

# Miraingna a spicy little number

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I'm usually skeptical about the "newer" styles of "punk" hitting the shelves for us frivolous consumers to snatch up. Especially if the group in question is marketed really well and a lot of money is poured into the "product."

Every record company seems to be eager to cash in on the next big thing, which is usually a re-hashed version of a style already beat into the ground.

That's why Mr. Miraingna's self-titled CD was a bit of a surprise. On their major label debut, Mr. Miraingna seemed to have connections to bring them some attention; they had a song on the *Ace Ventura* soundtrack which is pret-

ty big time exposure, if you ask me.

"Ethical punk rocker" questions aside, the music is interesting enough to listen to regardless of their major label status. They call their style salsa core, or mambo punk which are attention-getters right away.

While listening to this CD, you can pick up a south-of-the-border influence that does push it in an original direction, but it has enough catchy pop hooks to classify it as pop punk, if you're one of those categorically-minded persons.

It isn't overtly "punk" in too many ways. It doesn't get too bogged down in the typical "alternative" style, but it does simmer with sounds similar to NOFX. It does have a touch of the alternative guitar jam sound thrown in. I don't know, grungy is a good word to use here I guess.

Even though it can be called poppy or grungy or catchy or accessible it's still heavy on the party side. It's a drunken sound without being sloppy, so we can assume that they did tequila shots after recording this instead of before.

Lyrically, they are silly without being too stupid; somewhat thoughtful, without being too thought provoking. They sing about drinking alcohol, Arizona, love, cars and food. And that's fair enough. Standout tracks are "Jalopeno Eyes," "Grandma's Cookin'," and "Burnin' Rubber," any of which would be better to hear on the radio than Rancid.

Their Spanish influence adds a lot to this stew. I would have liked to have heard more of that influence, but I was satisfied with just a taste.

Overall, a full flavored concoction that chills like a Corona with a lime.



Miraingna, another soundtrack-famous group, releases album.

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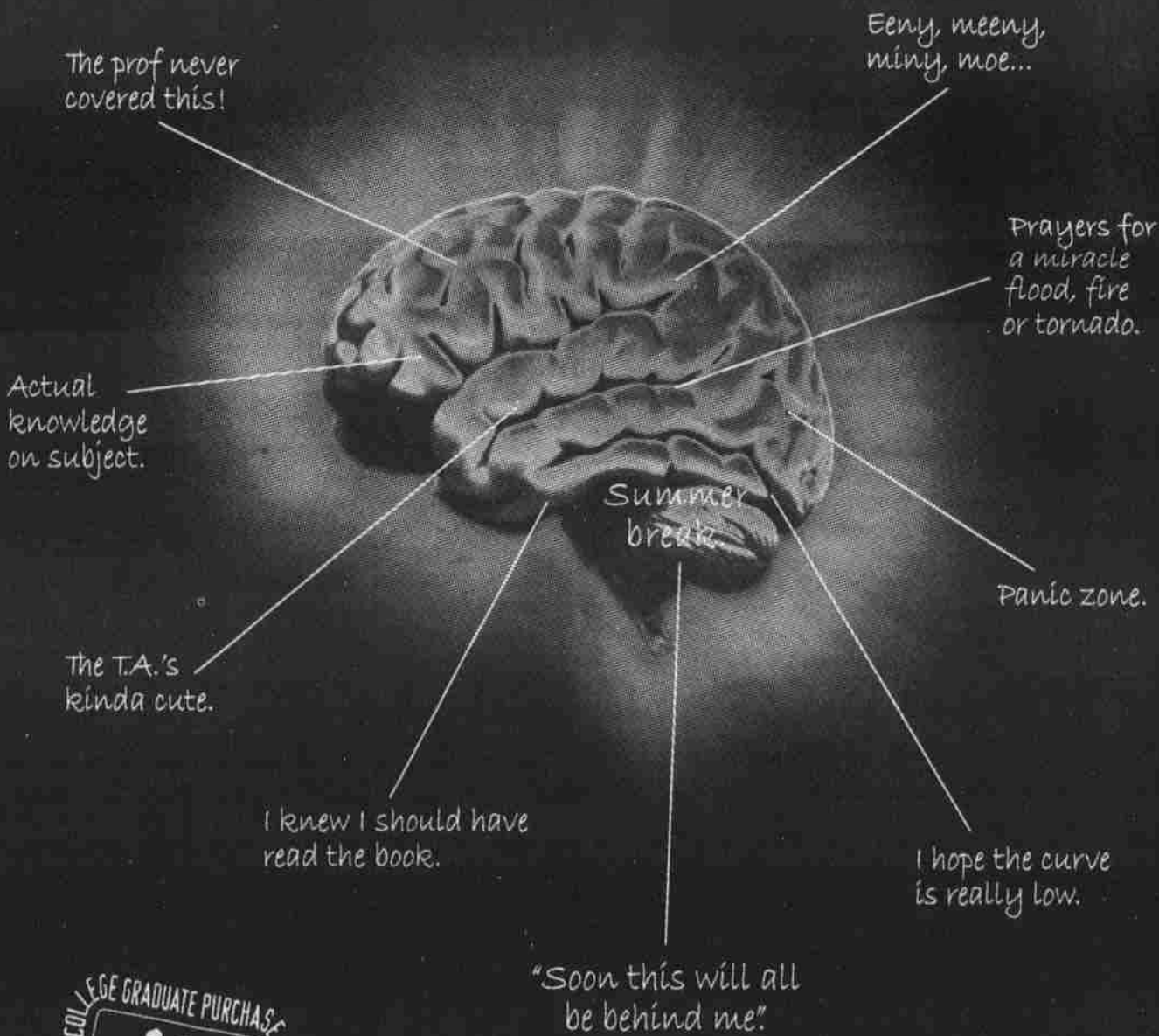
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