

## Cool Videos

Britney Spears: The downfall of a star

In July 2004, Britney Spears publicized her engagement to back up dancer Kevin Federline. This came as a shock to millions of fans and was now hot topic for critics to dine on. Federline had recently ended a previous relationship with actress Shar Jackson, who was then eight months pregnant with Federline's second child. Prior to the engagement, couples Britney Spears and Kevin Federline starred in their very own TV reality show "Britney & Kevin: Chaotic" which was telecasted on UPN. The show featured most of the things that led up to the engagement.

On September 18, Britney tied the knot with Federline in a rather private wedding ceremony at a residence in Studio City, California. The ceremony was non-denominational and Britney yet again shocked her fans and media world with her surprise wedding.

Her marriage was followed by a career break, which she said was solely to start a family life. Seven months later she announced her first pregnancy and on September 14 2005 she gave birth to her first child, a boy, Sean Preston Federline, the delivery being a caesarean section.

Not long after, speculations emerged about Britney being pregnant for the second time, and she grounded the rumours as facts when she announced her second pregnancy on the David Letterman show in May 2006. A few months later she also made an appearance on Dateline, in order to discuss issues of media and tabloid rumours, her motherhood and a looming divorce from hubby Kevin Federline. On the show she also highlighted an incident, where she was caught on cam fleeing from the paparazzi, driving away with her son in her lap without any seatbelts.

Even though Britney explains her doing as act of self defence as she felt threatened by the untamed paparazzo's, her decision to drive away with her son unrestrained raised a lot of questions about her parenting skills.

In August 2006, the very pregnant Britney Spears posed nude for the cover of Harper's Bazaar magazine, and just 2 days before Sean's 1st birthday, Britney gave birth to her second son Jayden James Federline. On November 7th Britney filed for divorce, wanting physical and legal custody of the kids, giving Federline only visitation rights. The divorce was finalized on July 30th of 2007, reaching a global settlement a few months before.

The 2007 turned out to be another rough year for Spears. With the demise of her Aunt Sandra Bridges Covington, whom she was very close to, Britney spent some 24 hours in drug rehab, and on February 16th, the following night shaved her hair bald, and later admitted herself into rehab and a treatment facility in California on the 20th. From there on it's just pure craziness for Britney with a series of misdemeanours and bizarre events relating to her, and also her drug addiction and alcoholism. One such significant event when she attacked a group of Paparazzo's with an umbrella. A legal battle over the custody of her children had been filed by Federline reflecting Britney's uncontrolled lifestyle which might pose as a threat for the children. In October 2007, Britney lost physical custody of her children.

On January 3rd 2008, the singer was rushed to Cedars-Sinai Medical Centre restrained to a stretcher, as she was alleged to be under the influence an unknown substance, and refused to surrender custody of her children, by locking herself in a room with Jayden, her youngest son. She was put on a suicide watch and on January 5th was released from the hospital.

It's hard to predict what's going to come next from the international pop star, but millions of fans around the world just wish that she gets a hold of her life and makes a memorable comeback.

## About the Author

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