Title: “The Asylum for Wayward Victorian Girls”
Author: Emilie Autumn
Category: Autobiography, Fiction, Psychology
"ASYLUM..." BOOK PROMO TEXT:

Straddling the bookshelves somewhere between psychological study, historical horror story, and fantasy fiction sits Emilie Autumn's autobiographical novel debut, "The Asylum for Wayward Victorian Girls."

Written and illustrated by the notoriously manic-depressive rock star, "The Asylum..." combines humor, tragedy, and suspense, and is a chilling account of the horrors of life inside the insane asylum, comparing those from the Victorian era with our modern day version, and proving, through her own personal experiences, that not much has changed from then to now.

Culled directly from Emilie Autumn's real-life diary entries, the story begins with Emilie's suicide attempt and prompt imprisonment inside a Los Angeles psychiatric hospital. Sparing no detail, Emilie shows us exactly what goes on inside this house of horrors, exposing secrets that the general public could never have guessed at. Narrated with the sarcastic and self-deprecating humor present in all of Emilie Autumn's works, much of the subject matter may be considered controversial by many. Still, as in her song lyrics, Emilie tells the truth at all costs, thrusting the brave reader into a play-by-play narrative of her bi-polar episodes, and even providing photos of her self-mutilated thighs and largely naked body, blood, cuts, and all.

The story takes an unexpected turn when, whilst still in the psych ward, Emilie discovers evidence of a parallel dimension in the form of letters from her Victorian counterpart and fellow violinist, "Emily with a 'Y'." Imprisoned inside a 19th century version of the psychiatric hospital known as "The Asylum for Wayward Victorian Girls," the Victorian Emily documents the torture, medical experimentation, and general inhumanity inflicted upon the Asylum's inmates by the evil and terrifyingly Hitler-esque superintendent, Dr. Stockill, and his minions, atrocities that ultimately result in the brutal massacre of the Asylum staff by the girls themselves. As the days go by, the seemingly disparate worlds of the story's two lead characters begin to merge, leaving the reader, as well as the book's author, rather confused as to whether the accounts are truly autobiographical or whether Emilie has managed to seamlessly morph from true-life tale to extremely well-researched historical fiction.
"The Asylum..." is not all gloom and doom however. It is a reality-bending thriller as well as a profoundly empowering tale of suffering, sisterhood, and revenge that culminates in one of the most suspenseful cliff-hangers of all time. The book's colorful cast of characters (diabolical doctors, mental patients, and the talking plague rats and blood-sucking leeches that fans of Emilie's music are already familiar with) thoroughly entertain, educate, and engross the reader with prime movie material. "The Asylum for Wayward Victorian Girls," will leave fans shocked and readers everywhere gasping for air.

Each full-color page of this beautifully bound, 280-page Deluxe Limited Edition hardcover is positively packed with hand-written memoirs and fanciful paintings and sketches of the Asylum's inhabitants, and, in perhaps the most perverse twist of all, this Rated R publication is cleverly disguised as a high-end children's activity book, complete with interactive elements including pop-ups, removable notes, craft patterns, and reader quizzes designed both to disturb and delight. This monumental show of literary and artistic talent demands a place on your coffee table as well as on your nightstand, although readers should beware -- you'll never think of your doctor quite the same way again.

The Limited Edition release of "The Asylum..." will also contain a complete, 6-disc audiobook narrated by the author, who shows off the flair for story-telling and character accents that have made her public book readings so popular.

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THE FUEL GIRLS
CHAOS UNLEASHED!

EMILIE AUTUMN
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ABOUT EMILIE AUTUMN:

Courtney Love's "anarchy violinist" returns to the stage and is keeping the spotlight all to herself. With appearances on Leno and Letterman, glossy magazine covers, and guest spots on the albums of such artists as Love, Otep, Billy Corgan, TV's Metalocalypse, and more under her corset strings, Emilie Autumn's devilishly dark lyrics, metal-shredding violin solos, and industrial-strength voice reinvent "gothic" for the masses, and goths have never had so much fun.

Chosen by Interview Magazine as one of their "14 Artists to Watch," EA's theatrical stage show is a sexy circus of glam-rock burlesque backed by her all-girl band known underground as the Bloody Crumpets. But as the sole composer, performer, and producer of her latest full-length album, "OPHELIAC," EA gets personal. Written in the style she calls "Victoriandustrial," this unique musical adventure draws upon EA's experience as a child-prodigy classical violinist growing up on the stages of concert halls around the world, and combines it with her passion for harsh industrialism, aggressive metal, and all things Vaudeville. As EA herself explains, "I learnt to walk in the back stages of theatres and opera houses, amongst the beautiful chaos of costume changes, circus performers, sweaty ballerinas, dripping make-up, and far too much glitter. Then, I went mad and was locked up. What do you think that would sound like?"

Accentuated by EA's signature electric violin fireworks, heartbreakingly lush orchestrations, and menacing lyrics growled with enough intensity to make your hairs stand on end, the resulting noise is a harpsichord-heavy romp through Victorian asylums where screaming is allowed and girls always get revenge.

2007 and 2008 were filled with nearly non-stop European touring from EA and her traveling circus, and the Asylum stage show has grown with each incarnation, quickly changing viewers' expectations from rock show to Broadway musical complete with singing, dancing, fire-eating, stilt-walking, aerial flying, and much, much more. November 2008 marked the first Asylum performance in the USA, a sold-out New York extravaganza, and 2009 will bring the touring production back to the States for the first North American Asylum Tour. At the end of April, 2009, EA and her Crumpets (Aprella, Naughty Veronica, The Blessed Contessa, and Captain Maggot) completed their European tour entitled "The Asylum: The Gate Part II," and are now shooting music videos and preparing for their next tour, which will be entitled "The Asylum: The Key," and which promises to allow the audience further inside of EA's alternate reality than ever before.
Of course, for those who don't want to wait to get past the Asylum gates, EA's debut autobiographical novel, "The Asylum for Wayward Victorian Girls," is soon to be released in 2009. Written and lavishly illustrated by EA, "The Asylum..." book is more than a gorgeous volume that will take up most of the space on your coffee table -- it is also perhaps the most complete account of bipolar disorder ever penned, and will take readers behind the doors of both modern day psych ward and Victorian insane asylum in this true life horror tale of madness, murder, and medical experimentation.

But beware: It is much easier to get into the Asylum than it is to get out...

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WEBLINKS:

www.emilieautumn.com
www.myspace.com/emilieautumn
www.forum.emilieautumn.com
"ASYLUM..." BOOK READING PHOTOS:
EA LIVE SHOW PROMO TEXT:

The Asylum is opening, the inmates have escaped, and revenge is just around the corner.

A live act you'll be telling your grandchildren about, Emilie Autumn's "Asylum Tour" is a highly theatrical stage show that has already turned the gothic world on its head and is now infecting the mainstream with a speed never before witnessed by any artist in the gothic and industrial genre. Between her numerous, highly successful releases and her frequent world touring, Emilie has attracted a rabid and quickly multiplying following worldwide, who wait outside the venues for hours before her shows, sing along with every word, then stay for hours after in the hopes of getting an autograph at Emilie's after-show signing sessions, snapping up every bit of merchandise available.

Flitting back and forth between her Victorian harpsichord and her metal-shredding electric violin, all the while shamelessly showing off her ridiculously wide vocal range (as evidenced by her ground-breaking rendition of Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody" performed nightly as an encore), virtuoso musician Emilie Autumn dominates her audience, leading them on an emotional roller-coaster from the heartbreakingly beautiful to the violently vengeful, and this is only the beginning.

Emilie is backed by her all-girl burlesque circus, a dangerously sexy troupe of what she calls her "fellow inmates," and which includes singers, stilt-walkers, fire-eaters, burlesque dancers, aerial performers, and dramatic actresses, all of whom conspire nightly to tease, tantalize, and terrify. The ensuing chaos culminates in the ultimate "mad tea party," during which the girls set each other on fire, drink themselves silly doing shots of "tea," launch pastries, blood, and other sundry objects into the crowd, hang from the ceiling, perform incredible acrobatics, shoot off canons, explode tea bags in showers of sparks, and passionately kiss each other, as well as lucky members of the audience who may be called onto the stage.

Add to this an array of sets and stage props, and the result is a production far more akin to Broadway musical than rock show. With all of this going on around her, only an artist with Emilie Autumn's technical chops and musical mastery could present such a performance and have it still be "all about the music."

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LIVE SHOW PHOTOS:

[Two images of live show performers.]

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