

= Crybaby ( song ) =

" Crybaby " is a song by American singer @-@ songwriter Mariah Carey . It was released on July 20 , 2000 by Columbia Records as a double A @-@ side with " Can 't Take That Away ( Mariah 's Theme ) " . It was written by Carey and Snoop Dogg , and produced by the former and Damizza for Carey 's seventh studio album , Rainbow ( 1999 ) . It features Snoop Dogg throughout the songs bridge and is built around a sample of the 1988 song " Piece of My Love , " originally performed by Guy and written by Teddy Riley , Aaron Hall , Timmy Gatling and Gene Griffin . Throughout the song , the protagonist reveals the struggles of dealing with insomnia and thoughts of a past relationship during the night , as she spirals out of control and declares " I gotta get me some sleep . "

The song was the center of a very public controversy between Carey and her label Sony Music Entertainment , due to their lack of promotion of it as a commercial single . It , alongside its A @-@ side " Can 't Take That Away ( Mariah 's Theme ) " were not eligible to chart on the Billboard Hot 100 , due to the charts rules at the time of their release . Eventually , the song was able to attain a peak of twenty eight , Carey 's first single to miss the top twenty . The song 's music video features Carey spending a restless night in her apartment , throwing wine and cereal while trying to " get some sleep . " Snoop Dogg makes an appearance in the video through a television monitor . Carey performed the song live during her Rainbow World Tour , in support of the album and its singles .

= = Background and composition = =

" Crybaby " was recorded during the summer of 1999 in Capri , Italy . The song is composed in the key of F major and features instrumentation from the guitar and piano . Carey 's vocal range throughout the song ranges from the low note of E3 to the high note of F5 . " Crybaby " features a rap verse from Snoop Dogg , and incorporates heavy usage of background vocals . The song 's lyrics find the protagonist struggling with insomnia due to thoughts of a past lover throughout the night , not allowing her to sleep . According to Carey , the song also has a more personal message , relating to the difficulty of getting rest with such a work @-@ filled schedule . She claimed that through writing , recording and producing her music , as well as all the promotional appearances , it became increasingly difficult for her to unwind and sleep at night . At one point in the song , Carey sings " I gotta get me some sleep , " before finishing the final chorus .

= = Controversy = =

As with Butterfly two years prior , Rainbow became the center of a conflict in between Carey and her label . After Carey 's divorce with Sony record official and Columbia CEO Tommy Mottola , the working relationship with Carey and her label deteriorated . After the first two singles from Rainbow were released , Carey was gearing up for a third single to be released . She intended for " Can 't Take That Away ( Mariah 's Theme ) " to be the next single , as it held very personal lyrical content . However , after getting wind of her plan , Sony made it clear that the album needed a more up @-@ beat and urban track to warm airwaves . These different opinions led to a very public feud in between them , as Carey began posting messages on her webpage during early and mid @-@ 2000 , telling fans inside information on the scandal , as well as instructing them to request " Can 't Take That Away ( Mariah 's Theme ) " on radio stations . One of the messages Carey left on her page read :

" Basically , a lot of you know the political situation in my professional career is not positive . It 's been really , really hard . I don 't even know if this message is going to get to you because I don 't know if they want you to hear this . I 'm getting a lot of negative feedback from certain corporate people . But I am not willing to give up . "

Carey 's actions were given mixed reception , with critics and executives both commending her bold actions towards a song she felt needed to be heard , while others criticized her for publicizing the scandal further . Soon after , Sony involved themselves further , stripping Carey 's webpage of any messages and began trying to reach an agreement with her . Fearing to lose their label 's highest

seller , and the best @-@ selling artist of the decade , Sony chose to release the song as a double A @-@ side with " Crybaby " . Carey , initially content with the agreement , soon found out that the song had only been allowed a very limited and low @-@ promotion release , not allowing the song to chart on the official US chart , and making international charting extremely difficult and unlikely .

= = Reception = =

= = = Critical reception = = =

Critical reviews for " Crybaby " were generally positive . Danyel Smith from Entertainment Weekly called the song " sexy " and wrote " the rapper 's words tumble like dice across her velvety vocals . " Editor from Rolling Stone , Arion Berger , also complimented " Crybaby , " especially the way Snoop Dogg 's verses blended with Carey 's vocals . Berger called his rap verses " fittingly careless . " Robert Christgau , an editor from The Village Voice , commented that the song was " not real R & B thrush , " but wrote " its good enough to fake it . " While reviewing Rainbow , Dara Cook from MTV wrote that " Mariah amazes , " on the song also calling the collaboration " Snoop Dogg enhanced . " Cook wrote further " Perhaps culled from remnant Derek Jeter @-@ directed rage , a frenzied and fed @-@ up Mariah aggravates herself into a soulful , improvisational tizzy . "

= = = Commercial performance = = =

" Crybaby " was released as the third single from Rainbow in 2000 , as a double A @-@ side with " Can 't Take That Away ( Mariah 's Theme ) " . " Can 't Take That Away " was emphasized at Top 40 Mainstream radio stations and " Crybaby " at mainstream urban stations . It was intended that the former would chart on the US Billboard Hot 100 and the latter would focus on the R & B charts . The songs had very limited airplay , and because Billboard magazine rules at that time stipulated that the song from a double A @-@ side with the most airplay ( in this case , " Crybaby " ) would be credited only , " Crybaby " was eligible to chart . Double A @-@ sided singles were credited together on the charts until 1998 , when the Hot 100 changed from a " singles " chart to a " songs " chart , and consequently every song was credited individually . " Crybaby " did not appear on the Billboard Hot 100 Airplay chart . It debuted on the Hot 100 at number 28 only after its release as a commercial single , but its minimal airplay prevented it from ascending the Hot 100 . It remained in the top forty for two weeks and on the chart for just seven weeks , becoming Carey 's first single to miss the US top twenty .

= = Music video = =

The song 's music video was directed by Sanaa Hamri , who also directed the video for " Can 't Take That Away ( Mariah 's Theme ) " . Both videos were shot back to back , and were released simultaneously to music programs and channels for immediate circulation . The video begins with Carey lying in her bed , as she receives a text message from Snoop Dogg reading " Yo what 's happening ? What you crying for ? Now you know you look 2 damn good 2 be crying ... Come here ... Holla at a playa DPG style ... Ya know , " to which Carey responds " I can 't sleep . " As the video progresses as the lyrics continue , it appears to be 5 AM , and Carey is still unable to sleep . She lies in bed with the lamp on , pondering on thoughts of a past lover until she takes a bath . Afterwards , she makes her way to the kitchen , and begins pouring an abundant amount of cereal and milk into a bowl , spilling it over the counter in a restless rage . As the scene finishes , Snoop 's face is seen on a small monitor , directing his verse to Carey in the video . As the last chorus plays , Carey becomes restless and tosses a champagne glass and bottle at a large window , shattering it and sending glass around the living room . The video ends with Carey lying down on the couch one more , attempting to sleep once more .

= = Live performances = =

Carey performed " Crybaby " live during every show on the Rainbow World Tour . For the song 's performances , the stage was set with a large bed , pillows and comforters , as well as a small desk and homely props . Carey , dressed in pajamas , sang while re @-@ enacting segments of the video . During her performance at Madison Square Garden on April 11 , 2000 , she threw the audience small stuffed bears and completed the song while lying in the bed on stage . After the song 's bridge , Snoop 's pre @-@ recorded verse was played over the background vocals . The song was also performed on select nights of The Elusive Chanteuse Show tour in 2014 .

= = Track listing and formats = =

US CD Single

" Crybaby " ( Radio Edit ) ? 4 : 31

" Crybaby " ( Album Version ) ? 5 : 19

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits adapted from the Rainbow liner notes .

= = Charts = =