



STYLE

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VINTAGE PROM

Cheap Date! Marianne Nowotny's been compared to Tori Amos, has her very own debut album, looks like the poster-girl for retro-chic-grunge *and* she's going to the prom. Follow this up-and-coming pop princess through racks and racks of second-hand store treasures to see what she pieced together for the big night—all for under 25 bucks.

By Sarah Conerly



Alright—I was distracted by the rack of polyester caftans that were selling like hot cakes—two for a dollar—but Marianne's a pro when it comes to jockeying for cool threads. She doesn't lose her focus as easily as *some* novice thrift store shoppers might. Within 30 seconds of entering the store, she appears to have a potential purchase—let's see if she bites.



Apparently the last number was a little *too* conventional for Marianne's avant-gard taste. I see she's stumbled upon a Barney-meets-Garth Brooks-nightmare. Even her friend Erin seems to be taken with this frock. Normally I'd say follow your instincts but I'd still like to have a job when I get back to the office.