

MC Frontalot

MC Frontalot – now there's a hoopy frood who really knows where his towel is! MC Frontalot is one of the pioneers of the splinter sub-genre “nerdcore hip-hop”. Nerdcore hip-hop is an infant movement; it belongs to our generation that grew up with computers. It could never have been possible without the Internet. MC Frontalot is the 'official rapper' of the popular video games web-comic Penny Arcade. The subjects he covers include text adventure games, Internet music piracy, Star Wars sex fetishes, Asperger's syndrome, spam e-mail, ping-pong and pornography.

MC Frontalot scratched an itch of mine that I never knew existed: he marries funky beats and skilful rhyming with an Internet-age geek culture. I do enjoy regular hip-hop from time to time but I just can't relate to the world of gang violence, drug abuse and female subjugation that gangster rappers (pretend to) belong to. Despite that MC Frontalot records his rhymes in his small and messy apartment, the beats over which he raps sound great and are of professional quality. They confidently support lyrics which are both clever and funny. In some tracks, such as “Special Delivery” or “I <3 Fags” he discusses contemporary politics, delivering his anti-Bush liberal message without compromising the humourous style. In one song he even calls Margaret Thatcher “a villanous crone”!

One of my favourite tracks is “Bizarro Genius Baby” where Frontalot imagines having a super-intelligent baby that brings peace to the Middle East by her first birthday, but quickly threatens to overshadow his own career as a nerd rapper. Or there's “I Hate Your Blog” when Front gently mocks Internet trolls that just love to hate other people online.

MC Frontalot isn't the only nerdcore rapper, but he's probably one of the most accessible and my favourite. If any of what I've said appeals, there are loads of free mp3s available for download on www.frontalot.com. MC Frontalot's third album “Final Boss” is out November 4th.