songs on her new album Evolution are of that ilk. Some are sappy, and a couple are almost memorable.

According to the notes that came with the CD, she has been called "everything from a jazz crooner and gospel belter to an R&B soulstress and pop singer." She really can't be categorized. She could be best compared to Natalie Cole — her voice is clear

and strong, and she has good vocal phrasing.

According to an article in the magazine Essence, she sang in hotel lounges for 16 years before realizing her first gold album, which interestingly was her debut album Circle of One. A song off of that work called "Get Here" caught on big during the Desert Storm war.

Adams grew up singing in a church where her father was a

The best songs on Evolution are

the last three: "New York State of Mind," "Window of Hope" and the title track.

The latter compares human existence to that of the dinosaurs. She sees our present situation as being much the same. The lyrics are optimistic, however. Our fates are similar to that vanished species, she sings, "All except for one distinction/We can stop our own extinction." This optimism also comes through on the uplifting "Window of Hope," which concludes the album.

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