

BOOKS

Vivid view of TV news work can't rescue trite bodice-ripper

White Chocolate by Elizabeth Athina Bowman (Forge, \$23.95)



VICTORIA DIAZ

I'm not at all certain exactly what direction this novel wants to take. Now and then, it seems to pass as a story that may be serious...

Carter, owner of Wolf Media Corp. And there's yet another complication: her old flame, Julian DuPont, is back in Detroit, wearing his eternal love, begging her not to wed Philip Carter, even though he himself dumped her years ago...

In the meantime, we get to know much about what color and style the surrounding furniture is and what kind of lingerie is preferred by the players during useful - albeit hackneyed - love scenes.

Everything finally comes together in a big, blazing finish at the tip of the Michigan thumb, complete with burning choppers, shotgun-toting skinheads, a SWAT team, and helicopters, arriving as if on cue and seemingly straight out of a thundering scene from "Apocalypse Now."

As it happens, their release occurs on the eve of the beautiful, biracial Detroit journalist Taylor James, working undercover, managed to put violent white supremacist Rocky Pulaski and some of his ilk behind bars.

Orchard Lake, 414-456-1246. Farmington Hills, 248-557-9645. THE HORSE WHISPERER 6 DAYS, 7 NIGHTS THE TRUMAN SHOW

BOOK HAPPENINGS

Book Happenings features various happenings at suburban bookstores. Send news leads to Hugh Gallagher, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Inc., 30252 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or fax them to (313)593-7279, or e-mail him at hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

BORDERS (BIRMINGHAM, WOODWARD) Judy McKee had summer reading suggestions, 1 p.m. Sunday, June 28; Camp Borders presents Wizard of Oz mini-play at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 30, at the store 34300 Woodward Ave., Birmingham (248)203-0005.

BARNES & NOBLE (BLOOMFIELD HILLS) Readers' Book Club discusses "Love Inside Us," by Amy Boom 4 p.m. Sunday, July 5, at the store 6575 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills (248)540-4209.

BORDERS (FARMINGTON HILLS) Ann Koss signs her book "The Trouble with Zlany Weston," 2 p.m. Sunday, June 28; Elizabeth King will discuss her book "A Walk a Week," 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 30 at the store,

30995 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills, (248)737-0004. BORDERS (ROCHESTER HILLS) Benefit weekend concludes Sunday, June 28, 15 percent of purchases donated to Family Trust funds for the injured Red Wings at the store 1522 S. Route 24, Rochester Hills (248)652-0558. HALFWAY DOWN THE STAIRS (ROCHESTER) An Evening with Caldecott Medalist Paul Zelinsky 7 p.m. Thursday, July 9, at the store, 114 E. Fourth, Rochester, (248) 652-6066. SHAMAN DRUM Wasenith Young discusses her involvement in "Sharp Spear, Crystal Mirror; Martial Arts in Women's Lives," 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 1, at the store, 215 State St., Ann Arbor, (734)662-7407.

ART BEAT

NOMINATIONS FOR CULTURAL ARTS AWARD In nomination forms are available for the third annual Birmingham Bloomfield Cultural Arts Award. The award is presented to the individual or organization who had the greatest impact on art and culture in the Birmingham-Bloomfield area during the past year. Forms are available at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, The Community House of Birmingham and the Baldwin Library. Look for nominating forms in the Eccentric! Deadline for nominations is Friday, July 31.

Last year, the award went to Birmingham resident John Cyber, co-creator of the Pontiac '97, a sculpture exhibit that brought to light or re-created 100 local artists. Marshall Fredericks received a lifetime achievement award. The award will be announced in early September. The formal presentation will be made at the opening of the Birmingham Society of Women Painters Exhibit on Friday, Sept. 18 at the BBAC. SHAW GUIDE TO CLOSE The Pontiac-based Shaw Guide Gallery announced that it will close at the end of August. Since 1991, Shaw Guide has been one of the great galleries in metro Detroit, focusing exclusively on historic, modern and contemporary ceramic sculpture. (We'd like to thank the many friends, patrons, and institutions that have supported our effort over the years," stated owner Jeff Guido in a recent press release announcing the closing.



Recline: "Lisa," a portrait by Richard Lewis, is featured in the Hilberly Gallery's exhibit through Friday. The gallery is located at 555 S. Woodward in Birmingham; (248) 642-8260.

"Above all," continued Guido, "Shaw Guide would like to thank its artists for sharing their creativity and passion, and for entrusting the gallery with the representation of their work." The gallery is located at 7 N. Saginaw in downtown Pontiac. Hours for July are 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Hours for August will be appointed later. For information, (248) 333-1070. ALL ABOARD ArtServe Michigan will hold its annual Riverboat Regatta for the arts at 5:30 p.m. July 15. Honorary captains for this year's regatta are Ron Kagan, director of the Detroit Zoo, filmmaker Sue Marx, Heath Meriwether,

publisher of the Detroit Free Press, and Maurice Parrish, interim director of the Detroit Institute of Arts. CRANBROOK BENEFIT Cranbrook Art Museum will hold its third annual fund raiser, "Serious Moonlight," 8 p.m., Saturday, July 18. Guests are invited to come in garden-party attire and dance to the Latin swing music of Edgar Leon and his orchestra. The benefit is sponsored by David Klein Gallery, Neiman Marcus, Stoney Creek Brewing Company and Merchants Fine Wine. Tickets: \$75, general; \$160, patrons. For information, (248) 646-3939, or (248) 493-3700.

National Amusements Showtime Classics... Star Trek: Voyager... Star Trek: Voyager... Star Trek: Voyager...

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