

= Sexxx Dreams =

" Sexxx Dreams " ( censored as " X Dreams " ) is a song by American singer Lady Gaga from her third studio album , Artpop ( 2013 ) . The song was written by Gaga , Paul " DJ White Shadow " Blair , Martin Bresso , and William Grigahcine , and produced by Blair , Gaga , Nick Monson , and Dino Zisis . Inspired by Gaga 's erotic fantasies and dreams , the song went through a number of changes to make it understandable for the singer 's team , while keeping a constant chorus . A synthpop song , Gaga promoted the title by using a number of hashtags involving the name in her social media accounts , and at one point was considered for a single release from Artpop .

Critics received the song favorably , complimenting the composition , the futuristic sound , the lyrical insights into Gaga 's life , and compared it to the works of singers Janet Jackson and Paula Abdul . It debuted at number 41 in the Gaon Chart of South Korea , selling 3 @,@ 414 copies during the release week of Artpop . " Sexxx Dreams " was one of several album tracks included in Gaga 's 2013 concert at the iTunes Festival in London . It was also present on the set list of Gaga 's residency show at Roseland Ballroom and ArtRave : The Artpop Ball tour .

= = Writing and composition = =

Development of Lady Gaga 's third studio album , Artpop , began shortly after the release of her second one , Born This Way ( 2011 ) , and by the following year , the album 's concepts were " beginning to flourish " as Gaga collaborated with producers Fernando Garibay and DJ White Shadow . However , while on tour for the Born This Way Ball , Gaga had to undergo a hip surgery in February 2013 which forced the singer into a six month hiatus , and this rehabilitation became one of the inspirations behind the album . " Sexxx Dreams " was written by Gaga , Paul " DJ White Shadow " Blair , Martin Bresso , and William Grigahcine , and produced by Blair , Gaga , Nick Monson , and Dino Zisis . Its lyrics propose a sexual encounter with a lover whose boyfriend is gone for the weekend . Gaga was inspired to write the song from her " mucky " fantasies . She said in an interview with the Daily Mirror :

In my mind when I picture sex dreams , it 's so bizarre ! .. It 's me standing there with some massive couture creation , staring at a blow @-@ up doll or something . That 's what my sex dreams are like . My sex dreams are weird ... Haven 't you ever been laying in bed with someone and fantasised about someone else ? ... In the song I 'm explaining my infidelity to the person I 'm with , and then I 'm having a conversation with myself to the person that I 'm fantasising about .

In November 2013 , during a special iHeartRadio Album Release Party broadcast on more than 150 Clear Channel stations to promote Artpop , Gaga revealed to Ryan Seacrest that " sexy sculptures " appear in her " crazy " and " really bizarre " dreams . She introduced the song as " something really erotic and exotic " , allowing fans to " experience what it 's like to be me " . Gaga and her team spent a lot of time creating the rhythm of the song . At first people involved in the production were not sure of Gaga 's idea behind the composition , and hence it went through a lot of changes , but kept the chorus as constant since Gaga was against changing it .

Gaga explained that the dialogue exchange in the lyrics alternate between singing to one person , and speaking to another , which reverses from verse to verse . Here the people she converses with in the song are her imaginary boyfriend and girlfriend . Jason Lipshutz of Billboard said the song is one in which Gaga " balances a disintegrating relationship and a lustful fantasy " and " juggles a pastel @-@ colored 80 's aesthetic and R @-@ rated breakdown of unspoken desire " . MTV 's Brenna Ehrlich described it as a " sweaty , sultry jam about touching oneself " . According to the sheet music published at Musicnotes.com , " Sexxx Dreams " is set in common time with a moderate dance tempo of 120 beats per minute . It is composed in the key of C minor with Gaga 's vocals spanning from G3 to F5 . The song has a basic sequence of G ? ? Cm ? G ? ? Cm during the verses and Cm ? A ? ? G ? ? Cm in the chorus .

= = Production and promotion = =

In August 2013 , Gaga released a preview of " Sexxx Dreams " prior to her performance of September 1 , 2013 at the iTunes Festival in London . In the video , she sings " When I lay in bed I touch myself and I think of you " . The video then shows Gaga rehearsing for the festival and displays in pink font , " We wanna give you # sexdreams " . Gaga also promoted the song on social media by posting song lyrics ( " Last night damn , you were in my # SexDreams doing really nasty things " ) , and encouraging use of a hashtag containing lyrics ( # whenilayinbeditouchmyselfandthinkofyou ) .

On September 3 , 2013 , after debuting several tracks from Artpop at the festival , Gaga polled her fans about how to promote the album , asking : " OK MONSTERS ! Now that you 've seen some of ARTPOP Live , what would be YOUR pick for 2nd Single ? " Fans could choose between " Aura " , " Manicure " and " Sexxx Dreams " . At one point , the latter was in the lead by nearly 10 @, @ 000 votes . However , the song was never selected as an official single .

Later that month , Rihanna tweeted : " Just left the studio ... Recorded a # monster hook for one of my favorite artists ! And that 's all I can give you ... # NavyShit " , then posted a separate message , " Lastnight .... YOU were in my sex dreams ! ! " Her tease , followed by Gaga 's response , " @ rihanna doing really NASTY THINGS \* dancing gaga \* " , lead to rumors that Rihanna would be collaborating on the version that would appear on Artpop . However , Rihanna 's vocals do not appear on the album .

= = Critical reception = =

" Sexxx Dreams " received generally positive reception and drew comparisons to the work of Paula Abdul , Janet Jackson and Prince . The Atlantic 's Spencer Kornhaber said the song " doses Prince 's ' Little Red Corvette ' with some dread and Gaga using lust as therapy " . In his review of Artpop for Billboard , Lipshutz called the song " seductive " and said it marks where the " sexuality and synth @-@ pop pleasures of [ the album ] fully bloom . " Robert Cospey of Digital Spy said the track highlights Gaga " doing her best Janet Jackson impression , and she does it very well . "

The Guardian 's Michael Cragg described " Sexxx Dreams " as a " Vanity 6 @-@ esque strut " , and dubbed it and " Do What U Want " , " futuristic , electro @-@ tooled R & B slow jams with delicious choruses " . Robbie Daw of Idolator called the " not so subtle " and " randy " song one of the album 's " standouts " , and recommended it for use as a single . MTV 's John Walker said of the song , " There 's something so goofily erotic about telling someone ' you were in my sex dreams . ' It 's such a cumbersome phrase , yet Gaga somehow makes it one of the most erotic lines you 'll heard [ sic ] all year . The half @-@ giggled ' I really shouldn 't be telling you this ' line at the song 's climax ? no pun intended ? really seals the deal . " Walker humorously rated the song 5 out of 5 " vaguely vaginal Georgia O 'Keeffe orchids " .

Bradley Stern of MuuMuse said the song is " all sorts of throwback ' 80 's @-@ R & B ferociousness , blending dirty @-@ minded temptation with a seriously fierce strut a la Janet Jackson and Paula Abdul ? and a bit of Divinyls ' ' I Touch Myself ' . " In his album review , he described the song as " a purely Prince / Vanity 6 @-@ inspired production , seductively sauntering into the speakers across a nasty , smutty slap of a beat " . Stern considered the track one of the album 's best moments and wrote , " there 's no part of ' Sexxx Dreams ' that isn 't purely aural sex " . Two lyrics from the song were included in USA Today 's list of the eleven most suggestive lyrics from Artpop .

Some reviewers commented on the part in which Gaga says she 's " had a couple of drinks " . Lipshutz wrote that Gaga sounded " loose and light @-@ hearted , letting her audience twirl around on the dance floor " . Cragg said it sounded as though her vocals had been " covertly recorded during a drunken game of truth or dare " .

= = Live performances = =

" Sexxx Dreams " was one of several Artpop tracks included in Gaga 's 2013 concert at the iTunes Festival in London . Ashley Percival of The Huffington Post wrote of her performance : " ' Sex

Dreams ' made 2009 's ' LoveGame ' with its disco stick look like a nursery rhyme , as she delivered its racy and oh @-@ so @-@ Gaga lyrics . " Reviewing Gaga 's live performance , Gil Kaufman of MTV described the song as " theatrical , throbbing pop " , with Gaga channeling " Prince , Madonna and anyone else who writhed on , humped or thrust into a stage in the 1980s while sharing their most intimate , detailed nighttime desires . "

In November 2013 , Gaga performed " Sexxx Dreams " at ArtRave , a two @-@ day promotional event for Artpop , held at the Brooklyn Navy Yard in New York . In their review of the event , Billboard contributors Andrew Hampp and Jason Lipshutz wrote that her performance of the song was " presented with colorful choreography but paled in comparison " to the studio version .

Gaga included the song in the set list for her March ? April 2014 residency at Roseland Ballroom , showing off her " flirty side " . In his review of her opening night performance , Jon Caramanica of The New York Times described " Sexxx Dreams " as a song about fantasy and noted how Gaga " pinballed back and forth " between a male and female dancer . Gaga performed the song during her ArtRave : The Artpop Ball tour , accompanied by backup dancers dressed in fetish clothing . Kitty Empire from The Guardian refrained that " the latex 'n'lasers section , where Gaga sings ' Sexxx Dreams ' , finds no new take on the dry @-@ humping of chaises @-@ longues . "

= = Credits and personnel = =

#### Management

Recorded at Record Plant Studios , Hollywood , California and CRC Studios , Chicago , Illinois

Mixed at Record Plant Studios , Hollywood , California and Heard IT ! Studios , North Hollywood , California

Sony / ATV Songs , LLC / House of Gaga Publishing , LLC / GloJoe Music Inc . ( BMI ) , Maxwell and Carter Publishing , LLC ( ASCAP ) , Etrange Fruit ( SACEM ) , Fuzion ( SACEM ) administered by Get Familiar Music ( ASCAP )

#### Personnel

Credits adapted from the liner notes of Artpop .

= = Charts = =

Following the release of Artpop , the song debuted at number 41 in the Gaon Chart of South Korea , selling 3 @,@ 414 copies .