

Quotes

"The songwriting world will always be there."

- Gabe Saporta, co-founder of management company, The Artist Group (Billboard Magazine)

"I've got tons of songs by writers that I work with that I still love. I just haven't found the right homes for them yet"

- Chris Anokute, Founder of Young Forever Inc. (Billboard Magazine)

"Try as best you can to enjoy writing songs. Understand the dance: there is no right or wrong, no rules of the game. At the end of the day, songwriting should be a cathartic process, and a beautiful road."

- John Ondrasik, from Songwriters on Songwriting)

5 Tips to Stop Doubting Yourself as a Songwriter

We've all done it. Is my song good enough? Is this line strong enough? Will people like it? Here are 5 ways to get over "song doubt".

1. **Remind yourself why you write songs** - Think back to what initially inspired you to write songs. This will empower you, because you wouldn't be writing now if you didn't initially have a love for this. What is your reason for writing?
2. **Read an inspirational story of another songwriter** - One of my favorite books is "Chicken Soup for the Songwriter's Soul". In it are stories of songwriters, many of whom doubted themselves. But they believed in their craft, their gift, and took steps to achieve the success they wanted to see.
3. **Write a Chorus on Why You Write** - Have you ever heard the chorus, "I sing because I'm happy. I sing because I'm free. His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me."? The writer in these lines is writing about why he sings. Profound isn't it? So why should you write a chorus about why you write? In it, you are writing a part of a song...you songwriter you!
4. **Turn your last excuse into an "So I Will" action** - *Example* - "I can't write when I'm not inspired", *finishes with*, "So I will seek inspiration by..."; or, "I'm not a great singer and can't record my songs" *finishes with*, "So I will search for and connect with singers on..."; or, "I can't seem to finish this song" *finishes with*, "So I will reach out to another songwriter to collaborate with".
5. **Seek feedback on a song you have doubts about** - The absolute worst place for a song to live is in your head. This means no one else is hearing it but you. If you have a song you are working on, or recently finished, seek feedback from those you intend to hear the song. For example, if your goal is to write a song for a friend, have another friend listen, ask what they think. Generally your friends can be brutally honest with you. Listen to their feedback, but you decide whether you want to apply it or not. Remember, it's your song. You make the decisions.