

Treasure hunt: Tamar Berk, Freddie Steady KRC, Fur and My Idea

POSTED BY DENNIS PILON IN POPROCK THEMEPARK

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Freddie Steady Krc, Fur, My Idea, Tamar Berk



Thing about treasure hunts, you know that a treasure's been buried somewhere. So if you and other kids root around long enough, something buried is gonna be found by somebody. This treasure hunt is similar but even easier: the treasure is right out in the open. You just have to come and get it.

In what has been one of the most anticipated albums of 2022, **Tamar Berk** kicks off *Start at the End* with her heady pair of pre-release singles, "Your Permission" and "Tragic Endings." The duo are a slick, carefully-calibrated dose of sophisticated songcraft in the best Suzanne Vega or Aimee Mann style. I mean, the arrangements themselves comprise half the beauty of the songs here. But the rest of this album is no slouch either. There's an intimate, confessional quality to most of the songs, like Berk is beckoning you in, confiding something. "Hoping This Day Won't Kill Us" starts so spare, building tension with some subtle 1980s synth and eerie background vocals. From there the tracks roll out like a shifting kaleidoscope of emotions, each one using a distinctive guitar, keyboard or vocal effect to speak to its raw feeling. "June Lake," "You Already Knew," "No Chair," and "Wrong Information" – these songs are wistful and delicately shaded. Meanwhile "Just Be" gives off an air of self-liberation, its carefully stated acoustic guitar and piano lines circling, propelling us forward. The album has some more rocking moments too: the early Bangles-like "Real Bad Day," the Stonesy "Sweet Relief," and the Harrisonian "Alone Tonight." "Dandelions in my Flowerbed" has got rollicking, good-time single written all over it. And if you do decide to *Start at the End* the first thing you'll hear is the album closer "This is Me Trying," a song that captures the whole point of the record, a stark, raw testament to just putting one foot before the other. This really is an album to treasure, a wonderful, messy, emotional and joyous journey through song. And it is going directly to the 'best of the year' pile.

start at the end by Tamar Berk

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1. your permission 00:00 / 02:49






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Socrates & Me: The Restless Dreams of Youth -

www.poprockrecords.com

... **Tamar Berk**'s new album explores *the restless dreams of youth* but as a politics guy I was immediately drawn to the song "Socrates and Me." It's a cool bit of understated guitar pop, kinda like a new wave Suzanne Vega.



Your Permission: Start at the End -

www.poprockrecords.com

Let's wrap up this 21 song March spectacular with **Tamar Berk**'s new single "Your Permission." Berk was one of the breakout indie stars of 2021 with her smart, stylish debut album *The Restless Dreams of Youth* and particularly the single "Socrates and Me." But let the reinvention process begin because with "Your Permission" she offers up a striking change of direction, shifting from a guitar to keyboards focus to create a gorgeous pop setting for this tune. The song itself channels the sophisticated song-writing and performance of a Suzanne Vega or Aimee Mann. A new album can't arrive fast enough.



Tragic Endings: Start at the End - Tease

www.poprockrecords.com

... **Tamar Berk** is building up to something pretty extraordinary, if her drip drip of confident pre-album singles is anything to go by. "Tragic Endings" opens with alluring simplicity, just a single electric guitar and Berk's clear voice, before adding layer after layer of sonic hooks. The song is masterful arrangement of push and pull melodic effects and the vibe is like Pat Benatar meets Blondie, with a touch of Laurie Anderson thrown in. The upcoming album is *Start at the End* but you're gonna want in at the beginning.





WICKED COOL BAND

ALERT

TAMAR BERK

You'll want to listen to this one, my pick for *THE BEST" album of 2022, so far....

Okay. Glad my busy life did not miss this one because I would have to engage in some kind of weird black 'n blue sort of flogging fury that would have confused my wife of almost 40 years. Alas, I did not.

So, I don't want you either. As in, **do NOT MISS this one.**

"Start at the End" is *gorgeous mellifluous stunner.*

Listen to this one, as I did: without distraction, headphones on.

[CLICK HERE](#) to listen to it, in all its glory on Bandcamp

[CLICK HERE](#) to read a bit more behind on the album and see some videos

[CLICK HERE](#) for another article I just found for you

I'll stay short on the word because you should be listening to this album, in its entirety and, as the article above states, it will restore you faith in music(not that it was lost, my friend but it will break through your sometimes cynical set of ears).

