

Smooth

(Santana)

[Verse 1]

Man, it's a hot one
Like seven inches from the midday sun
I hear you whisper and the words melt
everyone
But you stay so cool
My muñequita, my Spanish Harlem Mona
Lisa
You're my reason for reason, the step in my
groove

[Chorus]

And if you say this life ain't good enough
I would give my world to lift you up
I could change my life to better suit your
mood
Because you're so smooth
And it's just like the ocean under the moon
It's the same as the emotion that I get from
you
You got the kind of loving that can be so
smooth
Gimme your heart, make it real, or else
forget about it

[Verse 2]

I'll tell you one thing
If you would leave it would be a crying
shame
In every breath and every word
I hear your name calling me out
Out from the barrio, you hear my rhythm
from your radio
You feel the turning of the world so soft
and slow

Turning you round and round

[Chorus]

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I would give my world to lift you up
I could change my life to better suit your
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[Chorus]

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Gimme your heart, make it real, or else
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[Outro]

Or else forget about it
Or else forget about it
Oh, let's don't forget about it
(Gimme your heart, make it real)
Let's don't forget about it (hey)
Let's don't forget about it (no oh no oh)
Let's don't forget about it (no no no oh)
Let's don't forget about it (hey no no oh)
Let's don't forget about it (hey hey hey)

"Smooth" is a collaboration between Latin rock band Santana and Matchbox Twenty vocalist Rob Thomas. The song was written by Thomas, and Itaal Shur, produced by Matt Serletic and sung by Thomas. It won three Grammy Awards: Record of the Year, Song of the Year, and Best Pop Collaboration with Vocals. Not only was it the final number-one Hot 100 hit of the 1990s, it was also the number-two Hot 100 hit of the 20th century. "Smooth" is the only song to appear on two decade-end Billboard charts. As of 2018, "Smooth" is ranked the second most successful song of all time by Billboard.

"Smooth" was originally conceived by Shur as a song called "Room 17". The lyrics were stripped off and the track was given to Thomas, who re-wrote the lyrics and melody and re-titled it "Smooth", then recorded the song as a demo to play for Santana. After hearing the song, Santana decided to have Thomas record the final version. Matt Serletic (who produced Matchbox Twenty's debut album *Yourself or Someone Like You*) produced the song and it was released from Santana's album *Supernatural*. Thomas originally had George Michael in mind to sing the song.

Thomas wrote "Smooth" for his wife, Marisol Maldonado. He stated in interviews that the lyric "My Spanish Harlem Mona Lisa" was inspired by the 1972 Elton John song "Mona Lisas and Mad Hatters", which includes references to the 1961 Ben E. King song "Spanish Harlem".

"Smooth" became a chart-topping hit in 1999, spending 12 consecutive weeks at number one on the Billboard Hot 100 beginning with the October 23, 1999 issue. It was the first chart-topping song in Carlos Santana's long-running career (his previous biggest hit being "Black Magic Woman", which peaked at number four in 1971). The song stayed in the top ten of the Billboard Hot 100 for 30 weeks, a record only bested by "How Do I Live" by LeAnn Rimes, "Closer" by The Chainsmokers featuring Halsey, and "Shape of You" by Ed Sheeran. In the United Kingdom, "Smooth" first charted at number 75 in the UK Singles Chart in October 1999. On a full release in March 2000 it peaked at number 3, spending eight weeks in the top 40. The song also peaked at number 3 in Ireland in March 2000, spending ten weeks in the Irish Charts. It remains Santana's highest charting single in either Britain or Ireland.

"Smooth" also spent a record-breaking ten consecutive weeks at the top of the VSpot Top 20 Countdown, a record that held up until the Dixie Chicks broke it in 2006.