Teen releases her debut album 'From In The Shadows'

We've all had the experience of having a song

of having a song occupy our brain for a day.

Nothing a song occupy our brain for a day.

Nothing a song occupy our brain for a day.

Nothing so day.

Rothing a song a commo dial song of a commorcial live.

But, to bo honest, it happons all too eften to me with a song or a commorcial single I don't particularly care for. You can lose a lot of friends in a hurry in you walk around singing, let's say, the slogan for a furniture store.

a furniture store.
You'll thank me later for this suggestion. When an annoying tune has a stranglehold on your brainwaves, trip it up by trying

brainwaves, trp it up by trying twrite your own.
It's okay if the exercise has more to do with saving your sanity than the craft of songwriting. If you think you might need some help getting started, here's some outstanding advice from a surprising source.

■ Shelby Stamer was just 11 years old when she took a passion for writing poetry and combined elements of Broadway musicals she loved with somo rock standards.

Advice
"Sometimes it's about nothing more than what I wish I'd said in a certain situation. Other

in a certain situation. Other times it's to encourage myself to take a stand. And sometimes it's about giving the people who are close to me a clue about how I'm feeling."

These motivations for writing a song did not come from Bob Dylan or Paul Simon or any of the great lyracists and composers of this century, but from someone who offers promise for the noxt one.

someone who citers promise for the noxt one.

Shelby Starner was just 11 years old when she took a pas-sion for writing poetry and com-bined eloments of Broadway musicals she loved with some rock standards. She began mix-

ing in influences such as Rickie
Loe Jones. For nearly two
years, it remained a private creactive outlet, as she declined to
play her music for anyone.
Her dad became increasingly
aware that Shelby had a special
talent, and arranged for her to
spend three hours at a friend's
hasement studic. Soon, some
follow-up sessions led to a demo
tape which landed a major label
recording contract. Now, at 16,
Shelby has released har debut
album, "From In The Shadows."
What impresses me most
about Shelby, a Pennsylvania
native who is in town for a performance which airs July 15 and
16 on Detroit Public TV's
BACKSTAGE PASS, is that she
made some great things happen

by cultivating a need to express herself.

Although it's unusual to accomplish so much at such a young age, there have always been teen recording artists that appeal to a young audience.

Putting pieces together

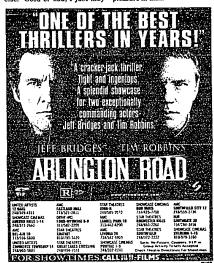
Putting pieces together

Often, these child performers demonstrate a giff for showmanship that is channeled and packaged in the music industry. Shelby Starner undoubtedly had assistance from many sources in putting the pieces together, but there is no doubt that the album has her own stame on it, resulting in large part from her pre-teen, solitary creative process.

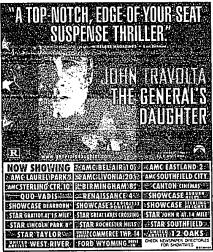
If she can do it, why can't we? At the moment. I'm blending a Looney Toon with excerpts from the Gettysburg Address, and by the time I add aome emotion and vision, I just may have something. Admittedly, I'm very early in the process, but I plan to enjoy overy stage of it. Who knows?

The finished product may eventually end up rattling

around in the brain of someone have to take some pe else. Good or bad, I just may pleasure in that.









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