



## Todd Snider, East Nashville Skyline (\* \* \*)

Folks who think singer/songwriter Snider has never equaled "Talkin' Seattle Grunge Rock Blues", the hidden track from his 10-year-old debut, may finally have found their follow-up. On songs such as "Iron Mike's Main Man's Last Request" and "The Ballad of The Kingsmen", Snider is wordy, rambling and often tremendously funny. He hurls every epithet he can come up with at "Conservative Christian, Right Wing, Republican, Straight, White, American Males", then lumps every stereotype he can think of on himself, figuring everybody's "looking for someone to blame." And, he says, there's nothin' wrong with Nashville, where he lives, "that we can't fix in the mix." And when St. Peter sendshim back from the Pearly Gates with a body full of broken bones, it's the most brutal joke of all-- that, or a very painful second chance. -Mansfield