

# MUSIC

## The Boss takes Tacoma tonight

*Tunnel of Love transition from previous style*

Bruce Springsteen's massive 168-show "Born in the U.S.A." tour in 1985 rocked crowds of more than 100,000 people nightly.

**Concert Preview**  
By John Uppendahl

His current tour has radically changed to accommodate the thematic departure of his latest release "Tunnel of Love." Tonight and Friday Springsteen and the East Street Band play the Tacoma Dome for two sold-out shows.

Telephone lines at Eugene's ticket outlet received hundreds of calls a day, even before tickets went on sale. "The phone would ring right after you hung it up," said Cindy Wilson at G.I. Joe's box office. As soon as ticket sales were officially announced, fans started showing up.

More than 175 people lined up at Eugene's G.I. Joe's April 23 to purchase Springsteen tickets at \$24.25 each. Some fans in Seattle and Tacoma lined up three days before tickets went on sale. The 46,000 seats for both shows sold out in about three and one-half hours, said Tacoma Dome's Nancy Green.

"We are going to remember the fact that we sat in the cold for six hours, but we are going to remember the concert more. It is going to be a very memorable experience," said Eugene resident Pam Russell. People at the front of the line waited as long as 15 hours.

Fans holding tickets will witness a more intimate concert than the enormous shows of

past years. Unlike Springsteen's last tour, the Tunnel of Love Express has fewer shows and is limited to smaller indoor arenas. The Tacoma Dome concerts will hold about 23,000 people each night.

Springsteen's present album and tour reassess the direction of his life, music and stage show. He believes that the past is something that binds us together and holds us back. We hold ourselves back by becoming trapped in old dreams.

The self-proclaimed "prisoner of rock'n'roll" realizes that although his music has brought him great success, he needs to build new dreams.

The Tunnel of Love album and tour explore issues of relationships, commitment and family. Springsteen's marriage to Julianne Phillips (of Lake Oswego) has made him more qualified than ever to comfortably address these new topics on his album and tour.

tion for the tour.

Most noticeably, singer Patti Scialfa has picked up a guitar and performs on Bruce's right; saxophonist Clarence Clemons is now on Bruce's left. Drummer Max Weinberg shifted to the side of the stage. Guitarist Nils Lofgren and bassist Garry Tallent switched positions, as did keyboardist Dan Federici and pianist Roy Bittan.

The Boss changed his play list by removing its most deeply imbedded cornerstones. Standard anthems, including "Badlands," "Thunder Road" and "Jungleland," have been axed to avoid cliché-like familiarity. The blazing Springsteen signature "Born to Run" has been transformed into an acoustic ballad. For long time Springsteen fans, the changes are clearly evident.

The Tunnel of Love Express is compiled of many obscure cuts such as "Roulette," which was released on the B side of "One

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— Pam Russell

The three-hour set is rigidly structured to communicate these closely related themes. The framework of the songs and their necessary order of performance leaves little room for flexibility. The "prisoner of rock'n'roll" has become a "prisoner of love."

To pull off his redeveloped concepts, the Boss shook up the stage show to keep it fresh. Springsteen rearranged the East Street Band from their long-time stage positions and brought in a five-piece horn sec-

Step Up." Other songs include a revamped version of Geno Washington's "I'm a Coward," and an original reggae cut titled "Part Man, Part Machine." Many Tunnel of Love selections are performed as well.

Closing numbers bring the house down with familiar classics such as "Rosalita (Come Out Tonight)," "Detroit Medley" and "Devil with a Blue Dress." Springsteen's focused set ends on friendly ground for both performer and audience.

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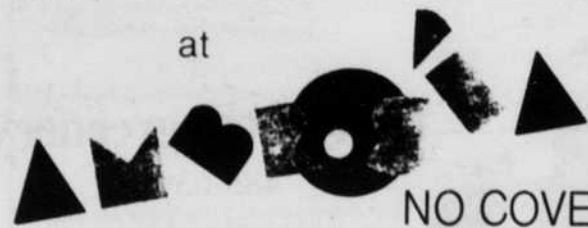


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"Why, this means that almost anything could happen!"

## Amy's Eyes

RICHARD KENNEDY

*Amy's Eyes is a children's book for gradeschool levels, and is great for reading aloud.*

This book is about Amy, an orphan, and her sailor doll, the Captain. One day, while Amy is sewing the Captain's ears back on, she pokes him with a needle and he turns into a real man. He begins to grow from dollsize and decides to go to sea until he can come back to Amy as a fully grown man and take her away from the orphanage and the nasty Miss Quince. When the Captain fails to arrive to get Amy, she thinks he is dead and pines away for him, turning into a doll herself.

The Captain finally returns for Amy and, upon seeing that she is a doll, says, "Why, this means that almost anything can happen!" And almost anything does as they go looking for treasure in the high seas with a crew that includes dogs, cats, ducks and other animals (who were all dolls once themselves).

This is a great book! It is funny and touching, filled with scummy pirates and Mother Goose rhymes, nasty, scheming ducks and some of the best writing for kids that I've read. Richard Kennedy writes so well: he doesn't skimp on words or images and he writes until things come alive. All the characters are true flesh and blood when he finishes with them.

AMY'S EYES is a feast of a book. Lloyd Alexander says, "AMY'S EYES is a brilliant novel in every way, filled with inexhaustible riches: rich in conception, in language, in wise humor, in excitement. I find the book altogether wonderful and a permanent treasure."

Richard Kennedy lives in Newport, Oregon and Richard Egelski, the illustrator, won the Caldecott Award in 1986 for HEY, AL.

—Reviewed by Rene Kirkpatrick, Children's Bookseller



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