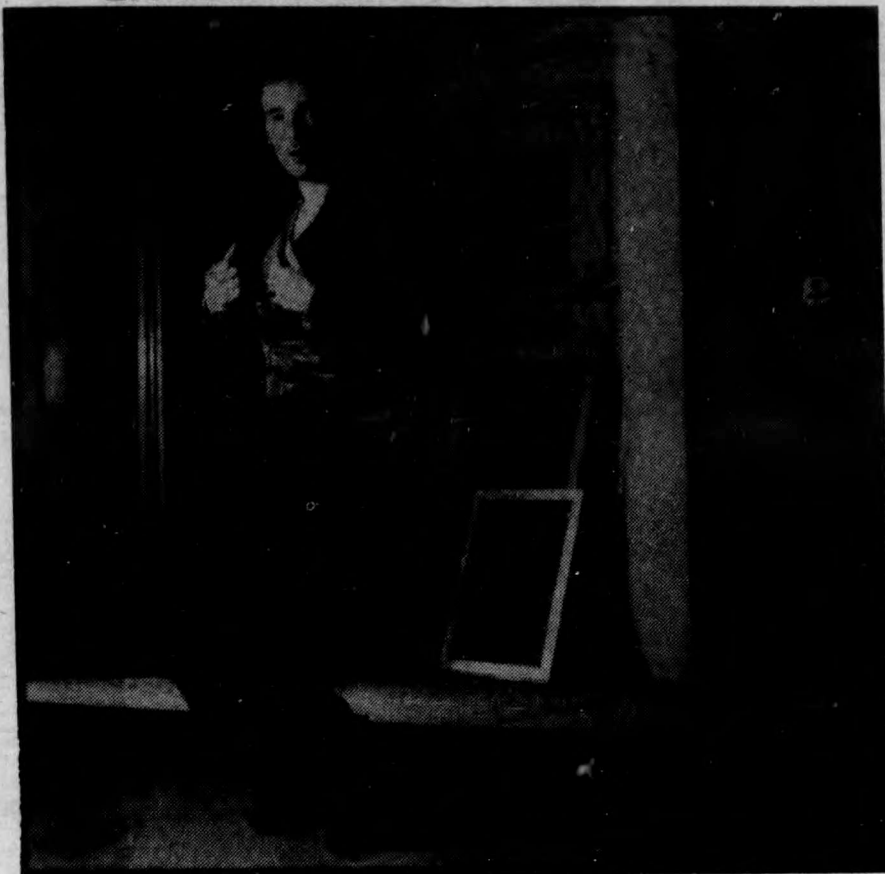


"SPRINGSTEEN : A SENSITIVE LITTLE PUDDING" HORROR!



"Whaddya mean Stevie's got a better jacket than me? - Bruce gets it off his chest."

Uncle Stevie traces the background to Broooce's latest epic of lost souls "TUNNEL OF LOVE"(Columbia)

Yeah, it was about the Zenith of '77. Every disrespectful young Herbert slung on a twenty quid feuder copy, crawled out of his hole and spat in the face of authority.

Although it was over a year old, this was when I first heard 'Born to Run'. Harry H. Christmas! This must have been the birth of punk! -kids pushed to the point of no return. No hopes, no future, no respect. Wandering aimlessly across a bleak suburban jungle. Jump in that

5th hand V8 though and head for the horizon - anything must be better than living like that. Wham.

Nobody understood though. Just couldn't understand these dark emotions being hurled head.first down breakneck arrangements of octaves. God how can you not like this? - its four and half minutes long and yet it feels like its over in 30 seconds. My heart feels like it wants to punch you in the face (naff off ya wanker, besides 'ees a bleedin' American inee?).

So I watched the characters grow up on my own. On the Darkness of the edge of Town Johny and the Magic Rat (Posthumous) pick up steady income drag racing and collect the spent souls of women along with the pink slips. It is dark. On the River they're railroaded through a whole series of alternately morbid and then joyous celebrations of young people finding out just what in all hell is going on out there. The next chapter is the spartan grass roots ethic of Nebraska. They've learned some, but they're still restless see? These maudlin grey worlders just don't understand

this blackness that spreads through 'em like a malignant possessive. Just gotta keep searching for something which they know isn't there.

On Born in the USA, all the street warriors are married with kids but those problems continue to haunt 'em down like a pack of wild muses. If you can listen to Downbound train without a bulge in your throat, I pronounce you dead from the neck up.

So, here we go then. The latest installment. Bruce is pushing forty now and I'm as old as he was then Born to Run was written. Scary. But what on earth would he be singing about now - the impending joys of grandchildren? As it turns out, no. Bruce still isn't satisfied in his efforts to analyse the dark and tortured souls inexplicably thrown from the pages of Penn Warren and Faulkener into the limbo of his songs.

This then is what you get. **SIDE ONE Ain't Got You** Bruce slams into one acapella piece of silliness that essentially rehashes a whole bag of fifties anthems about the supposedly super-rich braggart that can't get that ONE little gurlie.

Tougher Than The Rest Balmily lifting tune in which our boy claims not to be an emotional wimp but we end up appreciating what a little pudding he really is.

Spare Parts Midwestern patio stomp especially for Mellan-camp fans. It's a rambling story about the kid that gets his gurl preppers and darn me if he doesn't run off to the oil fields. This is good.

Cautious Man Nebraska revisited. A fireside strummer with a little mandolin and sobbing synth thrown in for good measure. Another lost soul story about the guy that can't stop moving on.

Walk Like A Man More nonsense about the meaning of growing up; the mysteries and responsibilities of marriage. Bruce, this has already been over done on the River. Snap out of it. Nice tune though.

SIDE TWO Tunnel of Love Has an immediate impact with a catchy intro but trips up and falls head first into a dead beat affair where Bruce takes his dearie through the

ditty rife with the symbolism of uncertainty. What does the future hold? I don't know Bruce, but you couldn't have written this drivel ten years ago my old son.

Two Faces Again we're reiterating the possibility of a shining future spoiled by rash promises and pop-up problems. Yeah, restlessness. Pleasant enough though.

Brilliant Disguise Currently the single and a lack-lustre performance it is too. It's lucky that Boss-Head got the cross-over audience last time around because this isn't going to shake the ants out of anybody's underpants.

One Step Up This is the only piece that still talks to me as the days of yore. It's the same old story though where everything is in your face and nothing's going your way. Best entertain a whimsical grin, crack open a brew, and fiddle with the pick-up some more so you can go pick up Cindy-Lou (who's she? -Ed). Lovely little bittersweet thing that will be a hit.

When You're Alone Gimme a break Broooce! "when your alone you're alone/when you're alone you ain't nothin' but alone" Ugh! A real stinker!

Valentine's Day After "One Step Up" the best on the album. This is how country records should sound: easily accessible story, sensitive intelligent lyrics swathed in light dreamy folds of pink neck strumming. Certainly the road isn't cluttered by dead relatives/sweethearts/dogs/stick insects. Way to go Bruce.

As a whole, 'Tunnel of Love' still has that cinematic quality about it. You DO believe in the characters when walking across the railroad tracks with the old walkman on between University and York. But nowadays it seems as if Tramps like us, Baby we were born to sit down on the chesterfield for a while before going out to take Spot for a walk around the block.

MICHELE'S NO NONSENSE COLUMN

JR. GONE WILD "Less Art - More Pop" (Better Youth Canada)

Not bad. Would be better if they could sing. Moderate energy. Cow punk bandwagon band. Don't know if I'd pay money for it though. "Old Blue" is getting a bit of airplay. It's not bad. "Why I hate the Sixties" is another favorite. God his voice needs training. Almost painful at times. Let's just say the album invokes many feelings.

BOBS YOUR UNCLE -"Bobs Your Uncle" (Criminal)

From Vancouver. They're great! They have talent - you don't see that often these days. Sook-Yin Lee's voice is fantastical! It soars. It makes the mood of the song, dragging slowly on "Bored" and jumping for "Talk to the Birds". The instruments are at times chaotic but everything blends. Peter Lizotte (Fat Boy Slim) plays a mean harmonica. Definitely worth the money. 8 out of 10

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CHSR-FM PLAYLIST
6-12 October 1987

HEAVY ROTATION		
* DeJa Voodoo	The Worst of DeJa Voodoo	OG
* 54:40	Show Me	Warner Bros
* New Order	Substance	Factory
* New Regime	The Race	RCA
* Pink Floyd	A Momentary Lapse of Reason	Columbia
† Ramones	Halfway To Sanity	Sire
REM	Document	IRS
MEDIUM ROTATION		
† Cabaret Voltaire	Code	EMI
* Cannon Heath Down	Heart-throb Companion	Bongo Sunrise
* Chalk Circle	The Mending Wall	Duke Street
* Monty Cantain	Born Again in Flames	Maldoror
* Mojo Nixon & Skid Roper	Bo Day Shus	Enigma
* Northern Pikes	Big Blue Sky	Virgin
* Various	It Came From Canada Vol	OG
LIGHT ROTATION		
* Bab	Bab	Independent
* Bodeans	Outside Looking In	Slash
* Jr Gone Wild	More Art, Less Pop	BYC
* Hugh Marsh	Shaking The Pumpkin	Duke Street
* Miracle Legion	Surprise Surprise Surprise	Rough Trade
* Randy Peters	Love Lost + Made 'R Happy	XXX
* Canadian Content		
† New Adds		

Compiled by Nadine A. Murray, Music Director.