

= Monster ( Lady Gaga song ) =

" Monster " is a song by American recording artist Lady Gaga , from her third EP , The Fame Monster ( 2009 ) . Inspired by her " Fear of Attachment Monster " , the record was written by Gaga , RedOne and Space Cowboy , with RedOne producing the track . Gaga had explained that " Monster " describes her fear of sex and relationships , and described the lyrics as being in love with the bad boy all the time , but instead of running away , one keeps going back to the same person . She added that the fear in " Monster " erupted from her need to have a stable relationship . Incorporating the usage of heavy bass lines , descending keyboard lines and " massive " choruses , " Monster " contains zombie like metaphors , and a reference to Gaga 's debut single " Just Dance " .

" Monster " received generally positive reviews from critics who appreciated the song 's musical arrangement and frequently rated it as a top track from The Fame Monster , while some disliked its lyrics . " Monster " enjoyed brief commercial success in 2010 , charting on four singles charts , as well as the Billboard Hot Dance Club Songs and Latin Pop Airplay . Gaga has mostly performed " Monster " on her 2009 ? 11 The Monster Ball Tour . The performance included the portrayal of homicide and was criticized following a real @-@ life incident at Manchester in the United Kingdom . She also performed " Monster " on The Oprah Winfrey Show .

= = Writing and production = =

" Monster " was written by Lady Gaga , RedOne and Space Cowboy , with RedOne producing the track . The song was recorded at the Record Plant Studio in Los Angeles , California . In an interview with MTV News , Gaga said that " Monster " describes her fear of sex and relationships and the literal meaning is about a " guy with a big dick " . She elaborated , " It 's the fear of attachment and the fear of loving something that 's bad for you ... If you listen to the lyrics , it 's like being in love with the bad boy all the time , and you keep going back for more . " Gaga added that the fear in " Monster " erupted from her need to have a stable relationship . " I keep falling in love with the monster ... But what I really need is the security and the safety and the womanhood , responsibility of my femininity . And so that 's what that song is about .

= = Composition = =

" Monster " begins with Gaga 's voice uttering the line , " Don 't call me Gaga " . It contains stuttering synths and 1980s drums that , according to PopMatters ' Evan Sawdey , create a playful environment . It uses heavy bass lines , descending keyboard lines and " massive " choruses , while a male voice sounding like Timbaland sings about Gaga being " hot as hell " . According to the sheet music published at Musicnotes.com by Sony / ATV Music Publishing , " Monster " is set in the time signature of common time , and composed in the key of C major , with a tempo of 120 beats per minute and Gaga 's vocal range spanning from the low note of E3 to the high note of B4 . " Monster " has a basic sequence of F ? G ? Am ? Em as its chord progression . Lyrically , " Monster " contains zombie @-@ like metaphors about having one 's heart eaten . The song also features references to " Just Dance " , Gaga 's debut single , with the line " I wanna ? Just Dance ? / But he took me home instead " . Michael Hubbard from MusicOMH believed that the lines in the last verse " get a bit gruesome at the end " with the lines saying " He tore my clothes right off / He ate my heart and then he ate my brain . "

= = Critical reception = =

The song received generally positive reviews from critics . Michael Hubbard from musicOMH called " Monster " " a potential single " , praising its musical composition , but criticizing the lyrics . Evan Sawdey from PopMatters also criticized the metaphors contained in the lyrics of the song , but ultimately called it " one surprisingly effective pop cocktail " . Ben Patashnik from NME felt that it was " slightly too disposable " . Scott Plagenhoef of Pitchfork Media saw similarities between Gaga

's voice on " Monster " and the work of Kylie Minogue . Brian Linder from IGN felt that the track was lighter compared to the other songs on The Fame Monster , and complimented the line " We French kissed on a subway train / He tore my clothes right off / He ate my heart and then he ate my brain " , calling it a lyrical gem . He also added that " Monster " was a " dance floor riot " . Jaime Gill from Yahoo ! felt that " ' Monster ' is a squirmy little beast that wriggles into your brain slowly and is almost impossible to remove . " Monica Herrera from Billboard called the song " 80s adoring " .

= = Chart performance = =

In the United Kingdom , " Monster " debuted on the UK Singles Chart at sixty @-@ eight , on December 12 , 2009 , but slipped off the chart the next week . On August 16 , 2010 , the song debuted at number thirty on the New Zealand Singles Chart due to digital downloads and radio airplay , and later peaked at number twenty @-@ nine . The song was present on the chart for seven weeks . In Hungary , it debuted on the Mahasz Single Top 10 lista chart at number six on November 23 , 2009 , but fell off the next week . " Monster " debuted and peaked on the Australian ARIA Singles Chart at number eighty on the issue dated November 30 , 2009 . The song debuted on the United States Billboard Hot Dance Club Songs at number forty @-@ nine on September 18 , 2010 , before moving to its highest position of number twenty @-@ nine on October 9 , 2010 , where it remained for another week . It fell off the chart after eight weeks . On the Latin Pop Airplay chart , the song was initially seen at number thirty @-@ two , and later peaked at number twenty @-@ two . " Monster " has spent fourteen weeks on the chart . According to Nielsen Soundscan , the song has sold 207 @, @ 000 digital downloads in the US .

= = Live performances = =

On January 15 , 2010 , Gaga performed " Monster " as part of a three song medley on The Oprah Winfrey Show . The performance began with Gaga appearing on the stage wearing a dress , that looked both like a pantsuit and dress . Her hair was in spikes and she held a spiked ball and chain in her hand . " Monster " was the first song of the medley that she performed , others being " Bad Romance " and " Speechless " . She also performed the song on all legs of The Monster Ball Tour . The performance was preceded by a video interlude featuring snarling dogs and brooding ravens . " Monster " began with Gaga emerging in a black feathered jacket and performing dance moves reminiscent of Michael Jackson . The backdrop featured the close @-@ up of a black bird 's wings .

During the 2010 shows of the tour , the performance of " Monster " was changed a little to include an ending , where Gaga is portrayed as getting killed by a murderer , after which she lies " dying " in a pool of blood . Her performances of that scene in Manchester , England triggered protests from family groups and fans in the aftermath of the Cumbria shootings , in which 12 people were murdered by a taxi driver . " What happened in Bradford is very fresh in people 's minds and given all the violence which happened in Cumbria just hours earlier , it was insensitive , " said Lynn Costello of Mothers Against Violence . Chris Rock later defended her flamboyant , provocative behavior . " Well , she 's Lady Gaga , " he said . " She 's not ' Lady Behave Yourself . ' Do you want great behavior from a person named Gaga ? Is this what you were expecting ? "

= = Credits and personnel = =

Lady Gaga ? vocals , songwriter , co @-@ producer , vocal arrangement , background vocals  
RedOne ? songwriter , producer , vocal editing , vocal arrangement , background vocals , audio engineering , instrumentation , programming , recording at Record Plant Studios , Los Angeles , California  
Space Cowboy ? songwriter , recording , background vocals  
Johnny Severin ? vocal editing and audio engineering  
Dave Russel ? audio engineering  
Robert Orton ? audio mixing at Sarm Studios , London , England

Gene Grimaldi ? audio mastering at Oasis Mastering , Burbank , California  
Credits adapted from The Fame Monster album liner notes .

= = Charts = =