

Reviews, Discoveries, and Mysteries.

The Section Formally Known as Choice Cuts

Just Shopping with Mom.

By Mercer Mayer.

Golden Look-Look Books

Carts, candy, and cucumbers. Cans, kitty litter, and lemonade. Growled at, spanked, and tuckered out. What they want, what there is, and what they are going to get, brother, sister, mother. Oh and yes, don't forget the beer, Dad's at home chugging his last six pack of Red Dog and chopping wood with his hairy, burly, manly, man-arms. "Daddy doesn't come shopping with us when we get groceries, that's Mommy's job, she's the woman, Daddy has to do man things, he can't waste his time shopping!" The father, missing from the family's shopping escapade, displays the old way of thinking about men and women; the family roles designated to each of them.

Now don't get me wrong, I liked the book, it had the words "gimme" and "don't", it had an ample amount of whining for candy, kids running around the store, products being knocked over, and an angry grocery manager. With all of this came big, exciting, colourful, and often humorous drawings. There was little in the way of reading making it perfect for that back-to-school, back-to-the-books kick, but there was one thing that might cause despair, something that may bring terrible nightmares to your now-sexist children; how is Mommy going to get home with the three children, a cart full of groceries, a brand-new dress, and ice-cream cones?...

Daddy's not there to drive for Mommy! Don't read this to your kids, it'll scare the shit right out of them, and that's messy.

A Review by Brad DIEGHAN

Artist: Beth Orton

CD: Daybreak

Here is a new flavour for you Sarah Harmer fans. This girl is of the same breed, and will sing to you the same high you would get out of Sarah. Some feature artists are Ryan Adams on the title track, as well as Emmylou Harris on 'God Speak'. This album cradle around you and rocks you into a silent state of consciousness. A great stress reliever. You must be in a light and easy listening mood to groove to this sound. A definite winner is "Carmella." This track is the most diverse and interesting of them all.

-Mariève MacGregor

Artist: Nickelback

CD: Curb (re-release)

Before "This is how you remind me" and "Hero," this was Nickelback. A band who got together and jammed to the core of

their beings, one has to marvel at the jam sessions these guys must have had before producing this album. This CD is raw and rockin'. They've come a long way in developing their sound to the distinct anguish and pain clenched songs they now produce. This album is evidence of the fun they have had along the way to becoming famous. Almost all the songs have incredible instrumentals and the most awesome variations of sound and rhythm. There is some beautiful stuff coming out of the electric guitar, and it receives a lot of play. The lead singer has also come a long way, in that now he sings more precisely on key and yells less randomly. "Curb," "Just Four," and "Left" deserve honourable mention. This album should be of particular interest for the Nickelback fans. True fans will hear some familiarities and how the band has developed into who they are today.

-Mariève MacGregor

Blue Pepsi: Now Better than Poison

It's blue. It's liquid. It's non-toxic. What could be better? Blue Pepsi is less super-sweet than cream soda, less fizzy and foam-over prone than Pepsi, and more fun than Orange pop. It hold a tint

of blueberry flavour, and is a drink all its own. This critic gives it two thumbs up. Now if there were only a Diet Blue Pepsi...

-Mariève MacGregor

POPULAR POET RETURNS TO PEI

The Winter's Tales Reading Series kicks off with Jay Ruzesky, one of Canada's most popular poets and an audience favourite on PEI, at Confederation Centre Library on September 21, at 2:00 p.m.

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