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by Roddy Campbell

Chuck Brodsky's Color Came One Day

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Some reviews just write themselves - the aptly titled Color Came One Day among them. Affectionately produced by J.P. Cormier and recorded in his studio in Cape Breton, it emphasises in its entirety what a wonderful insightful storyteller Chuck Brodsky truly is. Nobody else comes close currently.

Nobody.

Color Came One Day includes some epic characters but no baseball songs. His marvelous compilation The Baseball Ballads took care of that topic for the time being. Instead, he offers Miracle in the Hills -- a lovingly told tale of a doctor and his wife bringing comfort and education to the once remote

mountain people of North Carolina. And then there's the epic The Goat Man -- an extraordinary account of the ultimate survivor. The Room Over the Bar hilariously details a chamber from hell (actually, Ireland). An astute and wry political commentator, Brodsky's Seven Miles Upwind and Trees Falling succeed in creating outrage because of the disarmingly gentle delivery.

The absolute show-stoppers, though, include a peep behind the facade of a model suburb, Forest Hills Sub, and the deadpan, commentary on the ongoing undermining of America's democratic and civil rights, Dangerous Times. A heroic and gloriously rewarding disc, this, from start to finish. Just buy it.