

'Worst song ever' tops 30 million YouTube views

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A song by a California teenager that has been mercilessly panned by music critics has topped 30 million views on YouTube and rocketed up Apple's iTunes charts.

"Friday," sung by 13-year-old Rebecca Black, was uploaded to YouTube last month by Ark Music Factory, a Los Angeles-based company that was hired by the girl's parents to produce the song for their daughter.

"It's Friday, Friday, gotta get down on Friday, everybody's looking forward to the weekend," the chorus goes. "Partying, partying, partying. Fun, fun, fun, fun. Looking forward to the weekend."

The video attracted scant attention until a popular comedian linked to it on his blog 10 days ago saying "Songwriting Isn't for Everyone."

As the tune began to attract attention on YouTube, a Yahoo! music blog called it a "mind-meltingly horrific song" and asked readers "Is YouTube Sensation Rebecca Black's 'Friday' The Worst Song Ever?"

Time magazine described "Friday" as a "train wreck" and the video as "hilariously dreadful."

The poor reviews only fueled more interest in the video and it has become a viral hit, racking up millions of YouTube views, spawning a slew of parodies on the video-sharing site and making Black an Internet

sensation.

A total of around 17,000 YouTube viewers have hit the "like" button on YouTube for the song while the vast majority -- 133,100 -- have gone for "dislike."

"Friday" was nonetheless number 45 on the [iTunes](#) list of best-selling 99-cent singles on Monday.

Amid the deluge of venom, Black has shown considerable poise and dignity in interviews and appearances in which she has addressed her numerous detractors.

The aspiring singer told ABC's Good Morning America that some of the comments had made her cry.

"When I first saw all these nasty comments I did cry," Black said. "I felt like this was my fault and I shouldn't have done this and this is all because of me.

"Now I don't feel that way," she said.

"I think I have talent on some level," Black told Good Morning America. "I don't think I'm the worst singer but I don't think I'm the best singer."

Asked who she would most like to sing a duet with, the YouTube star said Justin Bieber, the Canadian teen idol who was also discovered on [YouTube](#).

"I have Bieber fever," she said. "I am in love with Justin Bieber."

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