I think I could get pretty close to that left nav with pure CSS and the background image.

The left down-arrows should be fine to add, and you could have a "nav" div, with ul li and ul ul li styles applied to them.

I can try it once I get back to uni (next week, busy this weekend), but there is no point me putting in the work if you won't use it.

As for the cursor, can it be done in Javascript?