

ATTACK OF THE POD PEOPLE

The pod people started their take over slowly
They look like us
Sometimes even act like us
But you know them

The glazed look in their eyes
The thorazine-like shuffle
The white wires down from the ears
The total indifference to the world around them
They are in their own, self contained world
They are in their pod, sealed tight
They are a collective it is not "I"

But I, Pod

There was a time when you'd get a record
And you'd play it on a high-fi the size of a car
And people would come over
And we'd all listen
And we'd talk to each other
And pass the album around
Discuss the album art
Over drinks and laughter
And every crackle, or pop of the vinyl just added to the charm

Sometimes there'd be a juke box
In a bar

And you'd pick the song that
Made a statement to everyone else there
Of what you were all about
But, when your jukebox is on your hip
When you're locked in the pod
The bar never hears the song
And the girl across the room never says

I love this song too
And you both never talk about where you were the first time
You heard it

And you don't exchange numbers and call
And you don't find out all the albums you have in common
And you don't go to the Violent Femmes show together
And you don't have that first kiss as the house lights come up
Where the crowd is cheering and it's like they are cheering for you

When you're locked in the pod
You're silent, randomly shuffling through
A world of your own design that cost you
\$299

And a little bit of your soul
Ask Eve this isn't the first time we found ourselves in trouble
Because of an apple

DAMIEN STEDNITZ

Damien Stednitz's poetry, prose or essays have been published by Contemporary Rhyme, Speechless Magazine, Astropoetica, The San Gabriel Valley Quarterly, True Poet Magazine, Flintlock, and Poetry Superhighway. He has been rejected by The New Yorker, HISS Quarterly, and countless girls throughout his high school years. More recently he's been accused on not being a "real" poet and taking the last egg roll. He's his wife's second favorite poet and he would love it if you checked out his book On the Rise, I Guess. On a side note he feels Green Arrow is underappreciated as a superhero and that more people should listen to Pearl Jam. If you agree or disagree with him, please send an email to drstednitz@hotmail.com He loves getting email.

