

# Contrary to popular belief not all millennials dislike The Boss

According to the online magazine *Salon*, so-called millennials — people born in the early 1980s to the early 2000s — have a huge honkin' hate on for poor, beleaguered Bruce Springsteen.

And why do these (apparently tone-deaf) whippersnappers abhor

The Boss? Because, amongst other considered arguments: "He's old. He sucks. He sucks because he's old. He sings about being a member of the working class even though he's made millions of dollars over the past 30 years, etc." Well then...

Ej Dickson, the article's author, says

she's had this conversation from which she culled the above quotes, "approximately eight or nine hundred-thousand times." These confabs typically occur in drinking establishments or parties and involve the writer facing off against people who tend to be "white, male, in a creative profession

(and) dating someone with bangs," and they usually end with them raining vitriol down upon the parade of Dickson's beloved Bruce.

Not surprisingly, Dickson takes umbrage. Surprisingly, she seems surprised by people hating on her hero — or, at least, the level of loathing be-

That's Life

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Guest Contributor



ing leveled. Conversely, although I'm a card-carrying member of the Brotherhood of Bruce, I fully get where these drunken doofuses are coming from. Misguided and moronic as they may be.

For starters, it's the mark of any successful artist to fall victim to backlash. Over the years, Bruce has been backlashed beyond belief. Now, as he continues to defy age and odds, as he continues to be successful by every measure — his albums still sell, his seemingly ceaseless world tours always sellout, and his music remains relevant, progressive and pleasing to both the public and the press — the backlash continues unabated.

Typically, the leaders of backlash movements are loud and ignorant. I can't begin to tell you how many times someone has told me they hate Springsteen's music, only to have them follow with a statement as telling as: "Although, I've never listened to anything by him except the singles." Well, I think Shakespeare is ridiculously overrated, although I've never bothered to watch his plays.

It's true that Springsteen turns 64 this month. In the vernacular, he's 'gettin' on up there' (not that you'd know it given his prolific output of six albums over past 10 years and the energy inherent in his live shows). It's also true his fan base is also up there, which allows smug critics to pigeon-hole the man and his music as "lame-o, daddy rock."

You know, kids really aren't supposed to like mommy and daddy's music. They're actually supposed to think that music is "lame-o." Kids, in fact, are supposed to rebel and reach out to their own icons. However, like every generation, millennials have their fair share of earnest music nuts who obsessively forego the mainstream who seek the odd and the obscure, and who at once clamor for the classics, music that may well still be around 100 years from now.

Those millennials, those music diviners, invariably discover The Boss. Are justifiably enamored. And suitably awed.

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