

= Can 't Be Tamed (song) =

" Can 't Be Tamed " is a song by American recording artist Miley Cyrus for her third studio album of the same name (2010) . It was released on May 14 , 2010 by Hollywood Records as the lead single from the record . The song was written by Cyrus , Antonina Armato , Tim James , Paul Neumann , and Marek Pompetzki , while production was handled by Armato and James . A Rockangeles remix version featuring rapper Lil Jon was included as a bonus track on digital editions of the album . According to Cyrus , " Can 't Be Tamed " describes a desire to break out and experience freedom . The lyrics deal with the themes of freedom and self @-@ expression , approached by sultry lyrics .

" Can 't Be Tamed " received generally positive responses by music critics . It also garnered commercial success . The song peaked at number eight on the Billboard Hot 100 , and reached its highest peak at number five on both the Irish Singles Chart and New Zealand Singles Chart . The song 's accompanying music video was directed by Robert Hales and follows Cyrus performing with backup dancers throughout a museum . Cyrus is first trapped in a giant cage , being observed by spectators ; she then escapes and trashes the museum . She has promoted " Can 't Be Tamed " by performing it at several venues , including a performance on Britain 's Got Talent that resulted in negative reactions from the media . The song is also a part of Cyrus ' second and third world tours , Gypsy Heart Tour and Bangerz Tour .

= = Background = =

" Can 't Be Tamed " was co @-@ written by Miley , Antonina Armato , Tim James , Paul Neumann , and Marek Pompetzki and produced by Armato and James . According to Cyrus , the track 's moral is to free yourself from any biding or hindrance , in particular application to women . Cyrus said the song 's message applies to different situations . Personally to her , " it is about being a cage and people looking at you . " As for others , she believed it could describe high school , in a situation where " someone feeling they have to be one way to be with a clique and they want to be who they are . A relationship , or whatever , it is just breaking out and feeling free . " Hollywood Records described " Can 't Be Tamed " as " a self @-@ empowering song in which Miley asserts that she has to stay true to herself in relationships " .

At four meetings throughout Europe , Cyrus ' manager , Jason Morey , presented the album Can 't Be Tamed to representatives from Universal Music Group ; the representatives confirmed what Hollywood Records in the United States had already decided , that the track would be released as the lead single . " Can 't Be Tamed " premiered on April 30 , 2010 on Cyrus ' official MySpace page ; it was officially released for airplay on May 3 , 2010 and released as a digital download on May 18 , 2010 . In May 2010 , Cyrus recorded the Rockangeles remix version of " Can 't Be Tamed " with rapper Lil Jon at Rock Mafia Studios in Santa Monica , California . Lil Jon said the collaboration was " crazy " and thought audiences would enjoy the remix . Cyrus added , " He just came in and let it out . It 's pretty rockin . " They believed Lil Jon gave the remix more energy than the original version had .

= = Composition = =

" Can 't Be Tamed " is a length of two minutes and 48 seconds . The song has been described as " grown @-@ up club sound " . The song is set in compound time of 12 / 8 and has a fast tempo of 118 beats per minute . It is written in the key of B minor and Cyrus ' vocals span two octaves , from A3 to D5 . Cyrus belts her way through the choruses , while some lines in the verses feature processed vocals with the use of auto @-@ tune . It follows the chord progression B5 ? D ? A. Driven by a dark , pounding beat and the heavy use of synths , " Can 't Be Tamed " ' s instrumentation relies on drum machine .

Written solely in first person , " Can 't Be Tamed " explores the themes of freedom and self @-@ expression , approached by sultry lyrics . It puts emphasis to how she cannot be changed or molded

into being something she is not . In the verses , Cyrus addresses confidence and the attempt to discover for what she is yearning for , respectively . Choruses have Cyrus shouting the title and variations of it in a repetitive manner , against the beat of the song . Monica Herrera of Billboard interpreted the lyrics " If there was a question about my intentions , I 'll tell ya / I 'm not here to sell ya " to be an official declaration of rebellion in order to dispose herself of tween role @-@ model responsibilities . Likewise , various other critics believed " Can 't Be Tamed " spoke of her completely drawing away from the image she had developed through Hannah Montana , which first aired in March 2006 .

= = Critical reception = =

Critics typically reviewed " Can 't Be Tamed " favorably . Leah Greenblatt of Entertainment Weekly felt the song was " not bad business for stationary cardio , but not the stuff year @-@ end top tens are made of , either . " She said it didn 't offer " major sensations " and found it similar to Christina Aguilera 's " Not Myself Tonight " (2010) . Greenblatt was also disappointed with the song 's rhyming in the lines , " I 'm not here to sell ya ' / Or tell you to go to hell " . Sonya Sorich of Ledger @-@ Enquirer said that while she anticipated some negative reception , " Can 't Be Tamed " was also a prime candidate for a guilty pleasure dance track . " Heather Phares of Allmusic referred to " Can 't Be Tamed " as " stomping " and selected it as one of the album 's best . Fraser McAlpine of BBC said that though the song has strong sexual undercurrents , Cyrus maintained classy throughout the track . " If Miley 's gonna weather the Ensexification Moment it 'll be because she 's doing it during a period of extrema GaGa , when videos are less about acreage of flesh and more about feathers and Victorian scientists . Oh , and because she 's got the songs and the voice , that always helps " , McAlpine concluded .

Rob Sheffield of Rolling Stone rated the song three out of five stars and compared it to the musical styles of Rihanna . He added , " It 's no ' Party in the U.S.A. ' or ' See You Again , ' but the chorus packs plenty of electro @-@ fizz pizzazz " . Bill Lamb of About.com rated " Can 't Be Tamed " two and half out of five stars . He criticized the song for lyrics that headed into a " selfish territory " , however , believing it would have airplay success . Monica Herrera of Billboard gave " Can 't Be Tamed " a favorable review , writing , " But Cyrus knows how to proffer her sass . When she sneers , ' I 'm not a fake , it 's in my DNA , ' in pre @-@ emptive retaliation against her critics , she does it with the professionalism of a Disney @-@ groomed star . " Jarett Wieselman of The New York Post said he liked the song and that though he did not buy Cyrus ' " Party in the U.S.A. " (2009) , he feared he would not " be able to resist " buying " Can 't Be Tamed " . He said the song had a " naughty old school Britney Spears " vibe , called it " totally catchy " and predicted it would be a summer hit . Ailbhe Malone of The Irish Times wrote , " Miley ? s taken a sexy electro @-@ edge . Less " Party in the U.S.A. " , more Party With My Parents Away , we like this . A LOT . "

= = Commercial performance = =

On the week ending June 5 , 2010 , " Can 't Be Tamed " became the week 's " hot shot debut " by entering and peaking at number eight on the Billboard Hot 100 , selling 191 @,@ 000 digital downloads . The sales marked Cyrus ' second @-@ best debut sales week , following " Party in the U.S.A. " , which sold 226 @,@ 000 digital downloads in its first week in August 2009 . With the appearance on the chart , the song became her fourth top ten debut on the Billboard Hot 100 , including a song credited to her alias Hannah Montana . In the following week , the song descended ten positions to number 18 . It spent its last week on the Billboard Hot 100 on the week ending August 7 , 2010 , spending a total of ten weeks on the chart . " Can 't Be Tamed " also peaked at number 16 on Mainstream Top 40 (Pop Songs) . The song peaked at number six on the Canadian Hot 100 and spent a total of 14 weeks upon the chart . It also sold over a million copies in the US and was certified platinum by the RIAA .

The song also achieved commercial success in Australia and New Zealand . " Can 't Be Tamed " debuted at number 18 on the Australian Singles Chart on the week ending June 6 , 2010 . After six

weeks of ascending the Australian Singles Chart , the song found a new peak at number 17 . In the succeeding week , it reached its peak at number 14 and spent 11 weeks on the chart . The single was certified gold by the Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) for shipping over 35 @, @ 000 copies . On the week ending May 24 , 2010 , " Can 't Be Tamed " debuted and peaked at number five on the New Zealand Singles Chart . It spent nine weeks ascending and descending the New Zealand Singles Chart before completely dropping from the chart on the week ending July 19 , 2010 . In Japan , " Can 't Be Tamed " debuted at number 53 and peaked at number 12 . In the United Kingdom , " Can 't Be Tamed " debuted and peaked at number 13 on the week ending June 12 , 2010 . It spent eight weeks on the UK Singles Chart . The song peaked at number five on the Irish Singles Chart . In mainland Europe , " Can 't Be Tamed " maintained similar outcomes . It became Cyrus ' best @-@ charting single on the Eurochart Hot 100 Singles , peaking at number 15 in July 2010 and surpassing " Party in the U.S.A. " , which peaked at number 17 in January 2010 . It peaked at number 15 on the French Singles Chart , number 15 on the Norwegian Singles Chart , and number 14 on the Spanish Singles Chart . It also charted within the top 30 in Austria and Germany and within the top 40 of Belgium (Flanders and Wallonia) .

= = Music video = =

= = Background = = =

The music video for " Can 't Be Tamed " ' was directed by Robert Hales . The dance routines were choreographed by Jamal Sims , who also choreographed Cyrus ' " Hoedown Throwdown " . Cyrus and Sims conceived the plot for the video together and proposed it to Hales , who " envisioned it the way [they] did " . In regards to the video 's theme , Cyrus explained , " I think the video explains my life but it doesn 't exclude other people 's lives . It 's not just about how fabulous and glamorous and all this . It 's about the core of ' I don 't wanna be in a cage . I want to be free and do what I love ' " . The video was meant to transition Cyrus away from the good @-@ girl image she had developed through Hannah Montana . However , she believed her fans would be able to identify with the video 's message through their own circumstances ; for example , she believed that her desire to " stand out [rather] than fit in " was shared by teenagers hoping to break out of high school cliques . In an interview with the singer , Ryan Seacrest noted the video 's strong sexual appeal . Cyrus agreed that the video was sexy , though it was not supposed to be the premise : " The video isn 't about being sexy or who can wear the less clothes [...] It 's about explaining the song and living the lyrics . " The music video has been viewed over 100 million times on vevo .

= = Development and synopsis = = =

The music video was shot on April 10 and April 11 , 2010 at Sony Studios in Culver City , California . Over twenty female and twenty male backup dancers were used . The video casts Cyrus as an exotic songbird breaking out of its cage , symbolizing Cyrus as a singer breaking out of her good @-@ girl image . Prior to the shoot , Cyrus meticulously recorded her ideas for the video on paper . For example , she chose her back @-@ up dancers make @-@ up pallets and contemplated their outfits ; while she did not want her dancer 's bodies " to look like normal bodies " , she also did not want for them to wear scales as , according to her , it would make them resemble to be fish and look scary . Hales wanted Cyrus to resemble a bird without " actually having a beak " or otherwise being overly explicit , so Cyrus ' stylists invented bird @-@ like accessories . Among these were arm bands with long leather straps , feathered shoulder pads , and a feathered vest worn over a black leotard and thigh @-@ high black leather boots . Cyrus said she had originally worn a " completely different " outfit , but wasn 't " feeling it " the morning of the shoot . " So we made this one right there in the morning , and we added pieces throughout the day ... more leather and more feathers . I think it 's really fun and kept changing the look , " she said . Cyrus ' make @-@ up artist , Denika Bedrossian , focused on the singer 's eyes ; he used " rich jewel @-@ toned shades " and

eyelashes with feathered tips to give Cyrus a " deep peacock eye " . In cut @-@ scenes , Cyrus wears a corset made of 2 @, @ 400 silver metal pieces and numerous peacock feathers . It was designed by The Blonds , debuted during their fall 2010 fashion show , and cost \$ 25 @, @ 000 .

The video commences with formally dressed spectators entering a museum as a curator introduces " a creature so rare it was believed to be extinct . In captivity for the first time , the rarest creature on Earth , Avis Cyrus . White curtains are pulled down to reveal Cyrus , dressed in a black leotard and expansive black CGI wings , asleep in a giant bird nest locked inside a giant cage . Cyrus rises and approaches the audience , but a camera flash startles her and causes her to shield her face with her wings . The music starts , and Cyrus unveils herself again and joins a large group of feathered dancers . As Cyrus sings , she and the dancers escape the cage and prowl the museum , shattering museum exhibits as they pass them . They perform provocative dances both inside the cage and in darkened museum halls . Cut @-@ scenes feature Cyrus lying down , dressed in a silver corset attached to a bed of peacock feathers , or writhing alone in her nest in the cage . The video ends with Cyrus back in her cage and the museum empty and trashed .

= = = Reception = = =

The video premiered on May 4 , 2010 on E ! News . The video received generally positive reviews from critics . It also received numerous comparisons to videos by Britney Spears and Lady Gaga , though Cyrus said she " wanted it to be something different for a female artist " . Cristina Gibson of E ! described the video as " edgy " , similar to Cyrus ' video for " Party in the U.S.A. " , but " on steroids " . Tina Warren of MTV News said the video was a good step toward ridding Cyrus of her good @-@ girl image and gave the video a positive review , calling it " intriguing " and stating , " The video [...] is actually quite magnetic and you can ? t look away " . Tanner Stransky of Entertainment Weekly agreed . While he acknowledged the video " might be dark and a tad conceptually racy " , he claimed it was smart move . " She isn ? t moving too fast , honestly [...] it ? s not like Miley is stripping or baring much skin " . Rather , Stransky said Cyrus had " some super @-@ fun dance moves " and " [made] a statement " , albeit a darker one . Chinese newspaper People 's Daily said the video featured " bold " costumes and " revealed Cyrus ' sexy side " . The website , Yahoo ! added the video to the list of " Worst Music Videos of 2010 " Daniel Rutledge of 3 News in New Zealand said Cyrus had made " it very clear she wishes to cast aside any resemblance to the Disney alter ego that made her famous and be regarded from now on as an adult singer . " Singaporean newspaper My Paper defended Cyrus against claims that the video was too provocative and reported , " If nothing else , this vid shows that Cyrus knows how to entertain , and marks the beginning of truly high @-@ quality videos . " Mary Elizabeth Williams of Salon.com offered a contrary opinion , stating that while Cyrus is a " talented singer [who] deserves to break out of her Disney mold " , the " Can 't Be Tamed " music video was poor . Williams said Cyrus has " talent galore " and " incredible pipes " , but her video was " predictable , derivative and dumb " due to its unoriginality . According to People magazine , online reaction to the music video has been greatly varied . " Fans and bloggers lit up the Web with comments ranging from ' stunning , gorgeous , fierce ' to ' wow way too much for someone her age ' " , the magazine reported . NME put the video at number 28 on their list of the " 50 Worst Music Videos Ever " .

= = Live performances = =

Cyrus first performed " Can 't Be Tamed " live on May 18 , 2010 on Dancing With the Stars . Donning the black leotard and accessories used in the music video , Cyrus appeared in a human @-@ sized cage and then performed throughout the stage with many costumed backup dancers ; Cyrus ' dancing was minimal . Her first performance of the song outside the United States was at the Rock in Rio concert in Lisbon , Portugal on May 29 , 2010 . Cyrus appeared on June 1 , 2010 at the Paris , France nightclub 1515 Club and on June 3 , 2010 on Britain 's Got Talent 's semifinals to perform " Can 't Be Tamed " . On the latter , Cyrus wore hot pants , fishnets and boots as she performed . Midway through the performance , Cyrus grabbed a female backup dancer , dipping her

low , and simulated a kiss . The performance was met with negative reactions from the media and caused her to release a statement in which Cyrus promised she did not kiss the backup dancer . Cyrus wrote , " It is ridiculous that two entertainers can ? t even rock out with each other without the media making it some type of story . I really hope my fans are not disappointed in me because the truth is I did nothing wrong . I got up there and did my job which is to perform to the best of my ability . " Cyrus later performed the song at the Rock in Rio concert in Madrid , Spain and the London , England nightclubs Heaven and G @-@ A @-@ Y. She has performed the track on Good Morning America , Late Show with David Letterman , MuchMusic Video Awards , and concert at the House of Blues in Los Angeles , California , which was streamed across over thirty websites owned by MTV Networks .

Cyrus performed the song during the Gypsy Heart Tour . She also performed the song during her ongoing Bangerz Tour . She wore a black sequined bra and furry monochrome chaps with falconry gloves during the performance . She was also accompanied by an enormous replica of her dog , Floyd . The performance received positive reviews from critics .

= = Release history = =

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications = =