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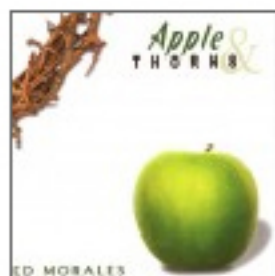
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## Ed Morales - Apple & Thorns



STYLE: Rock

RATING

OUR PRODUCT CODE: 16721-9690

DISTRIBUTION: Independent

FORMAT: CD Album

DISCS: 1

*This product is currently not available from Cross Rhythms Direct*

*Reviewed by Jamie Hailstone*

The tag "AOR" can be a blessing for some artists, but a curse for others. For every record buyer who loves the likes of Tom Petty, the Eagles or John Cougar Mellencamp, there is another out there who hates them with a passion that cannot be undimmed. The good news is that if you are one of the millions of people who buy CDs by people like Tom Petty or Don Henley, you will find plenty to enjoy in this release by Texan Ed Morales. But if your blood runs cold when you hear the opening chords of "Hotel California", you should probably give 'Apples & Thorns' a miss. The songs on the second album by the songsmith sparkle with conviction and spiritual integrity. Tracks like "One Love", "960 C" and "Name" should do well on Christian radio stations which specialise in adult-orientated contemporary music. The strings on "The Well Watered Garden" are particularly effective and there is a strong Biblical emphasis. The recordings could have benefited from a Hammond organ and some more vocal harmonies, but otherwise it is a pretty solid release.

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