

= Candyman (Christina Aguilera song) =

" Candyman " is a song recorded by American singer Christina Aguilera for the second disc of her fifth studio album , Back to Basics (2006) . The song was written by Aguilera and Linda Perry and was produced by the latter . " Candyman " was planned to be released as the second single from Back to Basics ; however , RCA Records decided to release " Hurt " instead . Subsequently , the track was released in February 2007 as the third single from the album . " Candyman " is described as a pop song that imitates swing styles with lyrics about sexual intercourse .

" Candyman " received generally positive reviews from music critics , most of whom praised the song 's musical style and deemed it one of the best tracks on the second disc of Back to Basics , while some criticized its sexual content . Commercially , the single peaked within the top 20 of record charts in countries including Australia , Canada , Germany , New Zealand , and the United Kingdom . In the United States , it peaked at number 25 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart and was certified gold by the Recording Industry Association of America . As of September 2014 , the song had sold over 1 @. @ 15 million copies in the United States .

A music video for the song was co @-@ directed by Matthew Rolston and Aguilera herself . The video received an MTV Video Music Award nomination for Best Direction at the 2007 award ceremony . The single achieved a Grammy Award nomination for Best Female Pop Vocal Performance at the 2008 ceremony . The song was included on the setlist of Aguilera 's Back to Basics Tour (2006 ? 08) and has been covered by Alexandra Burke and the Glee cast .

Due to popularity of this song in Italy , the song was chosen by the Lega Calcio as a theme soundtrack for the Serie A and Serie B 2007 ? 08 season .

= = Recording and release = =

" Candyman " was written by Christina Aguilera and Linda Perry , with production handled by the latter . Perry also played the piano , mellotron , bass , and served as the musical director . Jim McMillen played the trombone , while Ray Herrmann and Glen Berger performed the saxophone , and Chris Tedesco played the trumpet . The drums were played by Nathan Wetherington . According to Aguilera and Perry , the song was a tribute to The Andrews Sisters ' 1941 hit " Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy " .

" Candyman " was planned to be released as the second single from Back to Basics in late 2006 . During an interview with Seventeen in July 2006 , Aguilera again stated that " Candyman " would be released as the follow @-@ up single to " Ain 't No Other Man " . However , RCA Records chose " Hurt " to be released as the second single off the album ; therefore , " Candyman " was released as the third . The song was sent to contemporary hit radio stations in the United States on February 27 , 2007 . In Germany , the single was released for digital download on April 6 , 2007 . One day later , " Candyman " was released as a CD single in France and Germany . On April 10 , the song was available as a CD in the United States . A digital EP was released via iTunes Stores in European countries consisting of Belgium , France , Germany , Spain , and Sweden . On the same day , the digital version of " Candyman " was released in France . It was also available as a maxi single there on September 1 , 2007 . In the United States , a remix EP was released digitally on May 1 , 2007 .

= = Composition = =

" Candyman " is a pop song ; Stylus Magazine 's Thomas Inskeep opined that it imitated swing music , while Joan Anderman from The Boston Globe commented that Perry and Aguilera attempted to modernize early 20th century pop and blues " only to end up imitating the Andrews Sisters , " and Slant Magazine 's Sal Cinquemani characterized the song as standard jazz and blues . " Candyman " is composed on the key of E major . The song has a moderate tempo of 86 beats per minute . Aguilera 's vocals on the song span two octaves from the low @-@ note of G3 to the high @-@ note of G5 . The song opens and concludes with the lyrics , " Tarzan and Jane were swingin ' on a vine / Sippin ' from a bottle of vodka double @-@ wine " , which was credited as a sample used from "

Tarzan & Jane Swingin ' on a Vine " from Run To Cadence With U.S. Marines . Lyrically , " Candyman " talks about sexual intercourse ; Jenny Eliscu for Rolling Stone quoted the lyrics " He 's a one @-@ stop shop / Makes the panties drop " and deemed it " nasty . " Sputnikmusic 's Amanda Murray described its lyrics as " dumb and cheekily vulgar . "

= = Critical reception = =

" Candyman " received mainly positive reviews from music critics . Billboard called the single " raunchy " and praised Aguilera 's vocals , saying that " few popular vocalists could pull off such a laudable feat . " Sputnikmusic 's Amanda Murray deemed the song as " fun " and reminiscent of the Spice Girls ' " The Lady Is a Vamp " from Spiceworld (1997) . Sean Daly from Tampa Bay Times complimented Aguilera 's vocals and its " X @-@ rated lyrics . " Pittsburgh Post @-@ Gazette 's Scott Mervis labelled it " the swingiest single since Brian Setzer jumped , jived and wailed , " while Yahoo ! Music critic Dan Gennoe called " Candyman " " a good @-@ time 1940s big band romp , " and Leah Greenblatt from Entertainment Weekly cited it as one of the few " pop @-@ song highs " in Aguilera 's career .

AllMusic 's Stephen Thomas Erlewine selected " Candyman " as one of the two outstanding songs on the second disc of Back to Basics , alongside " Mercy on Me " . Lucy Davis for BBC Music was negative towards the song , writing that it " successfully turns the volume and intensity down from 11 to somewhere like 5 . " Jenny Eliscu from Rolling Stone criticized " Candyman " as " a dead rip @-@ off " of the Andrews Sisters ' " Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy . " A reviewer from The Guardian disapproved of the " awful creation " and wrote that " the jollier she sounds , the more terrifying it becomes . " " Candyman " received a Grammy Award nomination for Best Female Pop Vocal Performance at the 2008 Grammy Awards .

= = Chart performance = =

In the United States , " Candyman " debuted at number 99 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart on January 20 , 2007 . It peaked at number 25 on the chart , becoming Aguilera 's fourteenth top 40 single on the Hot 100 . On the Pop Songs chart , the single peaked at number 23 and remained there for a total of seven weeks . " Candyman " also peaked at number 18 on the Hot Dance Club Songs chart and stayed there ten weeks . It has been certified gold by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) for shipping more than 500 @,@ 000 copies in the United States . As of August 2014 , " Candyman " had sold 1 @,@ 153 @,@ 000 copies in the United States alone , as reported by Nielsen SoundScan . In Canada , the single peaked at number nine on the Canadian Hot 100 and was certified gold .

In the United Kingdom , " Candyman " peaked at number 17 on the UK Singles Chart and remained within the top 75 for 20 weeks . Throughout Europe , the single attained the top 25 of most countries , peaking at number 11 in Belgium (Flanders) and Switzerland ; number 12 in Denmark , Germany , Ireland and the Netherlands ; number 13 in Belgium (Wallonia) ; number 14 in Austria ; and number 24 in Sweden . On the European Hot 100 Singles , " Candyman " peaked at number 15 on the chart . In Denmark , the single achieved gold certification by IFPI Denmark . " Candyman " was a commercial hit in Oceania . The single peaked at number two in both Australia and New Zealand . In Australia , the song remained in the top ten for 15 weeks and earned platinum certification by the Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) . In New Zealand , the single also achieved gold certification by the Recording Industry Association of New Zealand (RIANZ) .

= = Music video = =

The music video for " Candyman " was filmed on January 28 , 2007 , in an airport hangar in Southern California . It was directed by Matthew Rolston and co @-@ directed by Aguilera . The video is based on the 1940s World War II theme . In most of the music video , she dances and sings in three different hair colors : red , blonde and brown , as if she were in a singing trio , a tribute to

The Andrews Sisters . In other shots she appears as the famous biceps @-@ flexing factory worker from Westinghouse 's " We Can Do It ! " poster and as pin @-@ up girls Judy Garland , Betty Grable and Rita Hayworth . The video also features product placement for Campari . Benji Schwimmer , 2006 winner of the American dancing competition So You Think You Can Dance , makes a cameo appearance as Aguilera 's GI dance partner . Benji 's sister Lacey Schwimmer also appears in the video as a jitterbugger . Aguilera asked Rolston to co @-@ direct the video with her after he worked with her for a photo shoot for the cover of Rolling Stone . Shooting the sequences of Aguilera as a singing trio took the longest since they had to be shot for each hair color and camera angle , which was computer @-@ controlled for precision . Choreography was carefully arranged so that none of the versions overlapped and the takes could be spliced together . The clip 's color scheme is based on Technicolor films , focusing on primary colors and bright secondary colors .

Sal Cinquemani for Slant Magazine praised it as the best video for a song from Back to Basics . John Montgomery for MTV News commented on Aguilera 's " bad girl " image , writing " though Aguilera 's mostly going for glam here , she 's also plenty bad , too , swinging her way into some servicemen 's heart , coyly sipping on a milkshake and shaking it so hard your even your grandpa had to notice . " The video brought Aguilera and Rolston an MTV Video Music Award nomination for Best Direction at the 2007 MTV Video Music Awards , but lost to Justin Timberlake 's " What Goes Around ... Comes Around " .

= = Live performances and covers = =

Aguilera first performed " Candyman " during a concert held in front of 1 @, @ 500 fans and invited guests in London on July 20 , 2006 . The 40 @-@ minute concert comprised songs from the then @-@ upcoming Back to Basics and other songs , including " Lady Marmalade " (2001) and " Beautiful " (2002) . MTV UK wrote , " The gig reflected the jazz club mood of Christina 's new album , with a swinging brass @-@ heavy backing band and fit dancers bounding sexily around the stage " . On September 8 , 2006 , Aguilera performed " Candyman " at Fashion Rocks in a white sailor suit with cap . The performance included photos of jazz standard artists that appeared on the backdrop . She also performed " Candyman " on Dick Clark 's New Year 's Rockin ' Eve on December 31 , 2006 , and at the halftime show of the 2007 NBA All @-@ Star Game . The song was included on the setlist of Aguilera 's worldwide Back to Basics Tour . The recording of the performance was included on the video release Back to Basics : Live and Down Under (2008) . Aguilera performed " Candyman " again on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno in 2013 in military @-@ styled suits in efforts to honor the US troops .

The song was covered by Alexandra Burke during the third week of the live show round of the fifth season of British television singing contest The X Factor . It was also performed by Amber Riley (Mercedes Jones) , Naya Rivera (Santana Lopez) and Heather Morris (Brittany Pierce) in " Pot o ' Gold , " an episode on the third season of the American TV series Glee . The version was well received by critics , some of whom deemed it as the best song of the episode . The Glee version peaked at number 158 on the UK Singles Chart on November 12 , 2011 .

= = Credits and personnel = =

Sampling credits

Contains a sample from " Tarzan & Jane Swingin ' on a Vine " from Run To Cadence With U.S. Marines .

Personnel

Credits are adapted from the liner notes of Back to Basics .

= = Track listing and formats = =

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications = =

= = Release history = =