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Onemusic – Orwellian Country Music 2005 Prediction

By Robert Harper

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Note: You're probably wondering how I got started on this "Orwellian Music Theme". Well, it began very easily... I was watching a commercial, for Nike maybe. There were these old folks dancing "polka style" to hip-hop music. Later, some break dancers were wearing cowboy hats and jammin' to a banjo.

Cute. Entertaining.

Until Tim McGraw hit the hip-hop scene.
Mustard hit the windshield.

This ain't no joke > it's happening.
On with the story.

(Quote) A music dies when it becomes a parody of itself, which has happened to some extent with rock...
---Chet Atkins, Dec. 15, 1974 People Magazine

Thirty years later, we see rock artists like Kid Rock cross into country, and Tim McGraw ventures onto the hip-hop scene.

I believe, (and you may or may not agree), the music industry as a whole is in turmoil. Companies, artists, and groups jockeying for position in a rapidly changing digital world.

This I can predict... the music industry consolidate and attempt to widen their appeal and shock the public. Top artists will increasingly cross boundaries.

Will it all be one music... someday?

Robert Harper owns Harper's Distribution in El Paso, Texas. Robert writes, "I'm a country music fan, and I love talking and writing about country music." Sometimes I find really juicy news (especially if it involves money) and I'll blab it to the whole world. Website: <http://www.top-country-songs.com> ,,To contact visit: <http://www.top-country-songs.com/contact.html>

What Is Country Music Anyway?

By Sintilia Miecevole

When many people think of country music, they think of sad songs about lost loves, broken down trucks and runaway dogs. In their minds, they are hearing all of these woes sung in the traditional twangy country accents of the south. However, these perceptions of country music are far from where this style of music has evolved. Today, country music is one of the most popular genres of music, normally outsold only by rock and pop genres.

Created in the late 19th century, country music has undergone many changes over the years. There are now many sub-genres to this type of music, with some of the sub-genres being commonly played on top 40 radio stations.

To understand country music, it is helpful to know about the instruments commonly associated with it. In country music, one of the most common instruments used is the fiddle (or violin). Some of these instruments can be expensive, but most are relatively inexpensive and are very easily transported since they are light in weight and not overly large. When country music first 'hit the scene', the fiddle was practically the only instrument used as accompaniment. However, as the country music style became more popular, the addition of other accompanying instruments became normal. The banjo became popular in some country music pieces in the mid 1800s, while the guitar did not break into the country music scene until the early 1900s. Electric guitars did not become a regular instrument in country music until much later in the 50s. Other various instruments used in country music are the piano (introduced in the 1930s) and the drums (used since the 1960s). Rarely used, but distinctive sounding instruments are used in certain country songs: the accordion, the harmonica, and the washboards.

Country music has roots in several different styles of music. Its beginnings started with the settlers that came from Europe. During that time, many couldn't read or write, so songs were created to pass history down from one generation to the next. Although country ballads have changed a great deal, going from the original songs about objective, though gruesome, events to more personal, subjective ballads without all the gore.

Today, the sound of country music can sometimes be very similar to other genres of pop and rock. Some country musicians, like Shania Twain, have many songs playing on stations that aren't considered "country". There are also musicians, like Sheryl Crow, who are considered pop/rock, but

have songs popular on country stations.

Sintilia Miecevole, host of

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