

LIVE AT BARBARA'S

SEPTEMBER 2004



Asma Hasan

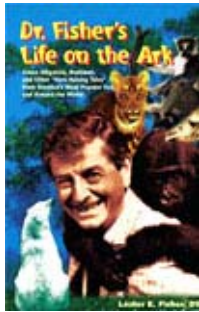
Thursday 9.02 7:30pm UIC

For Asma Hasan, being a Muslim is not merely a matter of birth, but a matter of choice. In seven chapters, she presents seven reasons why she is committed to Islam and why it is a viable spiritual option for anyone. WHY I AM A MUSLIM is an important book that will provide readers with an understanding and appreciation of an often misunderstood religious tradition. Hasan successfully articulates a vision of one of the world's great religions that readers within and without Islam will find engaging and challenging.

Lester Fisher

Monday 9.06 7:30pm UIC

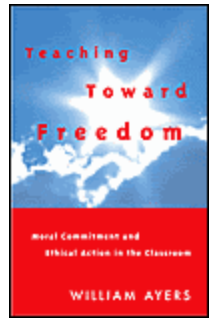
Beginning with an alligator in his backyard...to vet school escapades...to taking care of General Patton's dog and 2,000 carrier pigeons during WWII...to being a zoo doctor, Les Fisher's story, leading up to his appointment as Zoo Director, bring to life his early association with animals. But in 1962, when Dr. Fisher was placed in charge of Lincoln Park Zoo, the fun-and-the animal stories-really began. DR. FISHER'S LIFE ON THE ARK shares the entertaining, poignant, and sometimes scary experiences of a local hero.



Bill Ayers

Thursday 9.16 7:30pm Oak Park

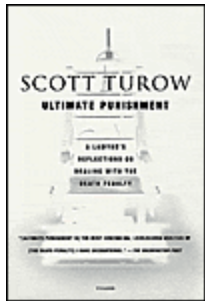
For Bill Ayers, educator and activist, 'the allure of teaching...comes from the particularly precious ideal that lies directly at its heart: Teaching, at its best, is an enterprise geared toward helping every human being reach the full measure of his other humanity.' In TEACHING TOWARD FREEDOM Ayers shows a new way of looking at education; how it can be used in authoritarian ways at the service of the state, the church, or a restrictive existing social order—an idea he abhors—or, as he envisions it, as a way to achieve in students 'their fullest, democratic humanity.'



Ona Russell

Thursday 9.16 7:30pm UIC

University of California, San Diego literature professor and writer Ona Russell comes to Barbara's to hold a workshop on the writing process and to read from her "intense historical" mystery O'BRIEN'S DESK. Based on true events, this suspenseful novel possesses a unique authenticity. The year is 1923, and a prominent judge fathers his first and only child. Though a joyous occasion, the birth sets off a terrifying chain of events, including blackmail and a near-fatal breakdown. The judge's only hope for recovery lies with his trusted friend and colleague, Sarah Kaufman.



Scott Turow

Wednesday 9.08 noon Sears Tower 7:30 UIC

One author, two events, Barbara's is always on the edge. At noon, Scott Turow will be signing copies of his latest work, ULTIMATE PUNISHMENT: A Lawyer's Reflections on Dealing with the Death Penalty, at our Sears Tower location. In the evening, Mr. Turow will be at our store at UIC to read from and answer questions about this same book and the highly fraught topic it bravely examines.

Helen Scully

Wednesday 9.08 7:30pm Oak Park

IN THE HOPE OF RISING AGAIN, Helen Scully's elegant and accomplished first novel, is the story of the Riants and the Morrows - and the wealth of household help and extended family that make up their circle. It is history told through one family's fate: the story of the South as it rose slowly and unsteadily from the ruins of the Civil War and stutered into the twentieth century and the age of speculation and boom.



Ted Okuda and Jack Mulqueen

Saturday 9.18 noon Marshall Fields

At one time every station in Chicago—there were up to five until 1964—produced or aired some kind of children's programming. Though often operating under strict budgetary constraints these programs were rich with imagination, invention, and fan loyalty. Ted Okuda and Jack Mulqueen's THE GOLDEN AGE OF CHICAGO CHILDREN'S TELEVISION is a loving look the bygone era when Kukla, Fran and Ollie were still hanging out together, the Gigglesnort Hotel was still in business, and Kiddie-A-Go-Go was dancing.



Amadeus the Traveling Dog

Saturday 9.18 1:00pm Oak Park

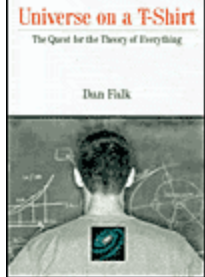
Amadeus is a beautiful, 120 lb., Great Pyrenees puppy who turns heads and wins hearts everywhere he goes, he is certified by the AKC as a Canine Good Citizen, which qualifies him to visit hospitals, schools, and libraries, and share with children his adventures as the Traveling Dog! In his latest story, FRIENDSHIP RULES, we learn how Amadeus met Penny the cat, how they became friends, and a few simple rules that make friendships last. Come to this fun and furry event, meet Amadeus, and give him a pat.



Dan Falk

Thursday 9.09 7:30pm Oak Park

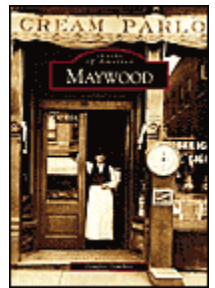
UNIVERSE ON A T-SHIRT: The Quest for the Theory of Everything, begins with a quote from physicist Leon Lederman: "My ambition is to live to see all of physics reduced to a formula so elegant and simple that it will fit easily on the front of a T-shirt." This 'holy grail' of physics, and the search for it, is the subject of this fast paced (and understandable by the layman) book that moves from ancient Greece, to Newton's discoveries, to the theoretical physicists of today.



Doug Deuchler

Sunday 9.19 2:00pm Oak Park

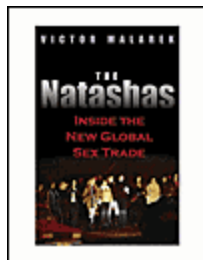
Doug (Oak Park Illinois, Postcard History) Deuchler is back at Barbara's to discuss his latest work of local history, MAYWOOD: Images of America. This prairie community, laid out along the railroad, boomed after the Great Chicago Fire. Soon industries arrived, followed by a variety of ethnic groups. Maywood was one of the few early suburban communities with an African-American neighborhood. Doug taught in Maywood for over 34 years, giving him a unique, ground-level view of this community.



Victor Malarek

Thursday 9.09 7:30pm UIC

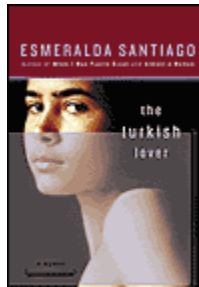
Journalist Victor Malarek exposes the international traffic in sex slavery in THE NATASHAS: Inside the New Global Sex Trade. The collapse of the Soviet Union has left the economies of its republics, and most of the rest of Eastern Europe, in shambles; organized crime has taken over in most places, and an attractive young woman can be sold for \$10,000 or more in some of the countries where the sex trade flourishes. Interviews with criminals, victims and those fighting the trade give this work both urgency and poignancy.



Esmeralda Santiago

Tuesday 9.21 7:30pm UIC

The long-awaited new memoir by Esmeralda Santiago, author of When I Was Puerto Rican and Almost a Woman is an emotionally charged story of an exotic and dangerous love affair. In THE TURKISH LOVER, Esmeralda finally breaks out of a monumental struggle with her powerful mother-only to come under the thrall of 'the Turk' and discover that romantic passion, too, can become a prison. Her journey to self-liberation and discovery is a daring one, candidly recounted.



Cintra Wilson

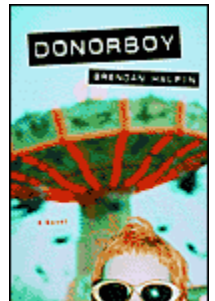
Tuesday 9.14 7:30pm UIC

Cintra Wilson has, through her essay collection, A Massive Swelling, and her Salon.com column, become one of our foremost commentators on the hideousness and humor of celebrity culture. In her first novel, COLORS INSULTING TO NATURE, Wilson gives an unforgettable anti-heroine, Liza Normal, who wants fame more than she wants air, food, or life itself, and she'll do anything it takes to get it. Laugh, cry, cringe with self-recognition: this is a brilliant achievement.

Brendan Halpin

Wednesday 9.22 7:30pm Oak Park

Rosalind has two mommies. Now, due to a tragic accident involving frozen foodstuffs, she has none. And Sean, the sperm donor who gave her half her DNA and nothing else, is taking custody. DONORBOY is a brilliant and heartbreakingly funny debut novel from Brendan Halpin, author of the memoirs It Takes a Worried Man and Losing My Faculties. Donorboy is the universal story of how we all laugh, cry, and occasionally fight our way to a new life in the face of tragedy.



GET ON THE BARBARA'S EMAIL LIST -- DROP US A LINE AT BARBARASBOOKSTORE@EARTHLINK.NET

LIVE AT BARBARA'S

Francisco Goldman

Thursday 9.23 7:30pm Oak Park

Francisco Goldman's third novel, *THE DIVINE HUSBAND*, is a tale of the soul of the Americas and the birth of the modern spirit, set in the ballrooms and plantations of 19th century Central America and the rooming houses and 5th Avenue addresses of New York. Maria de las Nieves Moran is a bookish, dreamy novice nun - until the country's new ruler closes the convents. What will be her fate in the secular world? When she enrolls in a writing class under José Martí, her life is transformed by the brilliant Cuban poet and hero.



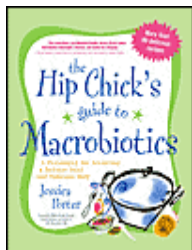
Jane Byrne

Thursday 9.30 7:30pm UIC

By the end of her first meeting with the late mayor Richard J. Daley, Jane Byrne had been questioned and berated and had gained insight into one of the most powerful men in America - and she had reduced him to tears. That was just the first of many altercations in her pioneering career. Part sociopolitical history, part memoir, *MY CHICAGO* is the story of Byrne's rise from young campaign worker to the mayor's office, all within the bruising arena of Chicago's politics.

Jessica Porter

Thursday 9.23 7:30pm UIC



For women looking for healthy lifestyles beyond yoga and Pilates macrobiotic instructor Jessica Porter offers fresh insight into one of the world's oldest and most popular diets - *THE HIP CHICK'S GUIDE TO MACROBIOTICS*. The effect of a macrobiotic diet can extend beyond basic health to weight loss, better sex, and peace of mind. Tips and recipes are combined with Jessica's no-nonsense philosophy and witty anecdotes to create a book that will inspire women to hit the kitchen with an understanding of how to strengthen their minds and bodies through food.

Dave Barry & Ridley Pearson

Sunday 9.26 4:00pm Oak Park

Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson have turned back the clock to a wonderful story that precedes J. M. Barrie's beloved *Peter Pan*. *PETER AND THE STARCATCHERS* is brimming with rich characters, from the scary, somehow familiar Black Stache and the ferocious Mister Grin to the sweet, sophisticated Molly and the fearless Peter. Riveting adventures take readers from a filthy, crime-ridden port in old England across the turbulent seas, aboard the *Never Land*, which carries a trunk that holds a magical substance-just a sprinkle, and wounds heal; just a dusting, and people can fly.



BARBARA'S RECOMMENDS A FEW GOOD TITLES TO TAKE YOU FROM THE NOT-VERY-WARM SUMMER INTO THE NOT-TOO-COOL FALL :

HOW I LIVE NOW - Meg Rosoff

"EVERY WAR HAS turning points and every person too."

Daisy is sent to England to visit her aunt and cousins she's never met: three boys and their little sister. Her aunt goes away on business soon after she arrives. Then bombs go off as London is attacked and occupied by an unnamed enemy.

As power fails and the farm becomes more isolated. Despite the war, it's a kind of Eden, with no adults in charge and no rules, a place where Daisy's uncanny bond with her cousins grows into something rare and extraordinary. But the war is everywhere, and Daisy and her cousins must lead each other into a world that is unknown in the most elemental way.



JONATHAN STRANGE & MR.

NORRELL - Susanna Clarke

Sophisticated, witty, convincing, Susanna Clarke weaves magic into a flawless vision of old England, creating an enchanted world. English magicians were once a wonder of the world, commanding wind, hill, and wood. But by the 1800s they have lost the ability to perform magic, and instead write dull papers on it's history.

But in Yorkshire reclusive Mr. Norrell has assembled a vast library of lost, forgotten books from the magical past and regained some of the powers. He goes to London to raise a beautiful woman from the dead and soon is helping the government in the war against Napoleon, creating ghostly fleets to confuse and alarm the French.

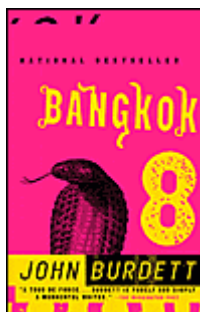
All goes well until a rival magician appears.



BANGKOK 8 - John Burdett

A Barbara's favorite in hardcover, now in convenient paperback form.

Under a Bangkok bridge, inside a bolted Mercedes an African American Marine is killed by a meth-stoked python and a swarm of stoned cobras. Two cops arrive too late. Minutes later, only one is alive: Sonchai Jitpleecheep - a devout Buddhist, versed in the sacred and the profane - son of a long-gone G.I. and a Thai bargirl whose international clientele contributed to Sonchai's sophistication. Now, his partner dead, Sonchai is doubly compelled to find the murderer, to maneuver through the world he knows - drugs, prostitution, corruption - and into a realm he has never encountered: the moneyed underbelly of the city, where desire rules and the human body is as mutable as raw jade. And where Sonchai tracks a killer - and an even more sinister predator.



Daniela Kuper

Wednesday 9.29 7:30pm Oak Park

This wonderful first novel recreates a world by affirming eternal virtues - humor, pain, and the joy of daily life. Daniela Kuper has an incredible eye and ear for life as it is, was, and will be. *HUNGER AND THIRST* chronicles the rise and fall of the Trouts as they live out the longing, betrayal and precariousness of family life in the Chicago Jewish culture of the 50s. Rich with period detail, the novel is a fierce exploration of a family that loves deeply, even as they are compelled to destroy.

John Nichols

Wednesday 9.29 7:30pm UIC

In his riveting, hilarious, frightening new book, *DICK: The Man Who Is President*, investigative reporter John Nichols provides the first biography of the nation's vice president. This "highly unauthorized" examination of the world's most powerful man reveals that everything Dick Cheney has ever done has been a calculated move to grab power and insinuate himself into essential behind-the-scenes roles. A goal whose fulfillment can be read in Cheney's old Secret Service codename: "Backseat."



Lisa Reardon

Thursday 9.30 7:30pm Oak Park

A small and isolated world-a world where laws and taboos are broken on a daily basis, and family loyalty replaces moral accountability. Chicago author Lisa (Billy Dead, Blameless) Reardon's new novel, *THE MERCY KILLERS*, is a deeply involving and satisfying story that illustrates just how far fear can drive us, and where love can sometime send us. When a man takes the rap for what he thinks is his brother's crime, he finds himself lost both in war and at home.



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