

# Country Music Award Time!!!

It's time for the CMAs, and I'm making just a quick little post to share my guesses – we'll see how I do at the end of the night. I know, I know I whined and cried about missing the show this year, but my family came down with H1N1 and we're under a self-imposed quarantine. I think the kids need to get to bed early – for their health, of course ☹ – and I get to watch the show live after all! Believe me, I would so much rather be at youth group tonight, despite all my whining, I swear! This is an awful sickness, and I would so much rather not have anyone in my family have to have it... but I don't want to dwell on that now – we've been living this illness since Friday night, so it's time to break from that now a little bit – CMA time!!!!

My picks – I'll try to update throughout the night to see how I did. **Correct in green, wrong in red.**

**TOTAL: 4/11**

**Entertainer of the Year:**

Taylor Swift, winner

Kenny Chesney

**Female Vocalist:**

Taylor Swift, winner

Carrie Underwood

**Male Vocalist:**

Brad Paisley

**Vocal Duo:**

Sugarland, winner

Brooks and Dunn

**Vocal Group:**

Lady Antebellum, winner

Rascal Flatts

**New Artist:**

Darius Rucker, winner

Jake Owen

**Album:**

Taylor Swift's Fearless

**Single:**

I Run To You – Lady Antebellum

**Song:**

In Color – Jamey Johnson, winner

I Told You So – Randy Travis

**Event:**

Start a Band

I Told You So

**Music Video:**

Taylor Swift

NOTES: Awesome show so far – great performances, and I love the hosting duo of Brad Paisley and Carrie Underwood. Their little duets are entertaining, funny, and even pleasant music to listen to! I especially appreciate the ditty about the swine flu – priceless, and it really hits home right now! Carrie Underwood has an **amazing** voice! Thank you American Idol for gifting her to country music!

I love the infusion of the classic country: Mamas Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up to be Cowboys and especially the Zac Brown Band's rendition of Devil Went Down to Georgia (on speed!) was EXCELLENT!!

Brooks and Dunn's final CMA performance (retiring) with ZZ Top is a highlight!

Still enjoying the show, but what the heck happened to the awesome hosting duo of Paisley and Underwood? Seems like they haven't been onstage together for a while. And when they do

reappear together, let's can the jokes about Brad checking out Carrie's looks behind the back of his wife, [Kimberly Williams-Paisley](#) – there's just been too many of those jokes, and they're stale.

What could be better than Martina McBride singing When Country Wasn't Cool with Charlie McCoy on harmonica as a tribute to Barbara Mandrell to welcome her into the Country Music Hall of Fame?!? That was GREAT! That reminds me of an addition I must make to a fellow tangents.org blog about my favorite Christmas special – The Mandrell Sisters Christmas!

Oh man... the show started out the best CMA awards show EVER! But then it slowly went downhill... until the final award – Taylor Swift?!? You've got to be kidding. She is very talented and has done a wonder for attracting teen and tween girls to the country music genre, but... What about the rest of us?!? Let's face it, she did have a heck of a time hitting some of those high notes... Well, I'm not going to act like Kanye West. Taylor Swift deserves her time in the spotlight, even if it did ruin the entire flow of the CMAs...

Oh, and judging by my total guesses correct, it's obvious how much I'm allowed to listen to country music radio these days... For me, it's mostly KidsSongs and videos from the library (lately Shelley Duvall's Fairy Tale Theater) in the car. Whatever – no one could have seen that Taylor Swift Entertainer of the Year coming no matter what you spend your day listening to. I don't care if she IS the youngest CMA nominee for Entertainer of the Year ever – in my opinion, she should have had a lot more ground to cover before she won an award like that! The show started out great, but I have to say, I am left disappointed, and not only by my terrible score  
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# The Incredible Hulk

Super hero movies are not must-sees for me, but we caught a showing of [The Incredible Hulk](#) the other day mainly because there was nothing else playing that we hadn't seen already. Since physical activity is out for me (but only for another few weeks – YAY!!), going to a movie on our weekly date night has been popular because even someone of my girth can enjoy sitting in an air-conditioned movie theater for a few hours. I was also drawn to this movie because I remember really enjoying [The Incredible Hulk tv series](#) as a very young child. So both my husband and I were entertained by the movie; it was action-packed, and the special effects weren't terrible looking like they were in the previews. [Edward Norton](#) was good, and so was [Liv Tyler](#), but then again, I don't think I've seen her in anything where she was horrible... except maybe that Aerosmith video in which she appeared in the '90's, but then again, I'm not a fan of music videos anyway. We did come away with a few questions regarding the believability of the film, but of course, you're talking about a super hero movie, and our questions were answered by a helpful friend who reads Marvel comics.

Of my 2 favorite things about the movie, one was the surprise at the end, which I'm not going to spoil, but I will say this – if you're a comic fan, you will REALLY enjoy the surprise. The other thing I really liked was an inside joke I actually got, even though I don't read comic books. Liv Tyler's character buys Bruce Banner some pants, and wouldn't you know it, she picks out a pair of bright purple ones – a nod to the old tv series where the Hulk wore purple. I thought that joke was especially funny and clever, and I'm glad they included it. Also enjoyable is the [Lou Ferrigno](#) cameo; he's the original Hulk from tv who appears in this movie as a security guard and also voices the computer generated Hulk. If you like the comics, you've probably seen this already, but I'd

also recommend it for anyone who likes fantasy/action movies or if you were a fan of the Hulk tv show from decades ago. It's not going to make me start reading comic books, but it was well worth seeing just for the nostalgia factor alone.