

yam

yetanothermagazine filmtvmusic

dec2008

independent
spirit awards
nominees
announced

in this yam we review //
twilight, the duchess,
blindness, quantum of solace,
britney spears, guns n' roses,
marit larsen, db5k, taylor swift
and more //



squeal piggy, squeal

our reviews of
let the right one in
the film & book //

First of all, thank you to all the friends who collaborated on this.

You didn't have to, but you did... this is the only way I can pay you at the moment – with a cheap thank you credit in digital form.

I always wanted to have something like this, back when I was 13 years old and using something called Microsoft Publisher. I sat on my dad's computer and wrote about the music and films that I liked... I simply put it together with low-res images and I was done.

Now, I actually write articles minding word count, and have actually asked other people for their contributions. We love film... and music, and other art forms. We want to discover news things, and let other people know about them.

You are welcome to share your opinion, share your music or your film on upcoming **yam** issues.

amysuewongchan //

i don't really know what an editor is supposed to do, but I think i am supposed to write something about this first issue of **yam**.

from the editor //

film	blindness review	pg2
	twilight review	pg3
	amy's ratings	pg4
	maca's ratings	pg4
	1 minute film review ratings	pg5
	slumdog millionaire	pg7
	independent spirit award nominations	pg8
	golden globes nominations	pg9
	låt den rätte komma in reviews	pg10
	coming soon	pg12
music	britney spears - circus review	pg13
	taylor swift - fearless review	pg13
	marit larsen - the chase review	pg14
	guns n' roses review	pg15
	dbsk - mirotic review	pg15
	music news	pg15
	grammy nominations	pg16
	coming soon	pg17
tv		
	dexter season 3 review	pg18
	tv news	pg19
books		
	the choice review	pg20
	kaiten taburu wa mutsukashii review	pg20

index //



blindness

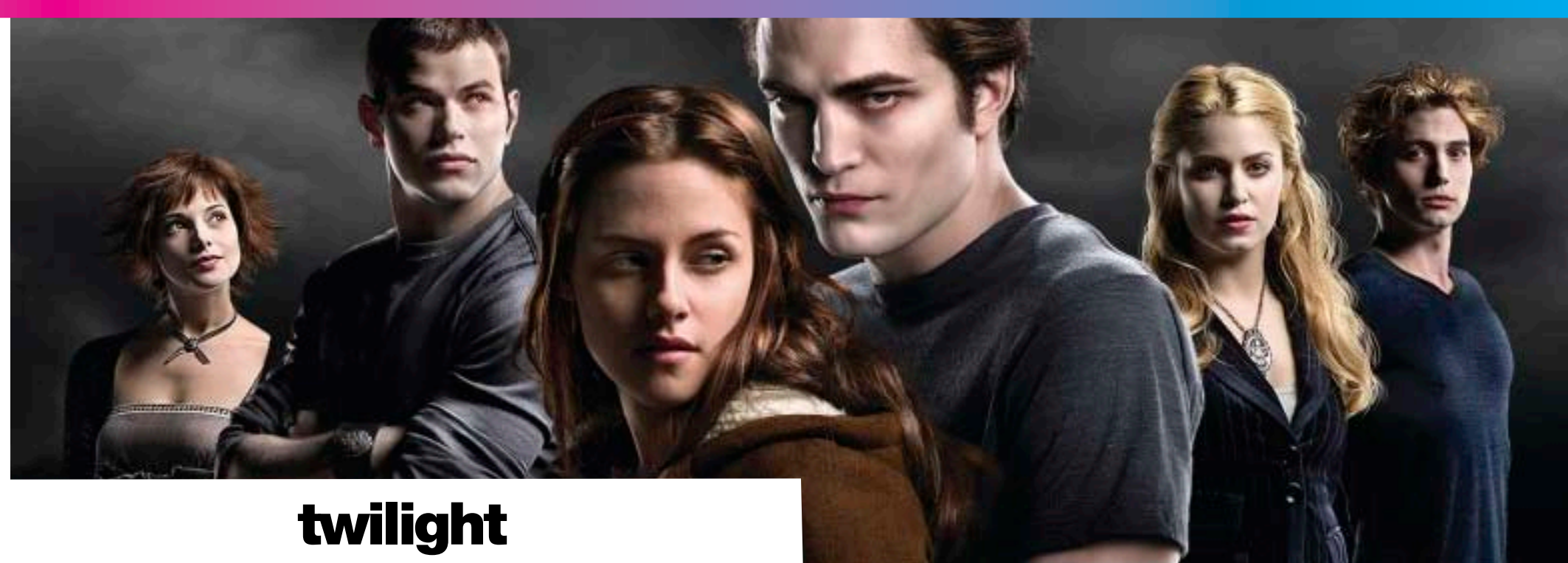
Starring: Julianne Moore, Mark Ruffalo, Alice Braga, Yusuke Iseya, Yoshino Kimura, Gael Garcia Bernal, Danny Glover.

Fernando Meirelles brings to screen an adaptation of the book by Jose Saramago of a mysterious blindness epidemic that swept a city, bringing a group of people into a quarantine facility that soon begin taking advantage of the weaker, the one with the gun has all the power.

The film is amazingly shot, despite the tough subject matter, which creates a knot in your stomach once you reach the middle of the film.

Sadly, that's it, all the work put into setting up this world just stops being interesting a while before the film ends, and drags until you no longer know if the film should matter to you or not. Despite the negative points, Blindness deserves a chance to say what it has to say.

★★★



Starring: Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson, Nikki Reed, Elizabeth Reaser.

I saw this movie last week. Part curious about the hype surrounding it, part my passion for everything vamp. Kind of wished I had stayed home and re-watched "Interview with a vampire" for the 20th time.

The only thing positive I can say about this movie was its cast. Robert Pattinson and Kirsten Stewart were delightful. The acting was natural despite the horrible lines they had to perform. Therefore it was a pity the story lacked substance.

I haven't read the book so I cannot say if the movie was true to the original or not, but as a romance story it was so cliché. The whole story is a big ball of fluff with a heroine that is supposed to be unafraid and brave but seems to be fragile as porcelain, and a hero that walks around in constant need of a fix seeing as Bella is his "drug."

I came out of the cinema in great need of a strong drink to get rid of the sugary vile feeling the movie gave me. Sometimes artistically shot in black and white can be called "reality tv" angles, in some parts the movie was a feast for the eyes but other than that, spend your ten bucks on something else. - jumi

★1/2





amy's ratings

Quantum of Solace	★★★★
The Duchess	★★★★
A Wednesday	★★★★★
Madeinusa	★★★★
Happy-Go-Lucky	★★★★1/2
Meduzot (Jellyfish)	★★★★★
The Girl in the Park	★★★★
Peur(s) du Noir	★★★★
12	★★★★1/2
Three Kingdoms: Resurrection of the Dragon	★★★1/2
The Women	★★★★
The Other Boleyn Girl	★★★★
Mamma Mia!	★★★★1/2
The Secret Life of Bees	★★★★

maca's ratings

Twilight	★★★1/2
Taken	★★★★★1/2
The Women	★★★★
The Other Boleyn Girl	★★★★1/2
The Duchess	★★★★★
Mamma Mia!	★★★
The House Bunny	★★★
Burn After Reading	★★★★★
How to Lose Friends and Alienate People	★★★
Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist	★★★1/2
The Secret Life of Bees	★★★★1/2
W	★★★1/2

nbr's top ten films

- burn after reading

changeling

benjamin button

the dark knight

defiance
- frost/nixon

gran torino

milk

wall-e

the wrestler



slumdog millionaire is best film according to national board of review



The NBR announced its winners for this year, naming *Slumdog Millionaire* as the best film, and naming David Fincher as the best director for his work in *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*. Other winners were Anne Hathaway as best actress for *Rachel Getting Married*, Josh Brolin as best supoprtng actor for Milk and best supporting actress for Penelope Cruz in *Vicky Cristina Barcelona*.

Best Film:	SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE
Best Director:	DAVID FINCHER, The Curious Case of Benjamin Button
Best Actor:	CLINT EASTWOOD, Gran Torino
Best Actress:	ANNE HATHAWAY, Rachel Getting Married
Best Supporting Actor:	JOSH BROLIN, Milk
Best Supporting Actress:	PENELOPE CRUZ, Vicky Cristina Barcelona
Best Foreign Language Film:	MONGOL
Best Documentary:	MAN ON WIRE
Best Animated Feature:	WALL-E
Best Ensemble Cast:	DOUBT

1min.reviews

sweeney todd
Director - Tim Burton
Genre - Crime/Drama/Musical/Thriller
A musical starring Johnny Depp? Our fears of this being a colossal mistake proved unfounded as this Tim Burton vehicle actually worked amazingly. And Johnny Depp can sing! Who would have known? This isn't the sort of musical you can bring your whole family to though. Your kids would probably have infinite nightmares. It's a musical bathed in blood and filled with visually dark, gothic scenes. The kind Burton revels in devilish abandon. Watch out for Sacha Baron Cohen who is without doubt the 'New Peter Sellers'.
★★★★

la vie en rose
Director - Olivier Dahan
Genre - Biography/Drama/Music
Marion Cotillard plays singer Edith Piaf in this biopic which wallows somewhat in pain and sadness. Plucked from obscurity and poverty, Piaf's story is one of amazement and the love of singing which kept her alive. Frail and sick all through her hard life, she put her torment into the songs she sang, and therein was her strength. Cotillard's portrayal which earned her an Oscar is spectacular. The voice inflections, personality quirks and overall physical change she went through just bowled us over.
★★★★1/2

the assassination of jesse james by the coward robert ford
Director - Andrew Dominik
Genre - Biography/Crime/Drama/Western
Casey Affleck shines in this gracefully tragic western. Creepy, awkward and painfully insecure, his role as the man who murders Jesse James is enthralling. He's like the kid in school we never want to sit with. Brad Pitt is perfect as the legendary outlaw too. The cinematography by Roger Deakins who also shot 'No Country For Old Men' is beautiful and really classic looking. Almost every scene looks like an oil painting come to life.
★★★★1/2

the diving bell and the butterfly
Director - Julian Schnabel
Genre - Biography/Drama
Julian Schnabel may very well be the most fascinating American director working today. An accomplished artist before he dived into filmmaking, Schnabel's artistic eye is exceptionally intuitive. Horribly paralyzed by a rare illness, an editor of Elle magazine suddenly finds his life crashing before him. With only a single eye capable of movement, he sets out to write a novel. This powerful film is based on a real story.
★★★★

persepolis
Director - Vincent Paronnaud & Marjane Satrapi
Genre - Animation/Biography/Drama/War
An account of life in Iran through the eyes of a precocious girl who fought for freedom all through her restricted, devalued existence as a female in a male-dominated country. The filmmakers here have taken the animated genre and turned it into a noir-ish, 'documentary in drawn form' mixture which took us by surprise. Its powerful, potent story with sprinklings of hilarity and poignancy resonate well over the 2D form it is in, reaching and capturing our hearts with cinematic splendor.
★★★★

the science of sleep
Director - Michel Gondry
Genre - Comedy/Drama/Fantasy/Romance
Directed by former MTV director Michel Gondry, this movie will take you headlong into the mind of a child-like dreamer whose waking life and dream world seem to interlace. His love for a next door neighbor keeps him grounded and is the anchor which prevents this film from spiraling into idiosyncratic zone. Their real relationship dialogues and struggles give the story significance. Gael Garcia Bernal is perfect as the boyish dreamer while Gondry's use of handmade, low-budget effects is charming.
★★★

10 items or less
Director - Brad Silberling
Genre - Comedy/Drama/Romance
Morgan Freeman has made an entire career out of playing mentor type roles. Here he is again, imparting his invaluable wisdom in this film. He is essentially a Jedi master sans lightsaber. Doing research for a super-market manager role, Freeman who plays an aging actor encounters Paz Vega's cashier character and immediately decides to guide her towards a better life. Patronizing and overflowing with cliched moments and personalities, this movie relies heavily on the charms of Vega and Freeman. Spare us please.
★★1/2

happy together
Director - Wong Kar Wai
Genre - Drama/Romance
Tony Leung and the late Leslie Cheung play a gay couple who love and hate in this beautifully made film. The script is just so authentically real and heartfelt you never feel that the actors are not committed to their roles. Even the love scenes are filmed as if we're witnessing something very private and intimate, which can be quite a turn off if you're homophobic. But if you get past that, you'll be surprisingly rewarded. The acting is pure class, soundtrack out of this world and cinematography by Christopher Doyle...scorching hot!
★★★★★

all about lily chou-chou
Director - Shunji Iwai
Genre - Crime/Drama/Music/Thriller
Shunji Iwai's films not only feel like poetry visualized on screen, they are extensions of his very soul and being. In this story, a sensitive boy's only escape from his nightmarish existence in which school bullies take it out on him on a daily basis is when he listens to the soothing sounds of Lily Chou-Chou. The music married astutely with entrancing, pretty images in this Iwai film will grab you like a perfumed scent applied lightly on a sensuous neck of a woman.
★★★★



1min.reviewscontinued

nobody knows (dare mo shiranai)

Director - Hirokazu Koreeda

Genre - Drama

Discarded by their heartless, pathologically irresponsible mother like last night's leftovers, a couple of kids have to make do with life's unforgiving truth. Led by the eldest sibling (Yuya Yagira - winner of Best Actor in Cannes 2004), they soon learn that the world is not one big playground. Yagira is without doubt the spotlighted treat here as his calm exterior movingly betray a seething rage waiting to eat away at the core of his brittle family structure. Showing a marked maturity for someone so young, he represents a symbolic window into a world where sometimes the light just refuses to shine.

★★★★

wanted

Director - Timur Bekmambetov

Genre - Action/Thriller

Story: Wimp stuck in a cubicle learns he belongs to a fraternity of assassins. To say that director Timur Bekmambetov has a unique visual style is an understatement. As evidenced in 'Night Watch' and 'Day Watch', he is to the action genre what David Blaine is to the art of magic. Pulling off never before attempted eye-popping special effects with such ease they almost seem to come out of thin air, Bekmambetov may well be action cinema's second coming. All of which seem such a shame really because its wings of immaculate promise were fatally clipped in the god-awful ending, crushing all our hopes along with it.

★★1/2

the incredible hulk

Director - Louis Leterrier

Genre - Action/Sci-Fi/Thriller

Ed Norton expands on his 'Primal Fear' role, unleashing a bigger, more destructive monster into the world of comic book geeks and common moviegoers alike. Unlike the computer generated disaster that was Ang Lee's crime towards mainstream movies however, this Hulk makes Eric Bana's look like a huge boy throwing a big tantrum. Staying true to Hulk's origin and the TV series, a new life is injected into the now promising franchise, and our jolly green giant is able to thus rise out of the ashes of Ang Lee's mess. Hulk Smash!!!

★★★★1/2

10,000 bc

Director - Roland Emmerich

Genre - Adventure/Romance

'Apocalypto' for the Miley Cyrus/Jonas Brothers generation. Watered down and sweetened with an overbearing love angle, this 'Apocalypto-lite', this mainstream machine with model-like leads sporting six-packs and trendy dreadlocks pack no surprises. Every scene and every word spoken seem to be regurgitated from movies that have come before. It is the kind of popcorn feature many have grown to expect and in a drone-like manner, accept. Throw in some computer generated pizzazz and you have the whole world eating out of your hands. We'd like to think that we (the 1minute posse) have evolved. ★★

stranger than paradise

Director - Jim Jarmusch

Genre - Comedy/Drama

Independent filmmaker Jim Jarmusch's official debut. This little movie shot in black and white with a shoe-string budget is quite charming but offers very little bite in the story department. The Hungarian cousin of a slacker-type dude comes to live in America. Forced by his aunt to take the girl into his scruffy abode, the dude is at first reluctant and pissy but slowly finds the girl warming her way into his heart. Expect sparse, uninspired dialogue and a leisurely, almost anesthetic pace.

★★1/2

the other boelyn girl

Director - Justin Chadwick

Genre - Biography/Drama/History/Romance

Scarlett Johansson and Natalie Portman play two sisters vying for the attention of a very married King, starring Eric Bana. Sounds like a formula for a hot, sexy history lesson yes? Sadly, it remains a missed opportunity as the filmmakers have diluted the sensuous aspect of the story so much it felt like in comparison 'Dangerous Liaisons' was hardcore porn. A soap opera-ish tale is then served cold, taking sexy away instead of bringing it back. Our hope of catching the two nubile beauties in more intimate situations for the price of one film is completely crushed and we'll never forgive the director. Never.

★★

slumdog millionaire

Slumdog Millionaire tells the tale of Jamal Malik, a "slumdog" from Mumbai who is competing on the Indian version of *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?* He has, against the odds, made it to the final question. Suspected of cheating by the show's host, Jamal is taken straight from the studio after the show's taping to be interrogated by a police officer.

This film is a delight. It is incredibly entertaining, and skillfully combines charm, humor, suspense, and drama. Though it [can certainly](#) be painted as a feel-good movie, know that it is also a challenging film.

It doesn't shy away from some pretty heavy themes, which I won't get into in case you do decide to see the film. One of the things I love about the way these issues were approached is that there's just no bullshit. I never felt like I was being played or pushed towards feeling one specific way about what I was being shown. It's a testament to Boyle and screenwriter Simon Beaufoy, who wanted to accurately represent the realities of this kid's world, and then trusted the actors to give honest performances. - k

Starring: Dev Patel, Anil Kapoor, Irrfan Khan

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independent spirit nominations have been announced!

best feature

Ballast
Frozen River
Rachel Getting Married
Wendy and Lucy
The Wrestler

best director

Ramin Bahrani - *Chop Shop*
Jonathan Demme - *Rachel Getting Married*
Lance Hammer - *Ballast*
Courtney Hunt - *Frozen River*
Tom McCarthy - *The Visitor*

best screenplay

Woody Allen - *Vicky Cristina Barcelona*
Anna Boden & Ryan Fleck - *Sugar*
Charlie Kaufman - *Synecdoche, New York*
Howard A. Rodman - *Savage Grace*
Christopher Zalla - *Sangre De Mi Sangre*

best female lead

Summer Bishil - *Towelhead*
Anne Hathaway - *Rachel Getting Married*
Melissa Leo - *Frozen River*
Tarra Riggs - *Ballast*
Michelle Williams - *Wendy and Lucy*

best male lead

Javier Bardem - *Vicky Cristina Barcelona*
Richard Jenkins - *The Visitor*
Sean Penn - *Milk*
Jeremy Renner - *The Hurt Locker*
Mickey Rourke - *The Wrestler*

best supporting female

Penélope Cruz - *Vicky Cristina Barcelona*
Rosemarie DeWitt - *Rachel Getting Married*
Rosie Perez - *The Take*
Misty Upham - *Frozen River*
Debra Winger - *Rachel Getting Married*

best supporting male

James Franco - *Milk*
Anthony Mackie - *The Hurt Locker*
Charlie McDermott - *Frozen River*
JimMyron Ross- *Ballast*
Haaz Sleiman - *The Visitor*

john cassavetes award

In Search of a Midnight Kiss
Prince of Broadway
The Signal
Take Out
Turn the River

best foreign film

The Class
Gomorra
Hunger
Secret of the Grain
Silent Light

best documentary

The Betrayal
Encounters at the End of the World
Man on Wire
The Order of Myths
Up the Yangtze

best first feature

Afterschool
Medicine for Melancholy
Sangre De Mi Sangre
Sleep Dealer
Synecdoche, New York

top nominees

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button
Best Motion Picture Drama, Best Actor Drama,
Best Director, Best Screenplay, Best Original Score

Doubt
Best Actress Drama, 2 Best Supporting Actress,
Best Supporting Actor, Best Screenplay

Frost/Nixon
Best Motion Picture Drama, Best Actor Drama,
Best Director, Best Screenplay, Best Original Score

The Reader
Best Motion Picture Drama, Best Supporting Actress,
Best Director, Best Screenplay

Revolutionary Road
Best Motion Picture Drama, Best Actress Drama,
Best Actor Drama, Best Director

Slumdog Millionaire
Best Motion Picture Drama, Best Director,
Best Screenplay, Best Original Score

Vicky Cristina Barcelona
4 Best Motion Picture Comedy/Musical,
Best Actress Comedy/Musical,
Best Actor Comedy/Musical, Best Supporting Actress

Three Nominations:
In Bruges
The Wrestler

Two Nominations:
Bolt
Burn after Reading
Changeling
Happy-Go-Lucky
Il y a Longtemps que Je t'Aime
Last Chance Harvey
Mamma Mia!
Tropic Thunder
Wall-e

Single Nomination:
Der Bader Meinhof Komplex
Cadillac Records
The Dark Knight
Defiance
The Duchess
Maria Larssons Eviga
Ögonblick
Gomorra
Gran Torino
Kung Fu Panda
Milk
Pineapple Express
Rachel Getting Married
Waltz with Bashir

golden globes nominations 2008-2009

låt den rätte komma in

let the right one in

A bullied 12-year-old named Oskar dreams of revenge, but ends up finding love with a girl named Eli, who gives him the strength to hit back. But Eli is a bit peculiar, she doesn't come out to play in the day, she never eats, and always needs an invitation to enter a room.

Låt den Rätte Komma In
by John Ajvide Lindqvist
Drama/Horror
★★★★

Let the Right One In (or *Let Me In* according to the American translation by Ebba Segerber) is an intense vampire fiction tale that mixes so well with the tale of a boy in a 1981's small Swedish city, that it will probably chill you to the bone.

The book, unlike the film, takes twists and turns in a labyrinth of back-story dealing with things such as drugs, xenophobia, castration and pedophilia, which result in a strange blend of really great, but dragging at times. At the beginning, it felt like the author didn't know where to go with all the information, but there's a point in which he begins focusing on the story between Oskar, Eli and Håkan, which I believe were the most fascinating; as were the parts dealing with Virginia's thoughts and ultimate ending.

As to the difference between the film adaptation and this? Perhaps the book is a lot scarier than the film, and it's partly because it takes you to where the film didn't let you... dealing with Håkan. However, the most heartfelt moments are there, anything with Oskar and Eli discussing their lives.
- amy

Skinny blond kid living in snow-covered Swedish apartment complex fantasizes about giving his local schoolyard bullies their well earned comeuppance.

Skinny pale girl moves in next door. Only comes out at night. Has a creepy inept father figure/guardian.

Boy meets Girl. People die. Bonds are formed. Fangs are unsheathed.

Okay, so there's no way around it, this is a vampire movie... but it's a really good one, seriously!

It was made for Swedes by Swedes, based on a Swedish novel and adapted by the author, plus blood on snow looks wicked cool. Flick has cool to spare.

It's very unique to the genre, or sub genre - are vampire movies at this point their own genre? - in that not only is it actually good, a bragging right that very few of these types of movies can make, but it also manages to stay within the confines of what most people expect out of a vampire movie (biting, aversion to sunlight) while also working as a sort of coming of age (or never coming of age, if you like) character drama.

It has a creepy horror vibe, but it's also hopeful and like any good vampire movie it has that tragic lost humanity aspect, and sort of a Peter-Pan-never-grows-old gone horribly wrong deal as well.

An American remake is supposedly in the works, much to the chagrin of the Swedish director of the film, but I urge you to check it out if you get the chance, as it is a real treat for we, hopeless and constantly disappointed few, that rarely get to indulge our sweet tooth on such a rare bloody treat. - kyle c. finnegan
★★★★1/2

It was scary, bloody and believable. I like the fact that they didn't portray children as "innocent" people. The fact that a boy is bullied, and how feelings of revenge appears on early ages as well as love, makes this a plausible story.

Furthermore, I think the young actors did a pretty good job. They were both strong and very convincing. It was indeed a very unusual movie and it gives you different point of view regarding vampires. It reminds you that vampires are supposed to be frightening. - maca
★★★★

Let the Right One In is a beautifully balanced, wonderfully shot drama that happens to deal with vampires. I loved the pace of the film, which wasn't too slow or fast... I never found myself bored, even though the film lacks all those scenes with slick action-packed-shots edited together that are so often used nowadays. There was no vampire laced in the black leather anorak that usually populates the fanboy's or fangirl's dreams, and the film lacks a fantasy tone that made the whole thing even more real... and perhaps a lot scarier.

One of the strongest points of the project is that all the leads are kids dealing with adult themes in their perspective. How being bullied in school can slowly settle into an animalistic search for revenge not different, and perhaps even worse than the need to kill because one has to survive. - amy
★★★★1/2



coming soon



in theaters

- December 19th

- Yes Man

- Seven Pounds

- Brothers Bloom

- The Wrestler
- January 30th

- The Class
- February 6th

- He's Just Not that Into You
- December 26th

- Revolutionary Road

- Waltz with Bashir

- The Curious Case of Benjamin Button

- Last Chance Harvey

on dvd/blu-ray

- December

- Mamma Mia! (16th)

[Single-disc Widescreen]

- The Women

[Single-disc Widescreen]

- Savage Grace (23rd)

[Single-disc Widescreen]

- The Duchess (27th)

[Single-disc Widescreen]

- Traitor (19th)

[Single-disc Widescreen]

- Serenity (30th)

[Blu-ray]
- January

- The Last Emperor (6th)

[Blu-ray]

- AO AKUA (23rd)

[Single-disc R2 DVD]

- 1 Million Yen Girl (30th)

[Two-disc R2 DVD]
- February

- Gu-Gu the Cat (6th)

[Two-disc R2 DVD]

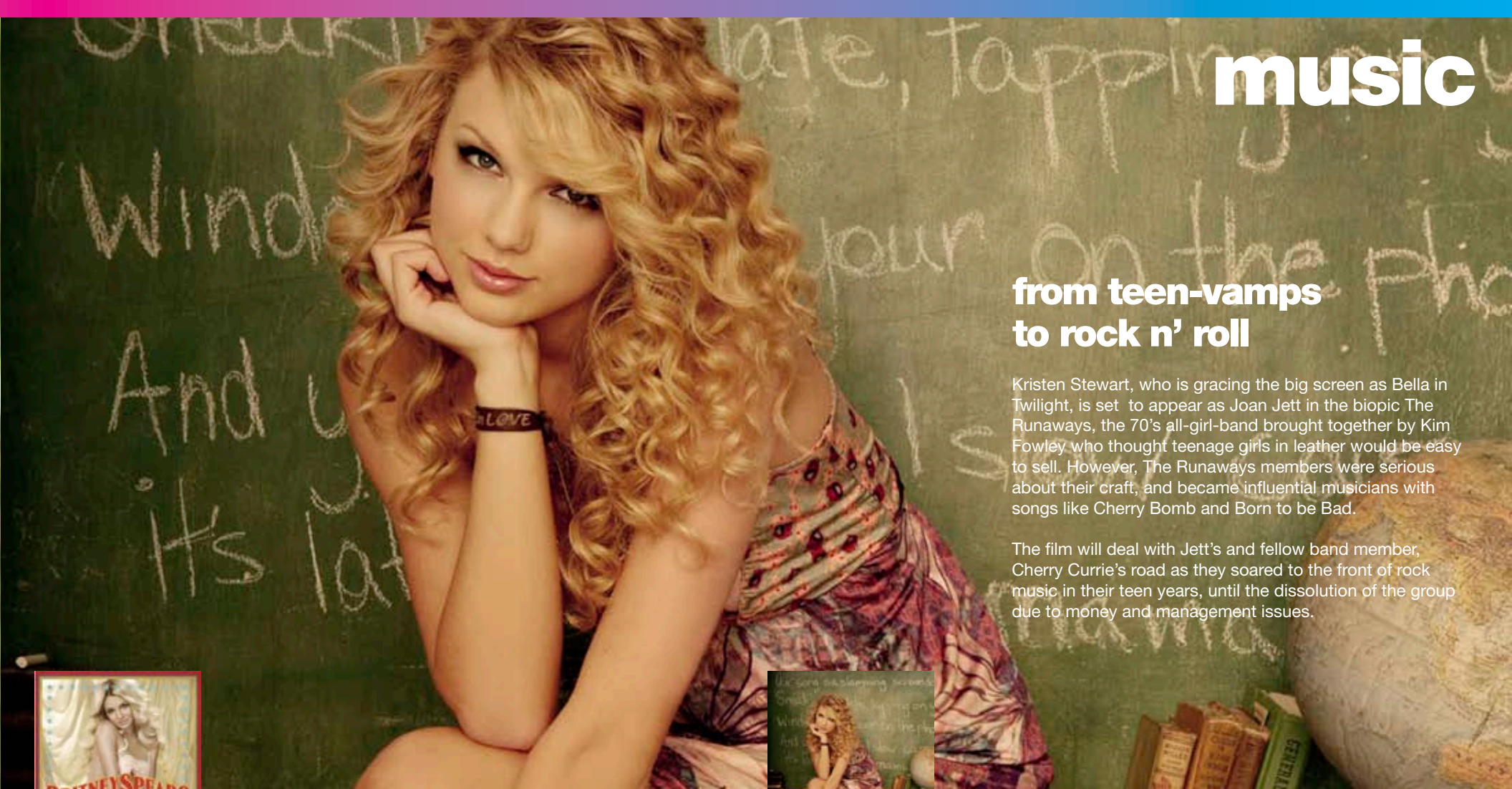
- Amadeus (10th)

[Two-disc Blu-ray]

- Donnie Darko

[Blu-ray]

music



from teen-vamps
to rock n' roll

Kristen Stewart, who is gracing the big screen as Bella in Twilight, is set to appear as Joan Jett in the biopic The Runaways, the 70's all-girl-band brought together by Kim Fowley, who thought teenage girls in leather would be easy to sell. However, The Runaways members were serious about their craft, and became influential musicians with songs like Cherry Bomb and Born to be Bad.

The film will deal with Jett's and fellow band member, Cherry Currie's road as they soared to the front of rock music in their teen years, until the dissolution of the group due to money and management issues.



Britney Spears
Circus (Dec. 02 2008)
Hate myself for saying this, but *Circus* is not as bad as I thought it could've been. The fact is, the album has some pretty catchy tunes which include the first single Womanizer, Circus, Shattered Glass, Radar, and my guilty pleasure If You Seek Amy, a song that is pretty smart in the simple MadGab wordplay - it had to be produced by Max Martin.

It doesn't sound like a dance club compilation, and it even has a beginning, middle and an end, probably marked by the three breather songs, Out from Under, Blur and My Baby. However, the latter feels like added at the last minute as it doesn't really fit with any of the other songs, and is followed by Radar. Perhaps My Baby should have been added as a bonus track instead, and another song on the same line as Blur could have worked better. All in all, Circus works as a decent dance pop album, despite its faults.



Taylor Swift
Fearless (Nov. 11 2008)
Taylor Swift's sophomore album delivers crossover pop-country flare all around. But think more Avril Lavigne, than Faith Hill... if you know what I mean. The first track gives the name to the album, and though not my favorite song of the bunch, the name gives the whole disc a certain energy. The album really picks up energy on White Horse, which for some reason reminded me of Faith Hill's Fireflies, a beautiful ballad with fairytale symbols overlapping with reality.

Despite the album being not that memorable, I believe Taylor Swift might have a lasting career, if she makes the right choices. Her voice will mature, her stage presence will improve, and her album-decision-making will better the chances of making an even more remarkable record later.

marit larsen

The Chase (Oct. 13 2008)
The Chase is an album that tells a love story summarized in the first track which gives the record its name, and just like that it sets the different stages in this story. The loss of someone whom you miss, the mental and physical realization, and the falling in and out of love once again.

Marit's voice and sound are like magic realism, bringing such happy tones to lines like "I've got a secret I'm dying to tell you/You're sound asleep, I don't want to wake you/ I'm about to break your heart and you don't know." And also delivering lines like "This is me, so this is you.../So now we're just like everyone else/ You're a riddle to me, you're a stranger to me" with so much regret, it makes for a great listen.



no doubt ready for some rock n' roll

No Doubt, whose last album «Rock Steady» was released in 2001, is ready for some rock and roll, according to Tony Kanal on the band's website.

Despite not having cities or dates, it is likely the group will begin touring this summer, as well as working on a new album. Gwen Stefani, who has released two albums as a solo artist, says she is ready to "pack up the babies and get a bunch of nannies.," and play again.

fleetwood mac unleashed in 2009

After five years without hitting the road, Fleetwood Mac with members Stevie Nicks, Lindsey Buckingham, John McVie and Mick Fleetwood, seem to be ready to perform live beginning on March 1st in Pittsburgh. The tour titled Unleashed is expected to run through the summer with scheduled dates in Minnesota, Chicago, Michigan, Boston, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Ontario and Quebec.

Buckingham also hinted at a possible return to the studio after the tour is over, to record a follow-up album to their 2003 release, "Say You Will."

more albums

Adele - 19	★★★★
Ryo Yoshimata - Atsu-Hime Original Soundtrack	★★★★
The Spinto Band - Moonwink	★★★★1/2
Sixpence None the Richer - The Dawn of Grace	★★★
Jay Chou - Capricorn	★★★★1/2
JJ Lin - Sixology	★★★
Kaiser Chiefs - Off with their Heads	★★
Aterciopelados - Río	★★★
Clazziquai - Metrotronics	★★★1/2
Pink - Funhouse	★★★
Tracy Chapman - Our Bright Future	★★★★1/2
Dido - Safe Trip Home	★★★
The Killers - Day & Age	★★★

dbsk

Mirotic (Sept. 29 2008)
The album delivers a pretty strong first track that gives its name to the album «Mirotic» packed with energy (and aided by the music video), and it's followed by the mellow energetic dance pop Wrong Number, but let's face it... those are pretty silly English lyrics, but that might be the effect of "Engrish". The other energetic track is HEY! (Don't Bring Me Down), which actually brings the album to its highest energetic point and brings it down again... coincidence?

CRAZY LOVE and RAINBOW are the pop songs with an almost 80's flare, always preceded by a pop slow jam track. I think my only issue with the album is that it ends on a pretty continuous play of no energy, is not that they have bad ballads, but their voices are a bit bland.

★★★



guns n' roses

Chinese Democracy (Nov.23 2008)
I'm beginning to think that «Chinese Democracy» was chosen as the album title just to stir up some controversy, because it lacks a spark. In fact, I found the record pretty boring, despite one or two tracks that I kind of enjoyed. There isn't a concrete theme, and it doesn't sound entirely like a GNR's album, sometimes I asked myself if I was listening to Bon Jovi's B-Sides, but at least he tried venturing into rock country.

Listening to it feels like I'm stuck in the 90's, as GNR's sound hasn't really changed all that much... then there's the considerable amount of rock ballads, which are pretty uninspiring or fun.

★★★



dresden dolls' amanda palmer, and her rebellyon

A Belly Solidarity Campaign began at a Dresden Dolls message board, after fans of Amanda Palmer heard that Roadrunner Records wanted to edit the singer's solo music video Leeds United because she looked fat. Despite the release of the video without the edits because the "issue" is not really a problem for Palmer's fanbase, the damage was already done, and the reBELLyOn began.

Fans have started sharing photos of their tummies in Palmer's support, and are still asking for belly contributions via email. If you want to share your tummy with the world, head over to THEREBELLYON.COM.



grammy nominations are in!

Grammy Award Nominees were announced on December 3rd with live performances on prime-time television that included Christina Aguilera, Mariah Carey, Celine Dion, Foo Fighters, John Mayer, and others. This marked a first for the 51st Grammy Awards, that would have usually read a long list of over 100 categories.

Lil Wayne topped the nominations with eight, Coldplay garnered seven, and Jay-Z, Ne-Yo and Kanye West each earned six nods. Alison Krauss, John Mayer, Robert Plant, Radiohead and Jazmine Sullivan received five each, and Adele, Danger Mouse, Eagles, Lupe Fiasco, George Strait, and T.I. each received four nominations.

The 51st Grammy Award ceremony will be held on February 8th 2009 in Los Angeles, California.

general field nominees

- ★ MORE LIKELY TO WIN
- ★ LESS LIKELY TO WIN

Album Of The Year:
Viva La Vida Or Death And All His Friends (Coldplay) ★
Tha Carter III (Lil Wayne) ★
Year Of The Gentleman (Ne-Yo) ★
Raising Sand (Robert Plant & Alison Krauss) ★
In Rainbows (Radiohead) ★

Record Of The Year:
“Chasing Pavements” (Adele) ★
“Viva La Vida” (Coldplay) ★
“Bleeding Love” (Leona Lewis)
“Paper Planes” (M.I.A.) ★
“Please Read The Letter” (Robert Plant & Alison Krauss) ★

Song Of The Year:
“American Boy,” (Estelle Featuring Kanye West) ★
“Chasing Pavements,” (Adele) ★
“I’m Yours,” (Jason Mraz) ★
“Love Song,” (Sara Bareilles) ★
“Viva La Vida,” (Coldplay) ★

Best New Artist:
Adele ★
Duffy ★
Jonas Brothers ★
Lady Antebellum ★
Jazmine Sullivan ★

wishlist wins

RECORD OF THE YEAR,
- PLEASE READ THE LETTER - ROBERT PLANT & ALISON KRAUSS
- CHASING PAVEMENT - ADELE

ALBUM OF THE YEAR
- ROBERT PLANT & ALISON KRAUSS - RAISING SAND

SONG OF THE YEAR
- CHASING PAVEMENT - ADELE

BEST NEW ARTIST
- ADELE

youtube’s internet symphony

Starting January 28, musicians can begin submitting their entries consisting of two videos showcasing their musical talents, and an interpretation of an original piece by composer Tan Dun, who won an Academy Award for his work in «Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon,» to win the chance to collaborate with him, conductor Michael Tilson, and others in Carnegie Hall.

After narrowing the entries, YouTube users will be allowed to vote for the winner, who will be announced March 2nd. A month later, those selected will be flown to New York for a three-day workshop that will conclude with a performance in Carnegie Hall on April 15.

out now

Dr. Horrible’s Sing-Along Blog Soudntrack - Dec. 15th
Che Soundtrack - Dec. 16th
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button Soundtrack - Dec. 16th
Slumdog Millionaire Soundtrack - Dec. 21st
Placido Domingo - Amore Infinito - Dec. 23rd
Revolutionary Road Soundtrack - Dec. 23rd

coming soon

Leehom Wang - Heart Beat - Dec. 30th
Waltz with Bashir Soundtrack - Jan. 6th
Juan Diego Florez - Bel Canto Spectacular - Jan. 13th
Reel Big Fish - Fame, Fortune, Fornication - Jan. 20th
Bruce Springsteen - Working on a Dream - Jan. 27th
Franz Ferdinand - Tonight: Franz Ferdinand - Jan. 27th
Duncan Sheik - Whisper House - Jan. 27th
Los Fabulosos Cadillac - La Luz del Ritmo - Jan. 27th
The Fray - The Fray - Feb. 3rd
Melinda Doolittle - Coming Back to You - Feb. 3rd
Dierks Bentley - Feel that Fire - Feb. 3rd
Annie Lennox - The Annie Lennox Collection - Feb. 10th
Missy Elliott - Block Party - Feb. 10th
Lily Allen - It’s not Me, It’s You - Feb. 10th

new albums

dexter season 3

★★★★

This season, *Dexter* begins a new journey in which he actually “befriends” someone. Miguel Prado, a District Attorney, who is friends with LaGuerta and seems genuinely interested in striking up a friendship with Dexter after the murder of his brother, who happened to be killed by Dexter himself.

With an unlikely friendship with the Prado family, the show focused more on Dexter’s and other characters’ character development, and forgot a little about the killing. Despite the lack of thrills, the season delivered some great dramatic scenes especially during the second half of the season, like *Easy as Pie* and *Go your Own Way*. - amy

golden globes loves cable

Out of the ten nominees for best series (five for drama, five for comedy/musical), seven were shows airing in HBO, Showtime and AMC. In fact, HBO is the most nominated television network with 22 nominations, followed by Showtime with only eight, and then followed by NBC with six.

the l word final season kills main character & other spoilers

The final 6th season of the Showtime drama «The L Word» begins airing on January 18th, but there are several spoilers and rumors making their rounds online. Rose Rollins and Clementine Ford are set to re-appear as Tasha and Molly respectively. Xena’s star, Lucy Lawless and Saved by the Bell’s Jessie, Elizabeth Berkley are set to appear as well.

Lawless will play an investigator dealing with the death of Mia Kirshner’s character, Jenny. Her death was revealed in a two-minute video released online. Meanwhile, Berkley will play the-girl-that-got-away for Bette, played by Jennifer Beals.



pushing daisies & two other abc shows get axed

After weeks of rumors, there will be no one to save Ned as Pushing Daisies gets buried, alongside Eli Stone and Dirty Sexy Money.

The series by Bryan Fuller, about a pie-maker who has the ability to bring people back to live, won critical praise (it won three Emmy Awards in 2008), and it’s set to finish its running in spring.



sorry, this content is not available in your region

With the development of websites such as hulu.com, sling.com, and even youtube.com where you can now watch some shows legally, one would think that viewers would stop watching illegally-acquired content. You can even watch the episodes (or some clips) through the network’s website. However, the story is different.

Networks seem to forget that a big chunk of their programs’ viewers are located outside the USA. These people are still subjected to a period of waiting-time (as short as a couple of weeks, or as long as a year) before they can watch an episode. Perhaps it’s fine if the viewer needs or wants the episode subtitled, or even dubbed, however, those who don’t need these features shouldn’t wait. This, and other restrictions with legal content are what keep content outside the law afloat.

the choice
by Nicholas Sparks
Romance
★★★★

The Choice by Nicholas Sparks is no doubt a moving love story. It is the kind of book that will definitely bring up a couple of tears. It is an easy-to-read book with changes on time that keeps you turning the pages with emotional ups and downs. It becomes unexpected as well towards the end when the author brings up a surprise element. The way it is narrated keeps the reader immersed in a story about difficult decisions that both of the characters, Travis Parker and Gabby Holland have to make to keep their relationship going. Choices that they will have to face and are not easy when it comes to ‘how far should a person go in the name of love. - maca

kaiten taburu wa mutsukashii
by Yu Aoi, photographs by Ivy Chen
Photography/Food
★★★1/2

Kaiten TABURU wa Mutsukashii (something to do with rotating tables in restaurants...) is a 2007 photobook by Japanese actress/model Yu Aoi with photographs by Ivy Chen, who worked as on-set photographer on Aoi’s films All About Lily Chou Chou as well as Hana & Alice – both directed by Shunji Iwai. The book details Aoi’s and Chen’s visit to Taipei (Taiwan) as they go on a full-on Foodie trip.

During the course of the trip, they visit over ten bakeries/ cafés/shaved-ice-places that seem to be so popular over there, and take photos of what they eat and who they run into. Besides from being a fan of the featured star (there are a lot of cute shots), you will also need to be a fan of food because there are a lot of shots of shaved-ice with fruits, with condensed milk, and even some weird food with sweet corn and taro.

With over 100 photos included in the book, however, I only find eight shots that I truly enjoy, and all of them resemble subjects that could be inserted into some fancy fashion magazine shoot, not the book. Moreover, this lacks the plastic cover, that previous Yu Aoi photobook releases (Travel Sand, Dandelion) have which protects the book from anything that might stain it. - amy

hide behind
a good book

I remember the first time I went to the Book Fair in Miraflores. I was 17 years old and a mime. The university invited my drama group to perform after the Dean’s boring lecture about the importance of not being boring.

Parque Kennedy is by far one of my favorite places in Lima. Its benches are full of stories and some of our darkest secrets. The best place to mix books, make friends and meet the old ones. The fair opened its doors on Nov. 27th and every stand has something really good to offer.

I went last Tuesday and I felt I was 17 again. Everything was so familiar but so new at the same time. I found a secondhand Frank Sinatra CD “Songs of Love” and other CDs from newspapers and magazines collections, with prices between 10 – 45 soles. In my opinion it’s a pretty good deal specially if you collect CDs but you have a small budget like me.

I also visited SBS and they just took my breath away when I saw a book with one of the men in my life, George Harrison –“The George Harrison Photo album” (120 soles) it’s in my opinion the perfect Christmas present for the little Beatle fan inside us. I also found The Beatles – 2009 Calendar (50 soles). One thing to consider if you don’t have a VISA card take some cash with you because they don’t accept Master Card.

Crisol was my favorite stand but stay away from the pushy sales assistants. They offer from 25 – 40 % in almost all their books. I bought two, “No me esperen en Abril” (Bryce Echenique) and “La tia Julia y el Escribidor” (Vargas Llosa) – paperback - and I saved a chunk of change.

When I said that the Book Fair was the best place to meet old friends I really meant it. I haven’t opened a Bryce (another man in my life) in a long time and I was mesmerized by the cover and the feeling of holding a book that I sat down in one of the benches and I felt so... good.- yes, there’s no place like Parque Kennedy and sometimes when Lima decides to be a big bitch there’s nothing better than hide your face behind a book and wait for her period to be over.

\$1 = avg. S/. 3

Olga Rojo C.



amy wong//nate wong.notrelated//maca//kyle c. finnegan//jumi//
olga rojo c.//insidethegold.com//1 min.filmreview//

contributors