keyboard sounds and cooing harmonies . Princess P. from MWZA wrote the song resembles " Aaliyah 's " Rock the Boat " with a more " punishing " beat , Michael Jackson 's " Butterflies " (2001) and Janet Jackson 's own track " Spending Time With You " from Damita Jo (2004) .

= = Critical reception = =

" Can 't B Good " received mostly positive reviews from music critics . Andy Kellman from AllMusic picked the song as one of the album 's best tracks , highlighting that " it 's a descendent of her brother Michael 's ' Can 't Help It , ' with that gentle and affecting self @-@ examination that only a Jackson can do so well . " Chuck Taylor of Billboard magazine wrote that " ' Can 't B Good ' serves up a smooth , jazzy groove and Jackson 's soft , supple vocal , fluffed with multiple background layers that duly merit adult R & B love . " Princess P. from MWZA saw that , " The layers pile and pile so that by the bridge , the song is virtually dizzying " , calling it " extremely well @-@ produced . " The Boston Globe writer Joan Anderman perceived the song is " eerily reminiscent of ' Human Nature ' , one of brother Michael 's most elegant records . " Margeaux Watson of Entertainment Weekly agreed , calling a " tender " throwback to the same song .

Los Angeles Times ' Ann Powers called it " a waterfall of mixed emotions enfolding a sunlit morning @-@ after , " and " the most emotionally vulnerable ballad Jackson 's recorded in years . " Dan Gennoe of Yahoo ! Music wrote that the song " proves that ballads don 't have to be inane and that she doesn 't have to spell out exactly where she wants it and how to be sexy . " Glenn Gamboa from Newsday praised the track , writing that it could be one of her best songs ever . Caroline Sullivan , writing for The Guardian , simply wrote that " Can 't B Good " is completely lovely . Andy Battaglia of The A.V. Club called it a " majestic " song produced by Ne @-@ Yo . Tom Young of BBC Music called it " a potential diamond . " For Nick Levine from Digital Spy , the song was created to recall classic Jackson ballads like " Come Back to Me " (1990) and " Let 's Wait Awhile " (1987) , but failed to do so , due to its lack of melody . Chad Grischow of IGN was less favorable , calling it " cheesy late @-@ eighties ballad , featuring wafer @-@ thin breathy vocals that sounds like someone calling you to their hospital bed rather than the bedroom . "

= = Remix and chart performance = =

A remix of the song was released , featuring Jamaican rapper Red Rat , and produced by HardWork . " Can 't B Good " was the fifth most added song on Radio & Records 's Urban AC panel , where it debuted at number 40 on R & R 's Urban AC Chart for the chart week dated March 28 , 2008 . The song debuted and peaked at number 40 on the Billboard Hot Adult R & B Airplay chart the week ending April 5 , 2008 . It peaked at number 76 on the Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Songs chart .

= = Credits and personnel = =

Janet Jackson ? vocals

David DoRohn Gough - songwriter , producer

Shaffer Smith - songwriter , producer

Jermaine Dupri - vocals production

Manuel Seal - vocals production

Ian Cross - vocals production , mixing assistant

Phil Tan - mixing

John Houghkirk - engineer

Carlos Oyanedel ? assistant

Credits and personnel adapted from Discipline album liner notes .

= = Charts = =