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 Films

**MVD** MUSIC VIDEO DISTRIBUTORS

FILM

**SOME GIRLS ARE CRAZIER THAN OTHERS**



*Last night I dreamed that somebody loved me.*



**W**e've all met hyper-enthusiastic fans before. High-school girls who fettle lurly roadies at Cars concerts for a chance to meet Ric Ocasek. Housewives who are so pumped from the Sting concert that they fettle their husbands for the first time in years. Ficki-pocked rock critics who fettle Rowdy bums in back alleys just because they resemble Keith Richards in dim light.

But the lead character in Andrew Overtoom's fictional feature film, *My Life With Morrissey* (Music Video Distributors), puts all of those fans to shame. In one instance, Jackie (played by Jackie Buscarini) passionately fettes the moody moaner's discarded tofu dog in the parking lot of a fast-food joint. And when she actually meets the object of her affection, she can barely speak to him—but starts to plan their wedding.

*My Life With Morrissey* is a wacky straight-to-DVD title that also includes Overtoom's rather sensitive documentary *Real Life With Morrissey*, about a new generation of Morrissey fans, many of whom are Latino and many of whom were still in diapers when The Smiths broke up. Besides veggie-dog sex, *My Life With Morrissey* also features a rape scene involving a gang of Catholic-school lesbians who huff magic markers, a desk full of unfeeling laptops and more instances of self-abuse outside of any movie that doesn't star Nicolas Cage as a balding screenwriter.

Overtoom is a director on the so-related-it's-funny Nickelodeon cartoon "SpongeBob SquarePants," which explains the exaggerated actions and emotions found in *My Life With Morrissey*. "I was going for a cartooning look in the movie," Overtoom says on the phone from Los Angeles, where he's presently working on the upcoming "SpongeBob" feature-length film. "My humor, my timing is from cartoons and silent-movie comedies by people like Buster Keaton. Plus we wanted to push the envelope—we were all into John Waters."

It should be noted that Overtoom doesn't have strong feelings about Muz one way or the other, and the vocalist didn't participate in the film. "His fans are really pissed off about the movie, but Morrissey has a sense of humor about it," he says. "I just think they're overly sensitive."

"I actually got the idea for the film itself from Jackie Buscarini, who I worked with on *SpongeBob*." Jackie really did meet Morrissey at a (Los Angeles) bar called the Cat & Fiddle. She was an old fan who wasn't a freak about him anymore, but she still got completely overreacted in his presence. She asked to hug him and then proceeded to knock his drink over on him." Instead of getting upset, the wet singer remained polite and friendly while she became more and more agitated. "The play obviously has a ton of patience," continues Overtoom. "It's so nice to these people."

The chasm between the bizarrely exhilarated follower and the collector, nitidy human star fuels much of the laughs in the movie.

Jose Maldonado, a professional impersonator, plays the Morrissey character in the movie, whose politeness toward the dourly deluded heroine is hard to believe until you watch the real-life documentary included on the DVD. Instead of running away from hysterical, often unintelligible youths or boarding himself up in his house when people come up his driveway (holly crap—anyone remember what happened to Judy Lennard?), Morrissey patiently answers repetitive questions, sighs self-deprecatingly and gently tries to calm his fans down. And it should be noted that most of the fans on *Real Life With Morrissey* are seemingly normal and don't confirm the stereotype of cardigan-wearing, bonneted-out literary types, since all those people seem to have moved on to Helle & Sebastian. ♫

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## SOME GIRLS ARE



## CRAZIER



## THAN OTHERS

For two decades, Steven Patrick Morrissey has been the object of affection for a whole lot of insanely obsessive fans, and Andrew Overtoom's new DVD, *MY LIFE WITH MORRISSEY*, pokes a little fun. In addition to talking with Overtoom about the film, Nick Dedina reports from the trenches about tofu-dog fellatio and Catholic-school lesbians who like to huff.

**W**e've all met hyper-enthusiastic fans before. High-school girls who fellate burly roadies at Cars concerts for a chance to meet Ric Ocasek. Housewives who are so pumped from the Sting concert that they fellate their husbands for the first time in years. Flack-jacketed rock critics who fellate Bowery bums in back alleys just because they resemble Keith Richards in dim light.

But the lead character in Andrew Overtoom's fictional feature film, *My Life With Morrissey* (Music Video Distributors), puts all of those fans to shame. In one instance, Jackie (played by Jackie Buscarino) passionately fellates the moody moaner's discarded tofu dog in the parking lot of a fast-food joint. And when she actually meets the object of her affection, she can barely speak to him—but starts to plan their wedding.

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