

= Moving Mountains ( song ) =

" Moving Mountains " is a song recorded by American R & B singer Usher . It was released on May 23 , 2008 , as the third single from his fifth studio album , Here I Stand . It was written by Usher with Christopher " Tricky " Stewart , Kuk Harrell and The @-@ Dream , and was produced by Stewart and The @-@ Dream . " Moving Mountains " is a slow tempo ballad , with lyrics describing a love struggle . The song received mostly positive attention from critics , with comparisons made to 2004 's " Burn " .

The song appeared on the Billboard Hot 100 and Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Songs , as well as the single charts of several European countries . It peaked highest in New Zealand , where it reached number six on the singles chart and was certified gold . The music video for " Moving Mountains " was filmed in front of a green screen as a sequel to the video of " Love in This Club " .

= = Background and composition = =

" Moving Mountains " was written by The @-@ Dream , Christopher " Tricky " Stewart , Kuk Harrell and Usher , and produced by The @-@ Dream and Stewart . Recorded at Triangle Sound Studios and Chalice Recording Studios , it was leaked in February 2008 , before being officially released for sale on May 23 , 2008 .

" Moving Mountains " is a slow jam ballad , and contains synth beats and electronic influences . Portions of the song follow a chord progression used in OneRepublic 's " Apologize " . Partway through the song the beat is adjusted , while the musical instruments are accentuated . Usher 's voice ranges from tenor to falsetto . The song 's lyrics are of a " struggle to get through to his girl " , and contain an extended metaphor , relating his fight for love to that of moving mountains , wishing for the situation to change . Fraser McAlpine from BBC called it " a cold , sad song with cold , sad lyrics " .

= = Critical reception = =

" Moving Mountains " received mostly positive reviews from critics . Leah Greenblatt called it " an easy pick " as a single , while Sal Cinquemani of Slant Magazine lauded it as " further evidence that Usher always delivers musically " . " Moving Mountains " was dubbed by The Guardian 's Rosie Swash " a marked improvement on the sex @-@ pestery " of " Love in This Club " , and the AbsolutePunk reviewer called it " one of Usher 's most impressive efforts to date " , likening the song to Usher 's 2004 single " Burn " . However , while Alex Fletcher of Digital Spy was impressed with the technicalities of Usher 's vocals , he found it " hard to take Usher completely seriously when he insists on wailing each line " , advising Usher to " stick to party bangers in the future " .

= = Chart performance = =

" Moving Mountains " debuted on the Billboard Hot 100 at number seventy @-@ two on the chart date June 14 , 2008 . It peaked at number sixty @-@ seven on August 2 , 2008 , falling off the chart two weeks later , after spending a total of nine weeks on the chart . The song is Usher 's lowest @-@ peaking song on the Hot 100 . It fared better on the US Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Songs , where it peaked at number eighteen and spent seventeen weeks on the chart . It placed at number eighty @-@ four on the end @-@ of @-@ year R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Songs chart . " Moving Mountains " reached number fifty @-@ six on the Pop 100 .

The song appeared on the UK Singles Chart in July 2008 at number sixty @-@ seven , rising to peak at number twenty @-@ five . After thirteen charting weeks it fell off the chart . " Moving Mountains " was commercially well received in the rest of Europe , reaching the high point of number twenty @-@ two on the European Hot 100 Singles . In individual countries , the song reached the top forty in Austria , Czech Republic , Germany , Ireland , Slovakia and Sweden . It also appeared on the Ultratop charts in both Flanders and Wallonia at number twenty . The song also

had chart success in Japan and Australia , reaching the high positions of thirty @-@ three and thirty @-@ six , respectively . " Moving Mountains " had the most impact in New Zealand , where it reached number six on the singles chart , and , on March 29 , 2009 , was certified gold by the RIANZ for over 7 @,@ 500 sales . The song ranked at number forty @-@ seven on the New Zealand 2008 year @-@ end Singles Chart .

= = Music video = =

The music video to " Moving Mountains " was released on May 21 , 2008 . Directed by the Brothers Strause , it is a continuation of the video for " Love in This Club " . The video was shot in front of a green screen .

The video begins with Usher exiting the club in which the " Love in This Club " video takes place , then shows a fiery transition into the next scene , showing the burnt @-@ down club . As the song begins , Usher inspects the smoking ruins and imagines a woman in a shard of a broken mirror . He travels through a desert , and takes off his jacket to reveal a tight @-@ fitting t @-@ shirt , and again imagines the woman , this time in a desert pond . Upon reaching a mountain on which his love interest appears , Usher climb the mountain and rain starts to fall . When he reaches the top of the mountain , the rain clears to be replaced by snowfall . Usher finds that the woman is , yet again , merely an illusion . He opens a locket to reveal a portrait of himself and his partner , which freezes over and cracks . As the video ends , Usher kneels , and the mountains breaks around him , leaving a sole pillar for him to stand on .

Idolator noted similarities in some scenery between the music video and Madonna 's " Frozen " video . It was placed at number eight on BET 's Notarized : Top 100 Videos of 2008 list .

= = Personnel = =

Source :

= = Track listings = =

= = Charts and certifications = =

= = Release history = =