The Justin Bieber Syndrome

Okay, for those of you opting for the cool Mom award, you really have to figure out what all the fuss is about this kid singer named, Justin Bieber. Here’s the cliffnotes version on the boy’s life. It’s actually a pretty good read.

Justin Bieber is actually Canadian. His Mom raised him as a single mother and seems to have recognized her son’s talent early on. They entered a lot of talent contests when Justin was young. Being a proud Mom, Ms. Mallette posted videos of Justin singing. Call it fate, call it talent, call it being in the right place at the right time, but a talent scout just happened to view the YouTube clip of Bieber performing at one of the talent shows and he liked what he saw.

What do the tween girls like about him? He’s the quintessential rags to riches story. The frog that became a prince. Not only does he give them encouragement to go for their dreams, but his impish grin and skinny jeans rock their world. Tween boys imitate his hair styles. Girls buy his records and attend his concerts in droves.

As far as his music goes, think of a cross between Justin Timberlake with a ‘touch’ of Michael Jackson (he has some diversity in his style). He has hard rock and driving rhythms, but personally, the ballads are amazing. His talent, in my opinion, really shows when he sings the slower songs.

Now you will no doubt, if you do any searching at all on the kid, read a lot of negative press. None of it really about his character, or things he’s getting into that he shouldn’t. In that aspect he seems fairly clean cut. Nope, from what I can tell, people are ticked off because he was discovered on YouTube. Instead of being happy for the poor kid, they are only too ready to find some reason why he should not have made it so big. It’s sad really.

There are worse things that your tween could be listening to, that’s for sure. Bieber’s lyrics don’t have anything about women being used as objects, gangster language, or urging violence. Just good rock and roll.

Here are some of his latest albums for you to try, as well as a few songs you might want to look up on Itunes. Oh, and if you are becoming Bieber-ized, there is a movie about his life called: Never Say Never. Not a bad movie to share with your daughter.

“Baby”. This was one of his first big hits and is still a favorite with fans.

“One Time” Also an early song that was incredibly popular.

“Down to Earth” A song about his parents separating and eventually divorcing. This one really hits home with a lot of the kids.

“Never Let You Go”, and “U Smile” also good picks.

When I was playing several of these to see which songs I wanted to download I heard the thunder of tween feet on the tile at the far end of the house. “Are YOU listening to Justin Bieber?” OH, yeah, I just became the cool Mom.