

= Angels Cry (song) =

" Angels Cry " is a song by American singer and songwriter Mariah Carey from her twelfth studio album , *Memoirs of an Imperfect Angel* (2009) . It was written and produced by Carey , Tricky Stewart and James " Big Jim " Wright , with additional songwriting from Crystal Johnson . On the album 's track listing , " Angels Cry " is preceded by a one @-@ minute , four second prelude called " Angel (The Prelude) " , which consists of Carey performing purely in her whistle register . The prelude then leads into " Angels Cry " , a song about trying to fix a broken relationship because true love only happens once . Carey released " Angels Cry " as a remix single featuring Ne @-@ Yo in January 2010 for a proposed *Memoirs of an Imperfect Angel* remix album called *Angels Advocate* , which was ultimately shelved .

= = Overview = =

" Angels Cry " was written and produced by Mariah Carey , Tricky Stewart and James " Big Jim " Wright , with additional songwriting from Crystal Johnson , for Carey 's twelfth studio album *Memoirs of an Imperfect Angel* (2009) . The song was recorded by Brian Garten and Brian " B @-@ Luv " Thomas at The Boom Boom Room in Burbank and Honeywest Studios in New York City , and they were assisted in the process by Luis Navarro . It was mixed by Phil Tan at Soapbox Studios in Atlanta . Additional engineering was carried out by Carlos Oyanedel and Damien Lewis . The keys and Hammond B3 were performed by Stewart and Wright . Carey uses her higher vocal register to perform over an instrumental of a piano and finger snapping . " Angels Cry " is preceded by a one @-@ minute , four second prelude called " Angel (The Prelude) " . The prelude was written and produced by Carey , Stewart and Wright . Oyanedel , Lewis and Tan carried out the additional engineering and mixing as with " Angels Cry " , however Garten and Thomas recorded the prelude at the Studio at the Palms in Las Vegas in addition to Honeywest Studios . The prelude consists of Carey performing only whistle notes .

Lyrically , " Angels Cry " is about maintaining hope that a fading relationship can be salvaged because true love only happens once . Carey sings " I ? m willing to live and die for our love / Baby we can get back that shine . " However , the lyrics " Super natural love conquers all " could also be interpreted as feeling God 's love . Adam Holz of *Plugged In* thought that the lyrics were " depressing , " while Lauren Murphy of *Entertainment IE* felt that the lyrics " When you and I say goodbye , I felt the angels cry " were too sentimental . Although Ann Powers of *Los Angeles Times* thought that the song had a " sad " tone , she praised its production . Bill Lamb of *About.com* placed " Angels Cry " in his list of the album 's best tracks . Michael Cragg of *musicOMH* was critical of the song , writing that it is a " limp ballad " which he thought was trying too hard at recreating some of Carey 's previous material , and concluded by writing that it " ultimately ends up making you want to hear the original version more than anything " . A reviewer for *DJ Booth* commented that the song sounded as though it could have been released in 1994 .

= = Remix single featuring Ne @-@ Yo = =

= = = Background and release = = =

Carey revealed that she intended to re @-@ release *Memoirs of an Imperfect Angel* as a remix album in early 2010 , titled *Angels Advocate* , consisting of remixes of the standard songs with new featured artists , including Mary J. Blige , Snoop Dogg , Trey Songz , R. Kelly , T @-@ Pain , Gucci Mane and OJ da Juiceman . " Angels Cry " and " Up Out My Face " from *Memoirs of an Imperfect Angel* were released as remix singles with Ne @-@ Yo featuring on the former and Nicki Minaj on the latter . The remix version of " Angels Cry " featuring Ne @-@ Yo was released to rhythmic contemporary and urban contemporary radio in the United States on January 26 , 2010 . It was made available for digital download on February 23 , 2010 , in Canada and the United States . A

release date of February 23 , 2010 , for the album was slated , and then pushed back to March 9 . It was then further pushed back to March 30 . However , it was confirmed in March 2010 that production of Angels Advocate had halted and the project was shelved indefinitely . Island Def Jam stated that the singer was instead working on a new project and " new surprises " . Metro revealed that Carey was possibly recording a Christmas album .

= = = Composition and reception = = =

Musically , the remix does not greatly differ from that of the original apart from a new second verse by Ne @-@ Yo . Digital Spy 's Robert Copsey praised the track . He wrote that it was one of the standouts on *Memoirs of an Imperfect Angel* and that " it 's about as close to ' classic ' Mariah as ' new ' Mariah gets " . He complimented Carey 's " classy " and " effortless " vocals , and added that Ne @-@ Yo gave the track an emotional " extra dimension " . Copsey likened the song to one of Carey 's previous singles , " We Belong Together " (2005) : " It 's a bit of a ' We Belong Together ' retread , but it 's a thoroughly pleasant ' We Belong Together ' retread " . Leonie Cooper of *The Guardian* gave a mixed review of the remix . Although she did not express her dislike for the track , she felt that it was too similar to Carey previous material , writing that it is middle @-@ of @-@ the road " inoffensive semi @-@ soul fodder we 've had to come to expect from her . " Cooper was , however , critical of the decision to include Ne @-@ Yo and that his addition makes the song even more bland . Robbie Daw of *Idolator* also felt that the track was a " typically Mariah @-@ esque ballad " .

= = = Chart performance = = =

In the United States , the remix peaked at number twenty @-@ six on the Adult Contemporary chart , becoming her twenty @-@ eighth career entry and Ne @-@ Yo 's first . It is the second song from *Memoirs of an Imperfect Angel* to enter the chart following Carey 's single release cover of " I Want to Know What Love Is " which peaked at number ten ; it is also the first time Carey had charted two songs on the Adult Contemporary chart from the same album since her sixth studio *Butterfly* , where its title track and " My All " peaked at numbers eleven and eighteen in 1997 / 98 . The remix also peaked at number ninety on the Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Songs chart . Elsewhere , the track peaked at number eighty @-@ nine in Japan and number ninety on the UK Singles Chart , but reached number twenty @-@ eight on the UK R & B Chart . It did however achieve some success in South Korea , peaking at number four on the international Digital Singles chart .

= = = Music video = = =

The accompanying music video for the remix of " Angels Cry " was directed by Carey 's husband , Nick Cannon . In December 2009 , Cannon spoke of the video 's concept , saying " This video is going to be simplistically genius ! No bells and whistles , just documenting history and brilliance . Two of the worlds greatest song writers in the studio crafting a masterpiece . I hope the world is ready to hear ' Angels Cry ' " . It premiered simultaneously with the video for " Up Out My Face " with Minaj on Vevo on January 28 , 2010 . The video shows Carey and Ne @-@ Yo collaborating on the song together in a recording studio .

The video starts with Carey walking in the rain to meet Ne @-@ Yo who is waiting for her in the studio . Clips of Carey singing in desperation in the rain are intercut with footage of her recording her vocals in the recording booth . For his scenes , Ne @-@ Yo sings as he stands next to as well as plays the piano as Carey reminisces by herself , while other scenes show him in the booth with Carey as they sing their parts together . At the video 's climax , both singers are belt the final note in the booth , which is followed by them walking out of the studio where it has stopped raining and the sun is shining . Robbie Daw wrote that the video gave him " chills " . He also commented on the use of product placement of Carey 's perfume M and her own brand of champagne . Melinda Newman of *HitFix* thought that the video appeared to have a bigger production budget than that of the video for "

Up Out My Face " with Minaj , but noted that it was still " low @-@ key " for a Carey video . Newman further commented that while the singer appears to be wearing albeit little make @-@ up , she looked more natural and " beautiful " than ever . Leonie Cooper thought that the video made the " bland " song more appealing : " the video , with a moist Mariah mithering in the rain , preposterous sequinned gold boots , a puppy in the studio , and shameless pimping of her latest perfume , kind of makes up for it . "

= = = Charts = = =

= = = Release history = = =