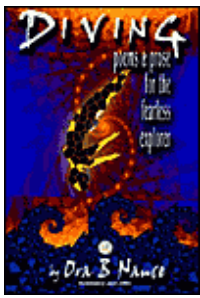


# LIVE AT BARBARA'S

## JUNE 2005



**Ora B. Nance**

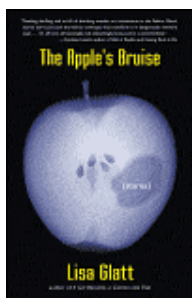
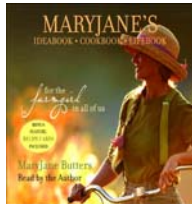
**Thursday 6.02 7:30pm UIC**

Having spent a great deal of time in large cities Ora Nance has noticed a trend - a tendency to move so quickly from one moment to the next that we often don't allow ourselves to find the deeper meanings in our lives. In *DIVING : Poems and Prose for the Fearless Explorer*, Ms. Nance asks us to look at those moments, think of the questions that we may not want to ask, and be brave enough to listen to the answers.

**MaryJane Butters**

**Sunday 6.05 3:00 pm Oak Park**

Whether you simply need encouragement to embrace a more authentic, wholesome lifestyle or you're looking for guidance on building a greenhouse, chopping firewood, hosting a town event, caring for a flock of chickens, making your own butter, growing a winter salad, or choosing a water filter, *MARYJANE'S IDEABOOK, COOKBOOK, LIFEBOOK* for the farmgirl in all of us is both an inspiration and a practical road map for farmgirls of all stripes.



**Lisa Glatt**

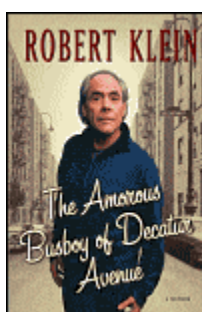
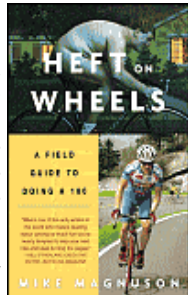
**Tuesday 6.07 7:30pm UIC**

The stories in *THE APPLE'S BRUISE* take a smart and unflinching look at love, frailty, and happiness and prove beyond doubt that Lisa (A Girl Becomes a Comma Like That) Glatt is a modern master at blending heartbreak and hilarity. With tenderness, insight, and humor, she casts her gaze simultaneously on the beauty and absurdity of humanity, creating unforgettable portrayals of unusual characters and the complexities of desire and fidelity that compel them.

**Mike Magnuson**

**Friday 6.10 4:00pm Marshall Field's**

Mike Magnuson was a self-described lummoX with a bike who in three months lost 75 pounds, quit smoking and drinking, and turned into a lean, mean cycling machine, competing in gruelling, one-day races. This irreverent memoir charts the hilarious details of his transformation, from the dread of XXL biking shorts to the miseries of nicotine withdrawal. *HEFT ON WHEELS* is an unforgettable book about getting from one place to another. This event is cosponsored by BOKOO BIKES, call 312.781.3033 for details.



**Robert Klein**

**Monday 6.13 7:30pm UIC**

Robert Klein, a pioneer of observational humor, brings his life to the page in *THE AMOROUS BUSBOY OF DECATUR AVENUE*. This portrait of the comic as a young man shows us the Bronx of the 50s, the eccentric characters of the Catskills hotels, the Chicago improv scene in the 60s, and L.A. in the early 70s. Klein reveals the hilarity of growing up, recounting with wit and poignancy losing his virginity with a prostitute, bringing home a German girlfriend to his Jewish family, and the amorous adventures of the busboy he was.

**Steve Almond**

**Monday 6.13 7:30pm Oak Park**

Steve (Candyfreak) Almond returns with his second short-story collection, *THE EVIL B.B. CHOW*. These stories are funny, bracing, shocking, and always imaginative: a young editor endures a bizarre blind date; a couple is sure that they have been implanted by aliens; a boy, desperate to please his father through baseball, ends up fatally wounding another boy during a game. With great heart and unmatched wit, Almond proves he is one of the most original writers of our time.



**Sean Wilsey**

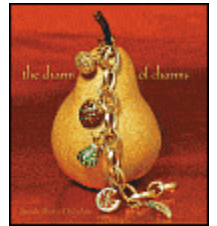
**Tuesday 6.14 7:30pm UIC**

His bombshell mother entertained radicals and film stars while his enigmatic father used a helicopter to drop Sean at the arcade. "In the beginning we were happy. And we were always excessive. So in the beginning we were happy to excess." Sean Wilsey takes us on an exhilarating tour of life in his strange, grandiose family in *OH, THE GLORY OF IT ALL*. When his dad leaves home this fairytale of the 80s gains an evil stepmother. Funny, wild and more proof that money can't buy happiness, even if it can buy everything else.

**Jade Albert & Ki Hackney**

**Thursday 6.16 noon Marshall Field's**

In *THE CHARM OF CHARMS*, Jade Albert and Ki Hackney tell the story of a timeless jewelry. Stunning photos give a close view of cherished charms, including pieces from Claudette Colbert, Joan Crawford, Mariah Carey, and Mary J. Blige. The stories of these beloved trinkets are told in a lively text, covering the history of charms from prehistory to the present. Combining trendiness and nostalgic glamour, this stunning volume will appeal to jewelry enthusiasts young and old.



**Wendy McClure**

**Thursday 6.16 7:30pm Oak Park**

Oak Park native and Chicago blogger (Poundy) Wendy McClure has written a memoir about the world she created when she couldn't see herself as a Weight Loss Success Story. *I'M NOT THE NEW ME* is about dealing with a family heritage of fat, self-esteem issues that are nobody else's business, wondering what's left of you after you lose weight- and who you are if you gain it back, the absurdity of online identities, and the terror of appearing live and in person in your very own life.

**Cheech Marin**

**Saturday 6.18 7:30pm UIC**

Actor, director and comedy superstar Cheech Marin comes to Barbara's to discuss *CHICANO VISIONS : American Painters on the Verge*. This book, created to accompany the art show of the same name (currently at Chicago's Mexican Fine Arts Center), is comprised primarily of art from Mr. Marin's personal collection, one of the largest private collections of Chicano art in the world. Please call 312.413.2665 (BOOK) for further details.



**Elizabeth Kostova**

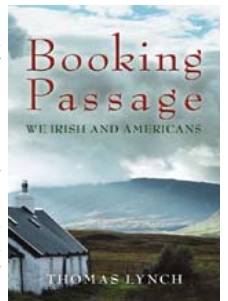
**Tuesday 6.21 7:30 pm UIC**

Elizabeth Kostova's *THE HISTORIAN* is no mere vampire story. What does the legend of Vlad the Impaler have to do with the modern world? Is it possible that the mythic Dracula existed- and has lived on? In her father's library a young woman finds an ancient book and a cache of letters addressed to "My dear and unfortunate successor," which plunge her into a world where the secrets of her father's past and her mother's fate are connected to an evil hidden in the depths of history.

**Thomas Lynch**

**Wednesday 6.22 7:30pm Oak Park**

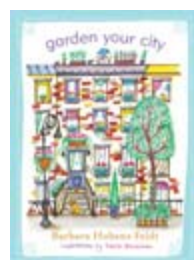
"So, Tom that went and Tom that would come back!" is how Nora Lynch greeted young Thomas (*The Undertaking*) Lynch in 1970, at the edge of the ocean in Clare, by the cottage that his great-grandfather had left a century before on a one-way ticket to America. Part memoir, part cultural study, *BOOKING PASSAGE : We Irish and Americans*, is a brilliant, comedic guidebook for those Lynch calls "fellow travelers, fellow pilgrims" making their way through the complexities of their lives and times.



**Agate Authors**

**Thursday 6.23 7:00pm UIC**

Come celebrate Agate publishing with a night of readings, music and, everyone's favorite, snacks! June is Agate month at Barbara's - and we are featuring titles from this brilliant new local press all month long with discounts and special displays. Stop in to learn more about Chicago publishing, here readings from Agate authors like Andrew Winston and enjoy the live music of Starcandy. For further information call 312.413.2665 (BOOK).



**Barbara Feldt**

**Monday 6.27 noon Marshall Field's**

Barbara Feldt has tapped the wisdom of urban gardeners from coast to coast in this invaluable manual. *GARDEN YOUR CITY* speaks to anyone who seeks to bring greenery to limited spaces or to improve their building, street, or school. It will inspire the inexperienced gardener living on a 14th floor, the expert roof gardener, the civic-minded green thumb who envisions red geraniums under the street trees, and the yardless urbanite who dreams of fresh vegetables.

**Lisa See**

**Tuesday 6.28 7:30pm UIC**

With detail and emotional resonance Lisa See's *SNOW FLOWER AND THE SECRET FAN* delves into one of the most mysterious and treasured relationships of all time—female friendship. A language kept secret for a thousand years forms the backdrop for this unforgettable novel of two Chinese women whose friendship sustains them. An old woman tells of her relationship with her "old-same," their arranged marriages, and the joys and tragedies of motherhood—until a terrible misunderstanding threatens to tear them apart.



**Tuesday, June 7 @ 7:30 pm**

**Morning, Noon, and Night**

*Directed by Abigail Deser*

Some feelings are always true, constant and lasting, and others as fleeting as a moment in a day. Abigail Deser directs an evening of stories about the enduring and the evanescent. Deser, who joined *Stories on Stage* in 2000, is a three-time finalist for the Joseph Jefferson Award for Best Director. She has directed for Roadworks Productions, Steppenwolf Theatre, and Famous Door Theatre, among others.

All performances are at the Museum of Contemporary Art—220 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago.

Tickets may be purchased through the MCA box office by phone at 312.397.4010 or online at [TicketWeb](http://TicketWeb).

## BARBARA'S RECOMMENDS YOU BUY AND READ THESE BOOKS, AS THEY ARE WONDERFUL AND WORTHY OF YOUR FRIENDSHIP



### CAPTAIN ALATRISTE

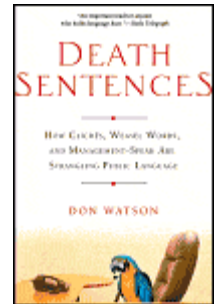
**Arturo Perez-Reverte**

Arturo Perez-Reverte has earned loyal fans the world over with his intellectual thrillers, such as *Queen of the South* and *The Club Dumas*. *CAPTAIN ALATRISTE* will expand his audience to lovers of historical adventure, while still maintaining the trademark wit and melancholy his readers have come to love. This is the perfect summer read for anyone who wants to keep their mind as active as their body.

### DEATH SENTENCES

**Don Watson**

Today's corporations, news media, education departments—and, perhaps most troubling, politicians—speak to us and to each other in clichéd, impenetrable, lifeless babble. In *Death Sentences*, Don Watson takes up the fight against it: the pestilence of bullet points, the dearth of verbs, the buzzwords, the weasel words and cant, the Newspeak of a kind Orwell could not have imagined.



### NASTY

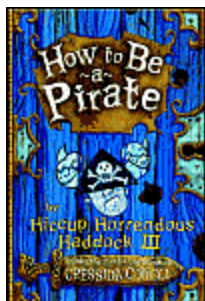
**Simon Doonan**

When Simon Doonan remembers growing up he finds no Hallmark moments—most of his memories are notably nasty. His mother's dentures flying from her mouth as she sneezes, then skittering across the floor? An image that still brings a smile. In his subversive memoir, *NASTY: My Family and Other Glamorous Varmints*, he revisits his defiantly eccentric family, showing us how nasty memories can good ones.

### RECORD PALACE

**Susan Wheeler**

"In hazy heat, mid-September, walking north from Chicago's Loop, telling myself I was exploring the new life, I dogged as much for tonic, gin. A sign swung beside a basement door, in, out, mirage: RECORD PALACE: J Z Z. Inside I found Acie." This first novel by poet Susan Wheeler has the heat and the music of Chicago's recent past in its words and in its soul.



### HOW TO BE A PIRATE : By Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III

**Cressida Cowell**

Kids, are you looking for the perfect summer job? Something that will earn you some money, but still let you spend plenty of time at the beach with your friends? Have you considered becoming a pirate? Read the adventures of Hiccup, his dragon Toothless, and his crew as they search for his reknowned ancestor's hidden treasure to pick up helpful hints on *HOW TO BE A PIRATE*.

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