

make up for the lyrical absences of O.D.B., the Rza and the Gza. Everyone that gets on this album makes a good showing and the Wu hasn't been dulled by any means. Anyone that's tired of "bling" rap should appreciate this "Wu-bangah." The Rza says that the next Wu-Tang album, "WWII", will be out soon, but in the meantime go get "The W"! You won't be disappointed.

By Tacque Kirksey
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"Lover's Rock" Sade

THE BLACKER THE BETTER



Sade's melodic voice flows over her newest release. "Lover's Rock" oozes sensuality and soothes the mood of any atmosphere. Sade's voice captivates the soul and transforms the listener into a world of peace and tranquility. If you're looking for some much needed downtime, pop in this CD, but be prepared for an unexpected nap. The relaxing sounds make it possible to drift you into dreamland.

The ratings go like this:

Bumpability-6 (not the CD to play while trying to impress your boys with that new sound system)

Kidability-6 (the lyrics are pretty deep, so younger kids might not understand)

Lyricability-7 (easy to understand, harder to comprehend)

Replayability-9 (especially if you're in the mood for something slow and smooth)

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Save the Last Dance

THE BLACKER THE BETTER



The film *Save the Last Dance*, starring Julia Stiles (Sarah), Sean Patrick Thomas (Derek) and Bianca Lawson (Chenille) is a film about a 17-year-old high school student who sets her sights on being a professional ballerina. She is forced to put her plans on hold when her mother is killed in a car accident and has to move to her father's bleak Chicago neighborhood.

Intimidated by inner-city life, she turns to the clubs for refuge, where she meets a young black man who shares her love for dancing. As their mutual respect evolves, they soon discover that peer pressure is a more formidable obstacle to romance than differences in race or class. The movie accurately portrays all the problems faced by interracial couples.

The film did have a few minor problems. It is highly unlikely for a white girl, especially one coming from the Southwest with no African American influences, to immediately fit in with a large group of blacks. Sarah became "black" almost right away. The other issue is that Chenille had a child, but she was always up in "Steps", a dance club, with Sarah and Derek. Shouldn't she have been at home taking care of her child?

Besides those minor details, *Save the Last Dance* was very much worth watching. It is funny, but serious at times, while very romantic. Perhaps this film will allow people to see a different side of interracial relationships, and through sympathy, help us all to be more accepting of them.

By Jamiyla Bolton
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