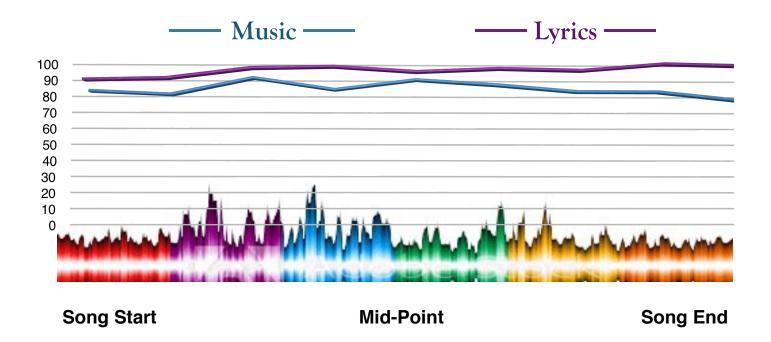
Music To My Ears

Written By: Stuart Wong

Attention Tracker



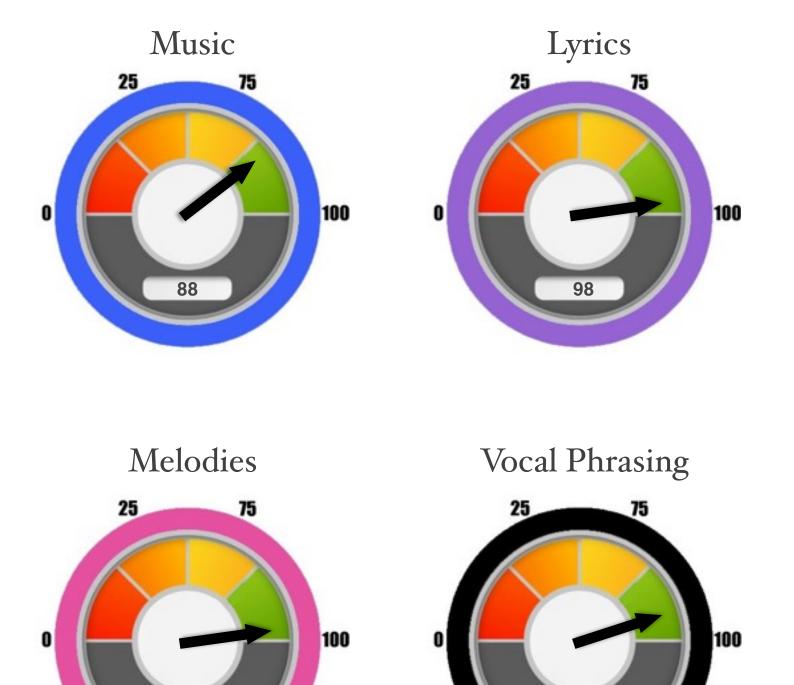
The "Attention Tracker" is a visual tool depicting how successful your song is at both grabbing and keeping the attention of your listener. One of the main components of a great song is its ability to catch your listener's attention immediately and hold their interest throughout the entirety of the work.

Having higher scores in the middle of the song equates to the likeliness of the listener remaining engaged and not moving on to other songs. Having a high score near the end of the song equates to the likeliness of the listener wanting to hear more and playing the song multiple times.

Scores between 1- 25 illustrate which section of your song is not grabbing the interest of the listener. Staying below 25 for too long may result in losing a listener's desire to completely listen to your whole song. Scores ranging from 75 - 100 show that your song is engaging at specified sections and more likely to maintain your listener's interest.

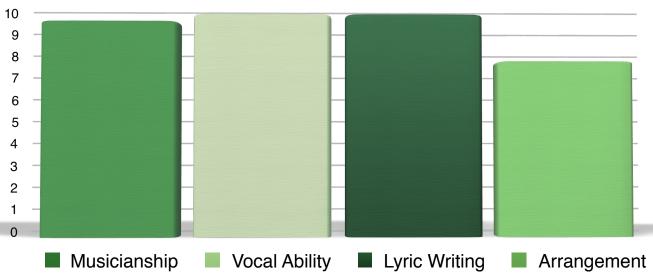
Catchiness

Catchiness is how easy it is for one to remember a song, tune, lyric, phrasing, etc... It is often taken into account when writing songs, Alternatively, it can be defined as how difficult it is for one to forget it. A catchy song is a memorable song.



93

Technical Evaluation



<u>Musicianship</u>: The musician's performance considering timing, technique, style and overall ability to play the song professionally.

<u>Vocal Ability</u>: The singer's performance considering timing, technique, staying in tune, tone quality, range, articulation and overall ability to sing at a professional level. <u>Lyric Writing</u>: Ability to convey a message in a meaningful way by expressive word selection, flow of ideas and phrasing.

<u>Arrangement</u>: The effectiveness of bringing various sections of a song together to create a unified and coherent work.



Clarity: The distinction, quality and purity of the individually recorded tracks.

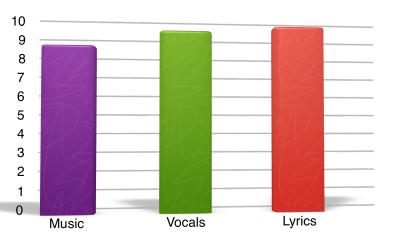
<u>Mixing</u>: The combining of individual tracks through volume, panning, compression, effects, dynamics, frequencies etc... that place each track into it's sonic space.

<u>Mastering</u>: The polishing of a song's combined tracks with attention to EQ, normalization, compression and limiting.

<u>Compatibility</u>; The degree to which the production fits the song's style. (Example: A folk song's mix may suffer if it is mixed like a hip-hop song that relies more on low-end bass and more distinction from he kick drum and snare.)

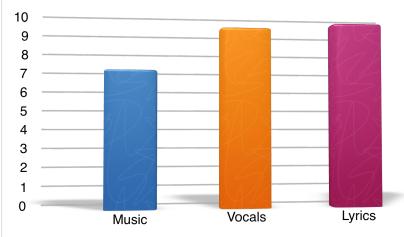
Marketability & Commercial Viability

Emotional Affect & Effective Delivery



The extent to which a song and performance is compatible with current music trends while having the ability to be competitive among modern hit songs from the same genre.

0



The song's ability to engage and evoke an emotional response within the listener while allowing them to not only "hear" the song but to "experience" the feelings that the song conveys.

Songwriting Essentials Connectivity Imagery Creativity Score 96 Authenticity Score 95

<u>Connectivity</u>: The songs ability to easily connect with the listener through subject matter and descriptive lyrics that can be commonly related to by others.

40

50

60

70

80

90

100

30

<u>Imagery</u>: The degree to which the song allows the listener to visualize the song and see it's storyline unfolding in their mind.

Creativity: The uniqueness and originality of the song.

20

10

<u>Authenticity</u>: The degree to which the song comes across as believable, honest and/or sincere.

Commentary

This is lyrically a beautiful song. You created a nice flow of ideas and imagery by first depicting the "midnight splendor" and "moonlight" setting. The listener can easily picture the scene. You later gracefully reinforce this visual by your personal interpretation of the experience by "hearing" instruments and harmony and "feeling" the love. At this point, the listener is experiencing the visual, audio and the feeling of the story. This is a great way to connect to the listener by captivating the various senses.

The music complicates the melodies well as it leaves room for the lyrics to breathe. However, you might want to consider adding some more instrumentation throughout the song. As a country song, brief moments of steel guitar can help add character to the tune as can some simple guitar riffs further back in the mix that compliment the vocal melody. Also, having a little more instrumentation during the chorus will really help the song sonically stand out from the verse and make the chorus section sound more full.

My biggest concern with the song is that the chorus is so good that I want to hear more! The chorus only repeats twice. Most commercially successful songs have the chorus repeated at least 3 times. Since most "radio-friendly" songs last around 3 minutes and 30 seconds, you should be able to add an addition chorus since your song is under 3 minutes. This could happen after the first verse when you first sing "music to my ears" or repeating the chorus after the 2nd chorus.

Beyond those suggestions, this song shows solid songwriting talent. The vocals come across as believable and are well delivered. The note selection on "no more tears" is wonderful and well executed. The lyrics really sell this song by comparing her "voice" to a song. Nice work!