

OFFICE COOLER PERKS FOR US JERKS

Proving once again that any comic book will benefit from a killer soundtrack (remember Entombed's *Wolverine Blues*?), Portland band **Tracker** recently furnished Craig Thompson's 600-plus page tome, *Blankets* (Top Shelf), with an album's worth of Constellation-style post-rock on their FILMguerrero full-length of the same name. Each of the album's 11 tracks corresponds with a different section of the book, but Tracker's earthy, hypnotic atmospherics will probably enhance any novel-reading experience, graphic or otherwise.

Like indie-rock's ambassador to the United Nations (think briefcase, Black Dice button), the Contact Records Pop Life CD series has been introducing Japan to Japancakes since 1999. Their dance-ariffic new **Pop Life 12" Series** (limited to 600 copies each) continues their eclectic vision in tinier doses: the squelchy minimalist lo-fi house of Chicago's K-rAd, the bizarre glitch-twerk of Alder And Elius, the extended hip-hop/post-rock blenderfunk jams of FCS North and the cosmic drums of BZA via Belo rhy



Finally, music for the entomology-addled folk that love bugs so much that they bring ants to a picnic. ***Broken Hearted Dragonflies: Insect Electronica From Southeast Asia*** (Sublime Frequencies) gathers the sounds of Burmese dragonflies that—in some folkloric tale—get so forlorn after mating their hearts literally explode. True or not, these field recordings of banging and bursting bugs sound just like Fennesz's creepy-crawly glitchscapes. Meanwhile, New York noise conceptualists **Ortho** fill one side of their split 7-inch with Irene Moon (Ignivomous) with haunting, mechanical bugnoise that floats like a butterfly and stings like, well, you know.

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music by **TRACKER**