



**CHARLOTTE'S WEB - ORIGINAL MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK**  
*Varèse-Sarabande*

For those of us caught in *Charlotte's Web*, the first-ever CD release of the music from the beloved children's classic is real treat. The album features original songs and lyrics by the legendary duo of Richard and Robert Sherman, with performances by the film's stars, Debbie Reynolds, Agnes Moorhead, and Paul Lynde. E.B. White's beloved children's tale, *Charlotte's Web*, is brought to life in the 1973 classic animated film, which finds the young farm pig Wilbur (Henry Gibson) attempting to avoid a dire fate. Of all the barnyard creatures, Wilbur's staunchest ally is Charlotte (Debbie Reynolds), a thoughtful spider who devises an intriguing plan to keep the gentle little swine out of the slaughterhouse. Although Charlotte's efforts, which involve words written in her delicate web, seem far-fetched, they may just work. Reynolds performs "Chin Up" with Gibson, "We've Got Lots in Common" with Gibson and the Barnyard Animals, and solos with "Mother Earth and Father Time" and "Charlotte's Farewell." They couldn't have spun the music any better!

**THE COMMUTER - ORIGINAL MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK**  
*Varèse-Sarabande*

The original motion picture soundtrack of *The Commuter* arrives right on schedule with original music composed by Roque Banos. The only direction Banos was given was to create patterns in the music that evoke a commuter's everyday routine. The result is sixteen tracks of excitement, suspense, and more, while using a traditional lineup of instruments, including piano, strings, brass, percussion and, appropriately enough, a train horn. Banos' creativity allowed him to give the train its own theme, played by the train horn, giving the sound a character that could only be *The Commuter*. The opening cut "Commuter's Trip" is a relaxing ride, followed by the suspense of "They Are Watching You," the pounding "A Suspicious Mind," the haunting "Don't Stop the Train," the pain of "The Train Wreck," the questioning "Who Is Prince," and the arrival of "The End of The Line."

**UB40 (ALI, ASTRO & MICKEY) - A REAL LABOUR OF LOVE**  
*UMC*

Pop-reggae renderings created by UB40, featuring Ali, Astro & Mickey, and titled *A Real Labour of Love* comes from the "real" UB40, and is therefore considered the real deal! For the past five years, the name UB40 has been used by two different bands with different lineups, leading to confusion and legal battles. UB40 founding members Ali Campbell, Astro (vocals), and Mickey Virtue (keyboards) are responsible for the sixteen songs on *Labour*. The album polishes up their legendary music from the '80s, resulting in a reggae-fest! If you missed their reggae sound in the Eighties, a taste of the songs on this album will define the genre easily. While their music focuses mostly on the sound of Eighties, to show their versatility, they put their sound to Stevie Wonder's "A Place in the Sun" and added a touch of the '70s with "How Could I Leave," and "International Herb." Eighties excellence in the form of, "Making Love," "She Loves Me Now," "Here I Come," "Hard Times," "Once Ago," and "Under Me Sleng Teng." Who would've ever thought that a band that chose their name from a British unemployment form would have such enduring success?

**VANILLA FUDGE - LIVE AT SWEDEN ROCK 2016 (CD-DVD)**  
*MIG Music*

What could be tastier than Vanilla Fudge celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with an 11-song collection? Recorded in Sweden while performing before 35,000 enthusiastic fans in a country far from their roots in Hempstead, NY, with Mark Stein (lead vocals), Carmine Appice (drums/vocals), Vince Martell (lead & rhythm guitar/vocals), and Pete Bremy the new man, formerly with the group Cactus, on bass/vocals). (Bremy replaced Tim Bogart following a motorcycle accident that left him unable to stand on stage.) Enjoy a host of cover songs penned by Neil Diamond, Rod Argent, Spencer Davis, Donovan Leitch, Jimmy Page, and Holland/Dozier/Holland. Included are "I'm a Believer," "Break on Through," "She's Not There," "Take Me for a Little While," "Gimme Some Lovin'," "Shotgun," "Season of the Witch," "Dazed and Confused," and the Motown gem "You Keep Me Hangin' On." Fudge contributed a pair of originals — "Let's Pray for Peace" (Stein) and "Good Good Livin'" (Appice/Stein/Bogart/Martell). Great memories!

**THOR: RAGNAROK - ORIGINAL MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK**  
*Hollywood Records - Marvel*

Marvel Studios hired composer Mark Mothersbaugh to score the film *Thor: Ragnarok*. Mothersbaugh was a member of the band Devo before moving into the field of composing. Using the facilities at Abbey Road Studios to record, he used the synthesizer to create twenty-three tracks that combined synthesizer keyboards similar to those from his Devo days to enhance the adventure his music took listeners on. Mothersbaugh's decision to change the music style from previous Thor soundtracks has received favorable reactions from the Marvel franchise's fans as they are time-traveled to a different planet for this film. Pick your favorites from the almost two dozen cuts, which feature "Ragnarok Suite," the pensive strains behind "Weird Things Happen," the regal splendor of "Grandmaster's Chambers," the competitive excitement of "Arena Fight," the upbeat "What Heroes Do," the challenging "The Revolution Has Begun," the mysterious "Where To?" and the finale with the creative beats and sounds of "Grandmaster Jam Session."

The time has come, the walrus said,  
**TO TALK OF MANY THINGS**  
of shoes and ships and sealing wax of cabbages and kings

by Sal Giarratani

**ST. PATRICK'S DORCHESTER BRUNCH**

Jim Brett heads up the annual Mary Brett St. Patrick's Day fundraising brunch this Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, in the parish hall of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta parish on Columbia Road in Dorchester.

Mayor Walsh will be there as usual and it has become a must stop for politicians. This year, former state Rep. Jim Brett from Savin Hill is to receive the Erie Society Award.

I plan on showing up bringing greetings from the East Boston Soup Kitchen. We all need to do our parts in bringing joy to the needy. Think of it as a Lenten Act. It is not what we give up but what we take on. Helping those in need is always the right thing to do.

**FUNDRAISER FOR RICHARD KENNEDY**

There will be an upcoming fundraiser for Richard "Ratt" Kennedy on April 8<sup>th</sup> at the Harpoon Brewery and Beer Hall on Northern Avenue in the Seaport. Proceeds to help Rich and his family. Rich was diagnosed last year with ALS. Harpoon has donated the space, Salvatore's will serve pizza and

antipasto, and Quincy Mayor Tommy Koch is also assisting the fundraising efforts. For more information, email Lou Tozzi at [lp.tozzi@gmail.com](mailto:lp.tozzi@gmail.com).

**THEY DON'T MAKE BILLBOARDS**

**THE WAY THE USED TO**  
Notice all those new billboards in our neighborhoods or along our highways? They always seem to be blowing in the wind. Ever wonder why?

Noticed this on the recent Friday rain and wind event. On top of Jeveli's in Day Square, a billboard got completely destroyed. All that was left was a steel frame. I guess new billboard advertisements get stuck to the frame. There is no board behind the billboard like back in the old days when workers would paste the ad on with rollers. Nothing took them down. I guess everybody, including billboard companies, must be nickel and diming today, huh?

**STOPPED BY MAVERICK MARKETPLACE CAFE SATURDAY**

Last Saturday evening I stopped by the Maverick Marketplace Café, which is obviously a hot night spot in Eastie. The place was filled

to capacity and I had to find another place to hang out.

Must have been because Steve Synder, VP at the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center by day and band leader of "Don't Be Denied" on stage inside. Hey, I got denied! Have to get there earlier next time.

**CRAFT, BREW, WINE & DISTILL?**

There's a fun event coming up — the Craft, Brew, Wine & Distiller Night on Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at the Cottage Park Yacht Club in Winthrop, MA. For details, go to [cpcy.org/bwd-event](http://cpcy.org/bwd-event).

**ALEXA, READ A BEDTIME STORY TO LITTLE BILLY?**

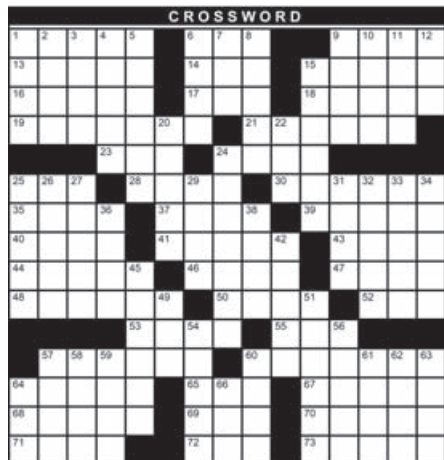
I kid you not I heard a radio commercial stating that you can let "Alexa" now read bedtime stories to your kids. What happened to parents doing that? If parents can't read bedtime stories to their own kids and want a computer voice to do their jobs, perhaps these folks shouldn't be parents to begin with, huh?

It is one thing to tell "Alexa" to play "Everlasting Love" by Robert Knight, but quite another thing to ask "her" to read a fairy tale to your kids at bedtime.

**March Madness**

- ACROSS**
- Birth-related
  - Post-U.S.S.R. acronym
  - Like white-headed eagle
  - \_\_\_\_\_ and desist
  - In the manner of, French
  - F, unit of electrical capacity
  - Blood line
  - Neighbor of Ger.
  - Upright
  - "San \_\_\_\_\_, 2018 Final Four spot
  - "NCAA's selection day
  - Color of Scare
  - Bring home the bacon
  - \_\_\_\_\_ cry
  - \_\_\_\_\_ ex machina
  - \_\_\_\_\_ the hook
  - Big-ticket \_\_\_\_\_
  - Play parts
  - Gulf of Naples resort
  - Flick part
  - Peruvian beast of burden
  - Nonfatty meat, e.g.
  - States of agitated irritation
  - Nucleus plus electrons
  - Montgomery of "Pretty Little Liars"
  - House music
  - Between IDs and super-egos
  - 100%
  - Beware of these in March
  - Shoshonean
  - "Winningest NCAA basketball coach
  - "Game tracker
  - Slight amount
  - One of a set of dice
  - Garlic unit
  - Curl one's lip
  - South American edible tuber
  - Curly-leaf and Plain-leaf \_\_\_\_\_
  - Mannequin Challenge state
  - Kind of nurse
  - "Jump ball, e.g.

- DOWN**
- "Non-profit org.
  - Eon, alternative spelling
  - Queen of Hearts' pastry
  - Broke or John Jacob, of New York
  - Tiled
  - Head of family
  - U.N. workers' grp.
  - Chip dip
  - Shakespeare, e.g.
  - A in A-sab
  - Like a tanning product
  - Banned insecticide
  - Tiny fox with large ears
  - Like utopia
  - Web address
  - Subjects of wills
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Four
  - Make amends



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- State/Poet Media
- Indiana Jones' find, e.g.
- Team with most titles
- Samoan money
- Phantom's favorite genre?
- Physically weak
- \_\_\_\_\_ Four
- Illegal kind of lab
- Urban haze
- Affair in Paris
- Dee of "Twisted Sister"
- Percy Bysshe Shelley's poem
- Book storage at a library
- Furnish with a fund
- "Bravo! Bravo!"
- Lush
- "Top seeds in each NCAA basketball region
- Type of molding
- "Advancing action
- Caffeine tree
- "Happily \_\_\_\_\_ after"
- Multiple choice challenge
- Recipe amt.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bucket Challenge

(Solution on Page 10)

For events going on in Massachusetts this SPRING,  
visit the Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism  
Web site at [www.massvacation.com](http://www.massvacation.com).  
For a complimentary Massachusetts Getaway Guide, call 1-800-447-MASS, ext. 300.