

# BOOK BAG

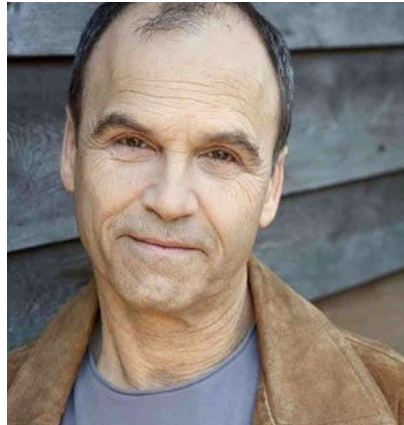
A Panache Publishing property: gmail; blog; Facebook

January 201

## Scott Turow at CPL Event

Denise I. O'Neal

Local lawyer-turned-best-selling author Scott Turow discusses “The Rights of Authors in the Digital Age” 6 p.m. Jan. 13 at the Harold Washington Library, 400 S. State.



Turow, a partner in Chicago-based law firm Denton, has turned advocate for author rights who in a 2013 account published by Newcity said he is “waging war on issues more important to the culture at large than to his personal well being.”

Turow, whose first novel *Presumed Innocent* hit the New York Times Best-seller list along with being adapted to a blockbuster movie starring Harrison Ford, will shed light on how authors can protect their rights in pursuant with their works as the digital age continues to provide easy access to writer’s works. The event is in partnership with the Chicago Public Library and the **Society of Midland Authors**, an organization of Midwest authors whose founders included famed lawyer Clarence Darrow and soon-to-be member social reformer Jane Addams.

Copies of the author’s most recent book *Innocent*, will be available for purchase and signing.

**chipublib**

## Chicago Writers Conference

Amanda Claire Buckley, C. Russell Price (pictured bottom) and CWC founder and executive director Mare Swallow (pictured) supply writing tips and helpful hints to upcoming authors during the Chicago Writers Conference’s “Stimulate, Create & Submit: A Be Prepared Party!” at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 8 at 826CHI, 1276 N. Milwaukee.

Attendees of this “get ready to be published” event will be prompted to use creative exercises and other techniques to develop ideas to create a short work.

The session also covers how to create a submission plan; where to find agents and publishers; submission tracking and how to get over writing and publishing hurdles.

Participants leave with a 300-word work. Tickets are \$50.



**chicagowriter-  
conference**

## January 2015 releases

**Bound by Flames**, Jeaniene Frost (Night Prince #3): Jan 27

**Dangerous**, Patricia Rosemoor, (Suspense): Jan. 6

**The Darkest Part of the Forest**, Holly Black (Young Readers): Jan. 13

**Fifty Shades of Grey**, E.L. James (Movie Tie-In Edition): Jan. 6

**Firefight**, Brandon Sanderson (Reckoners #2): Jan. 6

**The Girl on the Train**, Paula Hawkins (Thriller: eBook): Jan. 13

**Grave Vengeance**, Lori Sjoberg (Paranormal: eBook only): Jan 19

**Infected**, Sophie Littlefield (Teen Thriller): Jan. 6

**Insatiable Appetites**, Stuart Woods (Stone Barrington novel): Jan 6

**The Last Leaves Falling**, Sarah Benwall (Young Adult): Jan. 29

**Love, Lucy**, April Lindner (Contemporary): Jan 27

**Never Never**, Colleen Hoover, Tarryn Fisher (Kindle edition): Jan. 11

**Saint Odd**, Dean Koontz (Odd Thomas novel): Jan. 13

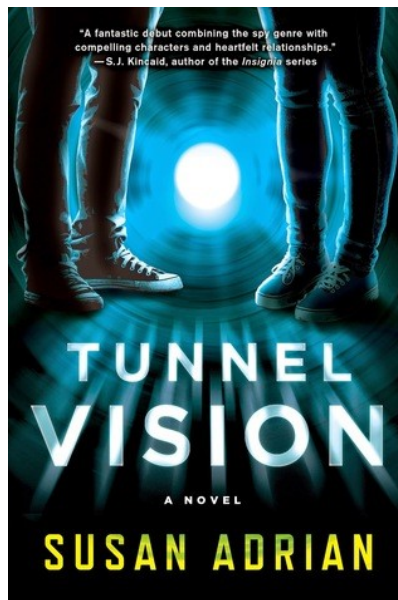
**Swan Point**, Sheryl Woods (The Sweet Magnolias series): Jan. 7

**Third Target**, Joel C. Rosenberg (Thriller): Jan. 6

**Tunnel Vision**, Susan Adrian (Romantic/Adventure): Jan. 20

**Veronica Mars: An Original Mystery**, Rob Thomas (Mystery): Jan 20

**Woven**, Michael Jensen, David K. Powers King (Suspense): Jan. 27



## Comic Corner:

Marvel unleashes new graphic novels with familiar content in 2015:

Among the offerings is *Star Wars: The Original Marvel Years Omnibus Volume 1* (\$125).



Marvel published its first “Star Wars” novel in 1977 and has covered every aspect of the iconic pop culture movie. The 880-page graphic novel opens with A New Hope and ends with The Empire Strikes Back along with offering new sagas for developed for the collection. The book will be available Jan. 27.

### *Death of Wolverine*

Considered the single most important X-Men event of the decade Marvel pull the plugs on its anti-hero Logan (Wolverine) in Steve McNiven and Chris Soules’ 128-page comic/graphic novel. On sale Jan. 20; \$24.99.

### *Original Sin Companion*

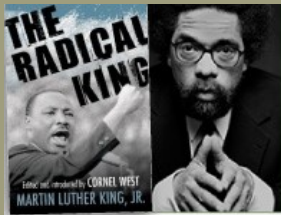
This 968-page hardcover myopic of the world of the *Avengers of the Universe* unravels all the secrets of the Marvel superheroes’ universe, including how the Hulk became in the incredible superhero and in this omnibus of the Marvel heroes universe. Available Feb. 3; \$125. **marvel**

## Patton Oswalt

Comedian Patton Oswalt, best known for his role as Spencer Olchin in “Queen of Kings,”



visits the windy city for two discussions of his book *Silver Screen Fiend*, 11:30 a.m. Jan. 13, Chicago Standard Club, 320 S. Plymouth Court. Luncheon tickets are \$40. Reservations are required. Patton discusses and signs his book 7 p.m. January 13 at Wentz Hall, North Central College, 171 E. Chicago, Naperville. A purchase of the book is admission to attend event. **andersons**



## King Day

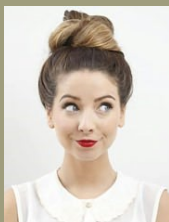
Dr. Cornel West discusses his book *The Radical King*, a look at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s fight for social justice, 7 p.m. Jan. 23, Pfeiffer Hall, North Central College, 310 E. Benton. For tickets, call (630) 637-7469.

## The Vampire returns

New York Times bestselling author Seth Grahame-Smith makes a visit in support of his new book *The Last Vampire*, 7 p.m. Jan. 16 at Anderson's Bookshop, 123 W. Jefferson, Naperville. **andersons**

## A first

Zoe Sugg signs copies of her book *Girl Online: The First Novel by Zoella*, 6 p.m. Jan. 20, Barnes & Noble, Old Orchard, Skokie. Some restrictions apply. **barnesandnoble**



## The Classics Revisited

Diane L. LaFonte

### *Jane Eyre*

Charlotte Brontë's semi-biographical tome *Jane Eyre* is the perfect paradigm to represent classic literature.

The English novelist and poet, the eldest of the famous Brontë sisters— Anne, author of *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* and Emily, best known for the literary classic, *Wuthering Heights*, delivered a poignant work a rift with pathos.



First published in 1847 *Jane Eyre* is considered the perfect reading for young girls, a coming of age story taking readers through the trials and tribulations of an orphaned girl who upon her first job as governess falls in love with her Byronic (literary term coined for romantic poet Lord Byron) employer, Edward Rochester, master of Thornfield Hall.

Originally titled *Jane Eyre: An Autobiography* and written under the pen name Currer Bell, the book has weathered the test of time, adapted for film, television and theater.

I first became familiar with Brontë's tale when viewing the 1944 movie, featuring Orson Welles and Joan Fontaine. I came to love Brontë's tragic, yet heroic characters whose lives unfolded in black and white on our television and have had the book, which I found spellbinding, on my “to-read” list for some time.

Considered to be ahead of its time *Jane Eyre* has been characterized as “revolutionizing the art of fiction,” exploring classism, sexuality, religion and feminism among other motifs.

Vividly and brilliantly painting verbal landscapes illustrating the title character's gradual unfolding socially, morally, spiritually and emotionally, Brontë has been referenced as “the first historian of the private consciousness.”

The book begins with an orphaned Jane forced to live at Gateshead Hall with her maternal uncle's family, the Reeds, a result of his dying wish. Considered an intruder in their privileged world Jane is physically and emotionally abused by her uncle's widow and her cousins, among her suffering— being locked in the room where her uncle died as punishment for upsetting her cousin John.

**Continued on back**

## **Jane Eyre (cont.)**

Fainting from the experience Jane is attended by the kindly apothecary Mr. Lloyd, to whom she reveals her unhappiness and cruelty at the family's hands. When Lloyd recommends Jane be sent away to school her aunt happily agrees. Unfortunately, the school her aunt chooses is Lowood, a charity school for poor and orphaned girls, run by a harsh and unscrupulous director.

The students are subjected to cold rooms, poor meals, and thin clothing resulting in many of them falling ill and succumbing to death, including Jane's friend Helen who perishes during a typhus epidemic. The maltreatment of the students is eventually investigated and conditions at the school, where Jane remains for six years, improves. Upon her departure Jane seeks employment as a governess, accepting a position at Thornfield Hall to the master's ward.

Upon their initial meeting Edward Rochester's, master of Thornfield Hall, and Jane engage in a lighthearted exchange with Rochester teasing the young governess, setting an intimate tone of impropriety between employer and employee. The two engaging in evening chats suggests a personal and casual relationship between Rochester and Eyre, a social breach by most standards of the era, leading to Jane falling in love with Rochester, who has a dark secret— he keeps his violent and insane wife locked in the attic.

Summoned back to Gateshead Hall when her aunt is dying Jane, discovering she is the rightful heir to her uncle's estate, but her heart is at Thornfield and after her aunt's death Jane is forced to face her own demon— her feelings for Rochester, who in her absence is set to wed another woman. The pending nuptials is the catalyst leading to the book's pinnacle and Jane's most impassioned expression of love for Rochester, leading him to dismiss his intended in favor of marrying Jane.

Still unaware of Rochester's wife Jane accepts his proposal. During the wedding Rochester's attempt at bigamy is uncovered, he explains his duplicity away by revealing to Jane his wife's descent into madness and his having kept her locked away. Hit with another tragic moment Jane calls off the wedding and leaves Thornfield, eventually learning of her 20,000-pound inheritance (equivalent to over 1million dollars today) from her dead uncle.

Although wealthy and self sufficient Jane's yearning for Rochester is so powerful she again returns to Thornfield, only to find the manner blackened ruins and Rochester blind, and one hand loss from the fire.

Fearing Jane will be repulsed by his physical afflictions Rochester attempts to ward her off. In a case of true love conquers all Jane is able to convince Rochester of her love and the couple marries.

Bronte's undaunted heroine dropped in a plot serving up a plethora of themes, superb usage of character contrasts, interplay on social status and thwarted love story set amongst a hauntingly powerful Gothic backdrop is a hallmark of literary genius and the reason why "Jane Eyre" is as enjoyable today as when written more than 160 years ago.