

Return of the fairy tale

The Princess Bride

by Scott Neily

Most people evolve into adulthood with the notion that fairy tales are for kids, and therefore grow out of the fantasies of youth. However, the charm of

professionals and are well suited to their roles. The soundtrack is also notable, composed by Mark Knopfler, lead singer/guitarist of the rock group Dire Straits.

The humour and warmth of



Heroic Westly (Cary Elwes) defends Princess Buttercup (Robin Wright) from a bad marriage.

the old stories stems from the notion that entertainment is of paramount importance.

Based on William Goldman's book, *The Princess Bride* follows that particular idea to the letter. The general tone of the movie is

"light-hearted adventure with a liberal dash of romance"

light-hearted adventure with a liberal dash of romance. The characters are simple, though not boring, and are straightforward enough that in-depth analyses are not needed. Kids should enjoy the tale, even though Rambo doesn't make an appearance. Adults who don't dwell on the morbid complexities of today's cinema will likely find themselves mesmerized by the movie's charm, wit, grace, and humour.

The story opens with a grandfather reading a book to his sick, somewhat reluctant grandson. The scene then shifts, in dream-like fashion, from modern messy to quiet rustic. It is here, in days of long ago, that the princess' tale of how she falls into misfortune begins. Though her rescue and escape from the bad guys more or less makes up the rest of the simple plot, the high level of entertainment is such that complexities become nonessential.

The actors, although not superstars, are well established

Of Jungle Lords and Tangerine Dreams

by Andrew M. Duke

Richmond, Virginia's Cashmere Jungle Lords are back. Hot on the heels of their 4-track 7" debut comes their *Oodjie-Boodjie Night-Night* album (Li'l Abner Records, 2917 Floyd Ave., Richmond, VA 23221). Their name, they'll tell you, conjures up an "exotic quality, with a little bit of danger".

Variety was the keyword on their EP, with country, rock, and Spanish-influenced pieces, and this variety is certainly evident on the new LP. But stop! Is this really the Cashmere Jungle Lords? They've grown in leaps and bounds in all departments. This is, no doubt, the result of their four tours of the United States and performances with the likes of Bruce Hornsby and Buckwheat Zydeco, to name but two.

Their latest bit of vinyl has them launching a guitar assault on Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" and daring to float some harmonica throughout the grungy guitar grind of "Always Something". Vocalist/guitarist Dominic Carpin, along with drummer Jim Kaylis and bassist John Moore, manage to twist "Mama la Bamba" so that the track becomes a cute rapper à la "Walk This Way". "Los Blob" is a bossa novafied version of the theme from *The Blob*, a science-fiction flick. This LP is impressive — too bad it's only 27 minutes long. Perhaps you can catch them when they tour the Northeast next spring.

Tangerine Dream, three musicians known for their emotion-evoking instrumental ambiance, have decided to try for something totally new after over 14 LPs dating back to as early as 1971. They have brought in a vocalist, Jocelyn B. Smith, to provide vocals on their *Tyger* album (Jive Electro/BMG).

Smith sings 4 poems by the famous poet/artist/mystic/philosopher William Blake (1757-1827). "The Tyger" and "The Smile" use Blake's poems of the same name, while "London" uses "London" and "The Fly". Translating Blake's poems into song has been done many times before. The Mafia, a British group, recorded parts of Blake's epic "Jerusalem", and artists such

as Skinny Puppy have referred to his works.

The title track, "Tyger", suffers mainly because Smith sounds too pop-oriented in her vocals, while "London" begins with her sounding like Grace Jones. She shines, however, whenever she interprets the lyrics, as on "Smile", and tries to give them feeling.

The music is basic Tangerine Dream, with the stretched-out guitar at the end of "London" and the drum beat that begins "Alchemy of the Heart", modernizing their sound slightly. No stranger to soundtracks, Tangerine Dream makes the latter song sound similar to the instrumentals they wrote for the new movie *Near Dark*.

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