

**Film Title and Release Date:** *Britney Spears* (2011)

**Length of Film in Minutes:** 51 Minutes

**Film Genre:** Documentary

**Reviewer Name and Grade:** Sarina B. P., 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Date Reviewed:** July 26, 2021

This documentary was made in 2011, so it doesn't cover the most recent news about Britney Spears. The documentary explained Britney's rise to fame and the toll it has taken on her life. Britney's career started when she was only a tween, which led to her having an innocent reputation. Eventually, Britney wanted to leave this reputation behind, leading her to sexualize herself at a young age. A factor that caused stress for Britney was her various relationships since she didn't choose the best boyfriends. She had two kids with her husband, Kevin Federline. The media documented several parenting mistakes she made as she was making worse decisions. Britney later got divorced and lost custody of both of her kids. Eventually, she went through her somewhat infamous mental breakdown, where she shaved her head and was documented doing multiple crazy things, such as yelling at her fans during a concert and smashing her ex's car. After this, her father ended up gaining control of her finances and still controls most of her life, which is known as a conservatorship. This has recently caused a lot of controversy because many people think the conservatorship has only made things worse for Britney.

The documentary was interesting to me because it was created before the Free Britney movement became popular, and provided insight into how people viewed her before it. The information was presented in a way that was easy to understand, and from an unbiased point of view, allowing room for the audience to form their own opinions. A lot of video clips and news articles were also shown in the documentary, which was helpful to understand the timeline. There were interviews with people in the media who covered Britney at the time and showed how intense it was to have her followed around all the time

*How did you find the film on Kanopy (by title search, subject search, casual browsing, etc.)?*

I found it through browsing.

*Did the plot (for fictional movie) or presentation of information (for documentary) keep you interested? Was the pace of the film too fast, too slow, or just right?*

The pace was right, and it kept my interest.

*What grade level(s) is this film appropriate for?*

Because it discusses sexuality and a little about her drug use, it is probably best for eighth grade and up.

Rating: 3

The documentary is good from an informational standpoint, but didn't go very deep into the psychological effects of fame, and didn't have insightful interviews with people close to her.