

# ARTS IN REVIEW

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THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

## 'Winter's Bone'

Reviewed by Lauren Ingeno  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

It's a part of our country foreign to most Americans: a Midwest town plagued by severe poverty and drug addiction. Abandoned trucks lie next to blown up crystal meth labs, while children hunt squirrels to fill their stomachs.



And the adults of these Ozarks are even more harsh and bitter than the chill of winter.

This is the setting of the haunting and beautiful film adaptation of

Daniel Woodrell's novel "Winter's Bone," which won best picture and best screenplay at the 2010 Sundance Festival.

In the center of this mess is 17-year-old Ree Dolly (Jennifer Lawrence), who must take care of her mentally ill mother and her younger siblings. Her father is a meth cook who has been missing and could be dead or alive.

Trouble for Ree worsens when a sheriff tells her that if her dad doesn't show for his court date, her family will be evicted from their house.

Ree has no car and no job, but this heroine knows that to protect her family, she must find her father — or his bones.

She begins going door to door, asking questions to people who don't want a teenager meddling in their business.

Lawrence, 20, gives a performance well beyond her young age, just as her character takes on problems that even an adult could hardly handle. She's tough and never asks for sympathy — only earns it throughout the movie.

"Winter's Bone" is as much a frightening mystery as it is a drama, as Ree searches for clues that will lead to her father. It is sometimes difficult to keep the characters and back stories straight through the film, but by the end, the loose pieces tie together.

"Winter's Bone" shows a community that is rarely discussed and doesn't sugarcoat its stories.

Many of the gritty supporting actors are non-pro locals, and the music in the film comes straight from the mouths of Ozark men and women, according to "Entertainment Weekly." It's great that director Debra Granik didn't let Hollywood tamper with a film so real.

But this film is a reminder that there are and will continue to be Americans fighting for a place to sleep at night.

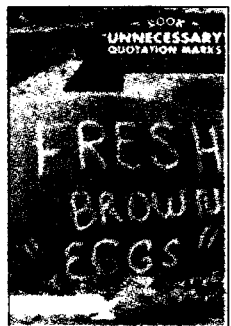
Grade: A

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## 'The Book of Unnecessary Quotations'

Reviewed by Heather Panetta  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Fresh Brown "Eggs." Why is the word "eggs" in quotations? If these fresh brown things are not eggs, then what are they? A large and slightly twisted imagination could come up with an abundance of answers.



This phrase is in the picture on the cover of "The Book of 'Unnecessary' Quotation Marks: A Celebration of Creative Punctuation" by Bethany Keeley. And it foreshadows the rest of the hilarious pictures and use of quotations that follow in this picture book

for adults.

The book — based off of Keeley's blog, The "Blog" of "Unnecessary" Quotation Marks — features pictures of signs at work, in stores and even in bathrooms where quotation marks are used in all wrong ways thinkable.

The book pokes fun at people's complete disregard of correct punctuation, and while I'm no punctuation expert, I would never put quotation marks around eggs.

In the beginning, Keeley describes 10 uses of quotation marks in the many photos. Keeley provides an explanation for each.

For example, one use of quotation marks is as an euphemism.

"Sometimes we are too delicate to be explicit; and, therefore quotation marks help even the most squeamish person say dirty and inappropriate things comfortably," she wrote in the explanation.

The photo that accompanied this explanation was: "please" NO Smoking, NO running, NO playing, NO "hanging out" on Bathhouses.

She describes another use of quotes for insincerity: They are a good way to pretend to mean something that you don't mean or make "promises" you don't intend to keep, she wrote.

The photo of insincere quotation marks was of a truck with a sign that read: Drivers Wanted "Guaranteed" Home Weekends.

While many of the photos themselves are entertaining and left the reader wondering what the quotes mean, many of Keeley's captions pack just as much hilarity.

Another of my favorites was a photo of a stained piece of paper and written on it in black marker was: We have "soup." Keeley's caption read, "Three little words that become deeply unsettling with the addition of quotation marks."

This book is great for those who'd rather look at the illustrations in a book than actually read it. And it's filled with humor and laughs. You definitely get to stretch your imagination and create your own captions of what the photos and quotes really "mean."

Grade: "A"

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## TANA-TASTIC

### Asian restaurant tasty, serves fast

Reviewed by Julie Mastrine  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Since arriving in State College last year, I've been on a constant search for the perfect Asian restaurant to replace my favorite hometown eatery.

After trying Tana Asian Cafe, 454 E. College Ave., I need look no further.

The first thing you'll notice about the cafe is its hip interior — the eatery has an overall laid-back vibe, and it certainly doesn't skimp on style. In fact, Tana feels more like an expensive urban eatery than a cafe in a college town.

The restaurant offers a wide variety of Asian cuisine, including chicken pad thai, beef panang, wonton soup and red curry shrimp. Even if you're not familiar with Asian dishes like these, the menu includes plenty of descriptions and photos to help you make your selection.

Another great feature is that the menu indicates which dishes are particularly spicy, rating the selections as either medium or hot. The menu offers a variety of entrees, side dishes and desserts and even includes a section for vegetarian diets. The restaurant also offers take-out, so you can enjoy your meal from home as well.

Though the menu is slightly smaller during lunchtime, Tana offers a lunch special between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

During that time, all entrees are \$7.95 and come with a bowl of clear soup,

which upon first glance looks unimpressive, but is actually incredibly flavorful. The soup is comprised of tofu, mushrooms, onions and other veggies — a light way to curb your appetite as you wait for your entrée.

But that's not to imply your wait will be long — service at the eatery is prompt, and I received my food after a very short wait. My meal consisted of a large bowl of rice topped with chicken teriyaki, and included fresh iceberg lettuce and carrots on the side.

I was also pleasantly surprised to find extra teriyaki sauce provided in a small bowl on the side, which is great

for those who prefer their rice covered in the savory stuff, like me. Before I dug in, I had to take note that the whole dish looked picture perfect, as if the employees had plucked it straight from the photo on the menu.

In this case, looks were far from deceiving — the meal was as delicious as it was presented. Everything was flavorful and savory.

My sister ordered the sweet and sour chicken, which also passed our taste tests — we found it to be neither too sweet nor overly sour, which is something not every Asian restaurant gets right.

The dishes offered at the restaurant during dinner are just as impressive as the lunch entrees. I tried the chicken drunken spaghetti — stir-fried noodles with chicken, bean sprouts and jalapeno peppers in garlic sauce. This

dish is rated as spicy on the menu, and spicy it is. One forkful may leave you needing water, but people who enjoy hot food will definitely enjoy this dish.

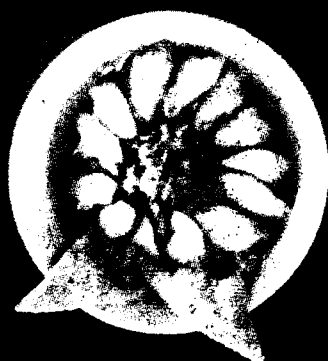
But my favorite plate by far was kat-sudon — deep fried pork, eggs and onions cooked in Japanese sweet soy sauce. I'd never tried the Japanese meal before, and I can definitely see why the menu says it's a popular dish. Though it was a little salty, it was arguably delicious.

All in all, the food is a great value for the price. I left the restaurant feeling satisfied not only with the food, but with the amount of money I spent as well.

Tana is a chic and delicious addition to downtown State College.

Grade: A

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## NEW RELEASE: Sara Bareilles CD lyrical, catchy

Reviewed by Lindsay Cryer  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Despite her popular lyrics, Sara Bareilles proves that she definitely can write a damn good love song — her third album is proof.

"Kaleidoscope Heart," which dropped last Tuesday, is Bareilles' third album. It won't take people long to remember previous hits such as "Love Song" and "Gravity" from her second album "Little Voice" as her true-to-form style and voice come shining through in every song.

If you enjoyed Bareilles' songs from the last album, you can bet your bottom dollar that this album is just as likeable and just as easy to get sucked right into.

But the album may never let you go.

Bound to be the biggest hit of the album, "King of Anything" is a pop-inspired, piano-driven track, which discusses an over-bearing love. It seems as though anti-love love songs seem to be Bareilles' niche as this track becomes very reminiscent of the not-so-loving "Love Song", singing: "You're so busy makin' maps / With my name on them in all caps / You got the talkin' down just not the listening."

Considering Bareilles' talent, whoever this guy is should definitely be listening — to this album.

The musician's talent can also be heard in the short-but-sweet opening track "Kaleidoscope Heart", which showcases incredible harmonies.



Courtesy of Los Angeles Times

And her versatility as a piano rockstar is strongly present in the fun and pop-inspired song "Gonna Get Over You."

In "Machine Gun", Bareilles adopts a 50s-esque melody and intertwines it with the best use of her powerful voice. This track may not be released as a single from the album, but deserves as much listen as the rest of the songs.

What seems to be the most prominent feature on the album is the slower tracks.

In "The Light," an coincidentally light and sweet melody compliments a higher-pitched, often whispering version of the artist's voice. This combination makes for a very likeable and easy listen — especially in the occasion of falling in love.

But times are tough, "Basket Case"

makes for a comforting and relatable listen for those experiencing heartbreak. In the song, she sings: "I don't want to talk about it to you / I'm not an open book that you can rifle through / The cold hard truth that you'll see right to / I'm just basket case without you."

Bareilles' honest lyrics, alongside an acoustic guitar and harmonica, will make listeners appreciate the singer's willingness to slow it down for a few tracks.

As if listeners hadn't had enough, "Bluebird" beautifully caps off the album with a calming tale of self-liberation, alongside a blues-y version of Bareilles' voice.

In "Kaleidoscope Heart," Bareilles' surely proves her value as a lyricist — writing lines that put today's pop-stars to shame.

She also proves herself, yet again, as a composer and pianist — creating melodies and harmonies that can outdo any auto-tuned tracks.

Her first album "Careful Confessions" went unnoticed, but "Little Voice" put her on the map and provided her with chart-topping hits.

In regards to this record, I can definitely say that third album's a charm. Good luck getting any of these songs out of your head.

Grade: A-  
Download: "King of Anything," "Machine Gun," "The Light," "Basket Case"

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