

DOWN TIME ALIVE

NEW ON DVD



GLEE VOLUME 1

Seriously, what was there not to love about *Glee* when it hit screens last year? It was TV's hottest, funniest and most talked-about new musical series that combined the snappy writing of *Nip/Tuck* with fantastic musical numbers and of course, the comic genius and acidic tongue of Sue Sylvester (Jane Lynch). If you missed an episode then you'll be glad to know that season one is now available on DVD with a swag of extras worth singing about. As well as the episodes, you get the director's cut of the pilot episode, behind-the-scenes featurettes, audition videos from the cast and all the hit songs that are racing up the charts including Journey's *Don't Stop Believin'*, Queen's *Somebody To Love* and Rihanna's *Take a Bow*. This is a definite must for any "Gleeek" until season two starts airing. Out now through 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment.

We have five copies to give away. Enter at: alivesydney.com.au

BOOK

THE SECOND-LAST WOMAN IN ENGLAND

By Maggie Joel, Pier 9, \$32.95

Set in the dreary postwar bleakness of South Kensington, London, writer Maggie Joel tells the story of a well-to-do British family, and the strict set of conventions by which their lives are ruled. The book details the events that culminate in the family's demise that started with the arrival of the new nanny. *The Second-Last Woman in England* is a mystery that slowly unravels, but remains warm and approachable at the same time. The emotional gamut is run through the main characters and it's a very worthwhile read.

Have you read a great book lately? Tell us about it in 50-100 words and have your article printed in NINE TO FIVE. To submit your review, email: edsinbox@ninetofive.com.au



MUSIC

3 Words

Cheryl Cole (Universal Music)

The UK public would have to be living under a rock to escape the media circus that is Cheryl Cole. The breakaway star from *Girls Aloud* is a media darling, *WAG* and *X-Factor* judge. Teaming up with Will.i.am on her first album, there's no denying her bankability. She isn't the best singer, but does a good job on several pop-by-number tracks. **We've five copies to give away. Enter: alivesydney.com.au**



I Speak Because I Can

Laura Marling (EMI)

Laura Marling is the darling of the UK folk music scene, and her first album *Alas, I Cannot Swim* was met with huge critical praise, comparing her to a young Joni Mitchell. That album was released when she was just 17, and now album number two shows she's done some growing up. There are darker themes – a slightly drunken delivery on *Devil's Spoke* and tones of despair are met with equally optimistic tracks on this accomplished album.



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