



Single Review: Claydon Connor – The Kind Of Man I Am

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When the first few bars of *The Kind Of Man I Am* started playing, and the classic country instrumentation kicked in, I wasn't expecting the vocals that followed. You could easily be forgiven for thinking this was a song from 20-30 years ago, but once Claydon's voice joins the fray, it brings a quirky contemporary feel to the song. *The Kind Of Man I Am* is a love song, but the bouncy style of the track means it's not sickeningly schmaltzy, but at the same time being the antithesis of the tawdry bro-country that is being peddled on US country radio.

The Kind Of Man I Am is also not over produced like a lot of music these days, so we can actually hear the instruments and Claydon's voice as they naturally are. The classic musicianship works, as this is a tale of a man who going against the grain of modern hedonism, and plans to devote himself to the woman in question. No getting drunk, no one night stands, just a guy in love who wants to treat the object of his affection with respect. Sorry if it sounds like I'm on a soapbox, well actually I'm not sorry at all. It's just refreshing to see a young guy bring out music in the country genre that doesn't feel the need to pander to the frat demographic. There are others too, I'm not discounting every young male singer, but kudos to Claydon for writing from the heart.

The Kind Of Man I Am is a really catchy song, that blends classic and modern with a Claydon's almost pop country voice. This is the first single to come from an upcoming album, which I for one am looking forward to hearing. Claydon comes from the Isle of Wight, and I'm struggling to think of another country artist from the small island off the south coast of England – could he be the first?