

= Never Say Never ( Justin Bieber song ) =

" Never Say Never " is a song by Canadian recording artist Justin Bieber . The song is used as the theme song for The Karate Kid , and features rap interludes from the film 's star , Jaden Smith . It was originally a risque demo with sexual lyrics performed by American singer Travis Garland , it was written and produced by The Messengers , and Omarr Rambert . However , for unknown reasons , Bieber was tapped to record the song for the film . He re @-@ wrote the song with The Messengers , Rambert , Smith , and his vocal producer Kuk Harrell , to feature inspirational lyrics to foil the film 's theme . The song contains R & B and pop elements while merging hip @-@ hop .

The song was released for digital download in the United States on June 8 , 2010 . The song was later included as an acoustic track on the remix album My Worlds Acoustic ( 2010 ) and both the acoustic and single versions were on the compilation album My Worlds : The Collection ( 2010 ) . To promote Bieber 's 3D concert film of the same name , the song was released as the lead single and the only single from Bieber 's second remix album , Never Say Never : The Remixes .

" Never Say Never " peaked within the top twenty in Canada , Norway , and New Zealand , while reaching the top forty in Australia , as well as charting in other international markets . After it was re @-@ released as the lead single and the only single from ? The Remixes , promoting his film , the single peaked at number eight on the Billboard Hot 100 , becoming Bieber 's second top @-@ ten single in the United States . Its accompanying music video , directed by Honey , features Smith and Bieber in a recording studio playing around and dancing , and is intercut with scenes from the film . He has notably performed the song on Today and on his My World Tour . Smith joined Bieber during the tour 's stop at Madison Square Garden to perform the song for scenes in Justin Bieber : Never Say Never .

= = Background = =

A demo of the song , " Sexy Together " was originally recorded by Mike Chilton and Travis Garland ( with Mike 's close friend Chuck singing backup ) . Reportedly the song was re @-@ written by its original writers Adam Messinger , Nasri , Omarr Rambert , and his vocal producer Kuk Harrell , while Smith added lines . Carina Adly MacKenzie of Zap2it preferred Bieber and Smith 's version , commenting , " No wonder Bieb skipped this version -- it 's a total snoozer . You 'd think that a song about sex would be more interesting than a song about little kids doing karate ... but no . " Bieber hinted at the collaboration by posting a promo photo of himself and Smith on his Twitter , and also posting that a video of his would premiere before " Somebody to Love , " the second single from his studio album debut , My World 2 @.@ 0 . The song was confirmed when the track listing for the soundtrack was revealed . It was released on iTunes in the United States on June 8 , 2010 .

= = Composition = =

" Never Say Never " is a pop @-@ R & B which includes hip hop . According to the sheet music published at Musicnotes.com by Sony / ATV Music Publishing , " Never Say Never " is set in common time with a metronome of 96 beats per minute , which is described as " steady , not too fast . " It is composed in the key of A minor with vocals spanning from the low @-@ note of G3 to the high @-@ note of C6 . The song follows in the chord progression of Am ? C ? G ? D Bieber provides lead vocals in the song while Smith provides the backing with rap interludes . The song is a " motivational track , " containing inspirational lyrics , such as Bieber singing about a life filled with adversity , through lines like , " I never thought that I could walk through fire / I never thought that I could take the burn / never had the strength to take it higher " . Idolator thought the song as a tween @-@ friendly version of Eminem 's " Lose Yourself . " Smith 's lines reference his father , and puns in the phrase , " raised by the power of Will " . He also makes reference to his lineage by saying " Born from two stars so the moon 's where I land . " , as he is the son of Will Smith and Jada Pinkett Smith , who are both Hollywood stars . Smith also makes references to Luke Skywalker and Kobe Bryant in his lines .

== Critical reception ==

Shima Maya of AOL Radio Blog gave the song a positive review , calling it " a burst of sexual energy " , and stating , " Even on a soundtrack featuring the likes of Lady Gaga , John Mayer and the Red Hot Chili Peppers , this single ... is sure to stand out as the film 's flagship anthem . " Toor also complimented Bieber 's " now @-@ trademark silky @-@ smooth voice . " Monica Herrera of Billboard said that Smith 's rapping skills could rival those of his former @-@ rapper father . E ! Online said " And while some might insist that " Parents Just Don 't Understand , " we think Big Willy would totally be down with Jaden 's rap . " Maria @-@ Mercedes Lara of Celebuzz said , " don 't make assumptions with the suspiciously nepotistic circumstances surrounding Jaden 's appearance on Bieber 's song : the kid is actually really good . " Lara also commented that Bieber " should be watching his back for Jaden 's rising star . " Tiger Beat said that they loved the song , and said it had a " great beat . "

== Chart performance ==

On the week ending June 17 , 2010 , the song debuted at number thirty @-@ three on the Billboard Hot 100 , propelled by its debut at number seventeen on the Hot Digital Songs chart selling 76 @,@ 000 copies . The song became Bieber 's ninth consecutive top 40 release for a regular or digital single as a lead artist . In Canada on the Canadian Hot 100 , the song debuted at eleven . The single debuted at forty @-@ five on the Australian Singles Chart , and peaked at thirty @-@ eight in its second week , while on the New Zealand Singles Chart , the song debuted and peaked at twenty . The Recording Industry Association of New Zealand ( RIANZ ) certified " Never Say Never " gold on June 5 , 2011 , denoting the sale of 7 @,@ 500 copies . On the Norwegian Singles Chart , the song debuted at eighteen , and spent one week on the chart . Debuting at seventy @-@ five on the Austrian Singles Chart , the following week it peaked at forty @-@ six on the chart . On the Dutch Single Top 100 , after spending four weeks on the chart , the song peaked at seventy . On the Tip charts in both Belgian regions , the song peaked at two and five .

== Promotion ==

The accompanying clip for the single was directed by Honey . The music video takes place in a studio , and contains a heroic concept , featuring Bieber and Smith singing the song and playing around , intercut with scenes from the film . Bieber appears in a motorcycle jacket and high tops . Studio scenes include Bieber flexing karate moves , he and Smith dancing , jerkin ' , and eating Twizzlers . The scenes also show the two shadowboxing , as footage from the film shows Smith performing an " array of fight moves . " Near the end of the clip features Bieber giving a roundhouse kick .

The actual ' film ' within the music video is directly taken from the footage of Karate Kid , which was shot entirely in Beijing and features Jackie Chan as " Mr. Han , " a mentor figure who trains Smith throughout the film . The scenes include Smith looking at the CCTV Headquarters building , a shot of the Beijing street scene , an Air China Boeing 747 @-@ 400 taking off and landing , and a training scene at the Great Wall of China . The basic storyline involves Smith 's character vying for the affection of a Chinese girl and being rebuffed by a rival suitor . Smith eventually wins a fight against his rival and wins the affection of the girl . Both Wall Street Journal Online and E ! Online noted the low @-@ production value of the clip . Kyle Anderson of MTV News commended Bieber 's latest " attention @-@ grabbing video , " and jokingly stated , " As a video that features fighting , it 's a pretty strong entry , and it joins the list of great fight @-@ centric videos below . " An Idolator writer said that they were impressed with Smith 's moves , and Bieber 's " spinning roundhouse . " A writer for Tiger Beat said , " The video is SO cute ? we love when Justin and Jaden get silly at the end ! "

Bieber performed the song on June 4 , 2010 , on the Today Show as part of a medley with " Baby "

, " Somebody to Love " , and " One Time " . The song is a part of his setlist during the My World Tour . Smith joined Bieber for the song on the August 31 , 2010 date , along with Usher , Miley Cyrus , Ludacris , and Boyz II Men , to film scenes for his upcoming 3D concert film .

To promote his remix album , My Worlds Acoustic as well as draw interest for the upcoming film , Bieber shot a music video for the song . The video premiered during Game 3 of the 2010 World Series . In the video , Bieber stands on a baseball diamond and dons apparel from both teams in the Series , wearing a San Francisco Giants hat and Texas Rangers jacket Scenes in which Bieber sings on the diamond is intercut with players hitting the ball and hanging in the dugout , as well as Bieber playing a guitar . In an interview , Bieber said that the video was inspired by his love for sports .

= = Charts and certifications = =

= = Radio and release history = =