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Chick Graning – Vocals/Guitar
 Joyce Raskin – Vocals/Bass
 Joseph Propatier - Drums

SCARCE

The past year has been a weird one for Providence, RI trio Scarce. A very weird one, indeed.

Let's start with the happy part. Flashback to June of 1995. Guitarist Chick Graning and bassist Joyce Raskin had returned triumphant from their recent opening slot with Hole. Chick had just written a spate of swell new songs. Their A&M debut, **DEADSEXY**, was lined up at the starting gate, ready to go.

Best of all, they'd finally found a new drummer in Joseph Propatier (it's Portuguese, not French; "Don't confuse 'em," he growls). "He was the last person we tried out," recalls Joyce. "We came back from the Hole tour, and said 'We're not touring 'til we find our drummer.'"

They discovered Joe practicing next door with another band. Their first rehearsal together, Chick fell in love, but Joyce wasn't sold yet. "The next day, we went and played with him again, and it was amazing," admits Raskin. "He played every single one of our songs on the second day!" Hooray! Champagne flowed, and the trio celebrated into the wee small hours, secure in the knowledge that they were now equipped to tour **DEADSEXY** with maximum thrust.

Fade to black. Next scene: Joyce's pad. "The next morning, Chick's supposed to pick me up. I'm going 'Where is Chick?'" she mutters. "'Goddamn it, he's always late.' I'm calling him on the phone, cursing him out..." Unknown to her, Chick was in no state to answer her call, lying helpless on the floor, the victim of an unforeseeable brain hemorrhage, caused by an arterial venous malformation: "I actually had two, according to the medical report," he shrugs, "but I didn't know about that."

Fortunately, Joyce took it upon herself to go to his place and enlist help breaking down the door, and Chick received medical attention in the nick of time. He was in a coma for the next 18 days; when he first emerged, he thought he was in high school, although he suffered no permanent memory loss. The album release was postponed, and while Chick slowly recovered in the hospital, Joyce kept the wheels of Scarce in motion. "Joe and I continued to work together all summer," she says, "and we played a lot of acoustic shows by ourselves." The proceeds from those gigs went towards the uninsured Chick's bills; the state of Rhode Island thoughtfully picked up the balance due.

After a full recovery, Chick returned to the stage, solo, in October. Within a month, Scarce were back in action, too. "It was scary, but it was fine," he recalls of that first show. "I didn't forget anything," he adds with a laugh. They decided to take advantage of the unscheduled delay, and re-evaluate their recorded output while integrating Joe into the band.