



SongDoor 2015 International Songwriting Competition

Entry Evaluation for: Alex Crandall

Song: You Always Said So

Scoring: Each item is assessed on a scale from 1-10, with 1 being a strong "no," 5 being average and 10 being "absolutely yes!" (Note that a score of 10 is reserved for true excellence and is rarely given.) The comments are the combined opinions of multiple judges. We always try to be constructive; we don't presume to know everything or be right 100% of the time. Opinions are, by their nature, subjective. :-)

- 8** There is a strong intro that grabs the listener.
- 9** There is a memorable hook that makes you want to hear the song again and again.
- 5** The theme/idea is fresh and unique, even if it's a take on a old theme ("love lost").
- 7** The song tells a story that evokes an emotion (love-struck, sad, lonely, joyful, wistful, etc.)
- 7** The song isn't overly personal; it's something the general public can relate to.
- 8** There is a different melody for the verse, chorus and bridge (if there is a bridge).
- 4** The lyrics are original, interesting and avoids clichés.
- 8** The melodies support the lyrics and match their mood.
- 8** The transitions between song parts are smooth and pull the song together.
- 7** Overall, is this a well-written song with actual commercial potential.

Comments: You're showing us a lot of versatility. Here we're getting a little Randy Newman, a little Steely Dan, even a little Sara Bareilles. Great arrangement. We really like how you created that "hanging" verse melody, leaving the listener waiting for the "You always said so" hook. Very creative instrumentation with lots of little "bits" of bells and whistles that add a lot, rather than distract. Lyrically, watch those clichés, there are quite a few roaming around in there. Listeners will tune out because they've heard those phrases so often before. In all, a terrific song, just needs some tweaking here and there.

Thank you for using the SongDoor Entry Evaluation Service!