O B S E R V E R & E C C E S T R I C **MOVIES GUIDE TO THE**

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Ford Wysming Orbe is Theatre Dextorn Dearborn (313) 846-6910 Orders under 12 am Free Electric In-Car Primers Allmart Inno and procurent Allmart Inno and procurent

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AMERICA'S SWIETHRARTS (PC13) 11:10, 2:15, 5:10, 7:45, 10:25 AMERICAN OUTLAWS (PC13) AUGUS AND THE STREET AND THE STREET

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The Observer & Eccentric/ SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2001

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MULHOLLAND DELYE (B) (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00 LLE, (WC17) (1:30, 4:15) 6:45, 9:30 TOETILLA SOUP (PG11) (1:15:3-45) 6:30, 9:15

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'Shadows of Sin' examines a new dimension of Jessie Drake

"Shadows of Sin," by Rochelle Krich (William Morrow, \$25.00).

By VICTORIA DIAZ SPECIAL WRITER

If you're looking for a timely whodunit marked by a cliffhang-er plot and packed with characer plot and packed with charac-ters you can truly care about, treat yourself to Rochelle Krich's fifth Jessie Drake mystery, Shadows of Sin. (Other Drake crime tales include Agatha Award nominees, Fair Game and Angel of Death.)

Angel of Death.)

Longtime Krich fans will know Jossio Drake as an intropid Los Angeles Police Department detective who struggles with her own demons while dealing with erime in The City of Angels. Divorced and childless, she comes from a dysfunctional family directly scarred by the Holocaust. In this story, she finds which may seem practically perfect to the casual observer, but which is, in reality, haunted by its own dark secrets and "shadows of sin."

The gripping story starts out

ows of sin."

The gripping story starts out with a bang, literally and figuratively, as a mysterious someone walks into the office of a successful L.A. plastic surgeon, and allows away the doctor, his nurse and his receptionist. Seconds later, the killer escapes the blood-splattered, sumptuous office, leaving, it would seem, no witnesses to the carnage.

Seen Jessie and her likeble

Soon, Jessie and her likable partner, Phil Okum, are assigned the case. Outside of some spent bullets, bloody shoe prints on the costly carpet, and the last name listed in the doctor's appointment book (the murders occur around closing timo), they have little to go on at first.

As the tale unfolds, however,

"The gripping story starts out with a bang, literally and figuratively, as a mysterious someone walks into the office of a successful L.A. plastic surgeon, and blows away the doctor, his nurse and his receptionist.'

review of "Shadows of Sin" By Author Rochelle Krich

readers may be reminded of Agetha Christic's Murder on the Orient Express, because so many suspects begin to emerge from the tapestry of the drama.

didn't go into detective work years ago, Krich takes a u-turn, and we're not feeling so smug suppers begin to emerge from the tapestry of the drama.

Though some of this story bearing the control of the story bearing the story bearing the control of the story bearing the story beari

the tapestry of the drame.

Could the killer be dissatisfied patient, Carla Luchins, who claims she's been disfigured by the doctor's surgery? Or the doctor's highly-emotional wife, Clests Bushnell (she may know something about the well-respected doctor that we don't know)? Could the surgeon's spoiled daughter, Adrienne, be guilty of murdering her own father, if he has threatened to put an end to her inheritance and a forbidden romance?

Berbans the perpetrator is the

nd a forbidden romance.

Perhaps the perpetrator is the Perhaps the perpetrator is the doctor's foster-son, Ethan Meissner, cool and unreachable one moment, warm and appealing the next. Or maybe it's Ethan's natural father, Gideon, a dreamy musician who deeply resents all the material privileges the Bushnells have provided his son over the years.

Or perhaps it's none of these. Perhaps it's Dr. Bushnell's ex-nurse, Barbara Martin. (Word is, she was recently fired under mysterious circumstances.) Or perhaps the over-protective, strong-willed maid did it.

First, we look askance at one, then another. Then, when we think we have all the answers, when we're patting ourselves on the back and wondering why we

Though some of this story has to do with religion and spirituality, there's nothing preachy here, and certainly no pat answers are provided in the end, though there's plenty of food for thought.

there's plenty of food for thought.

In any really worthwhile murder mystery, readers get the chance not only to meet some fascinating characters and share in a fast-paced adventure, but also to broaden their knowledge in some way. Here, through Jessie's exploration of her Jewish roots, we may learn some things we didn't know about ancient Hebrew law and ritual, and, via a sub-plot in which we meet a belenguered Muslim family (also decimated by murder). Shadows of Sin provides a glimps of that front-line subject as well.

On these pages, Krich gives us

On these pages, Krich gives us first-rate plotting and pacing, heart-pounding tension and suspense, colorful scene making, and dialogue that always rings true. Most important, she knows how to create up-close-and-personal characters that bring her story alive because they are so alive themselves.

What's wrong with this novel? Actually, I can't think of a thing.

BOOK HAPPENINGS

Book Happenings features events at area bookstores, libraries and literary gatherings. Send news leads to Keely Kaleski Wygonik, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150, or fax them to (734) 591-7279 or e-mail to kwygonik@ oe, homecomm.net.

Carl Sandburg Library, 30100 W. Seven Mile Road:

W. Seven whe road: FALL PROGRAM Presenters from Madonna University discuss "The Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway," 7-9 p.m. Nov. 13, Dec. 11, Call (248) 893-4010 to register.

Canton Public Library, 1200 S. Canton Center Road, Canton LUNCH & A BOOK

LUNCH & A BOOK
The November discussion, noon
to 1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 8, will
be about Myln Goldberg's "Bee
Senson." Copies of the book are
available at the library. No registration required for "Lunch
and a Book" discussions. Call
(734) 397-0999 for information.

Author Society will hold its 59th Luncheon 11 a.m. Monday, Oct. 29 at Burton Manor in Livonia. Guest authore are Subastin Jungor, Sue Miller, Stuart Woods and Letitis Baldrigo. Book sales room opens 11 a.m. lunch served at noon. Tickets \$25, call (734) 397-0999, Ext. 154.

Waldenbooks, 12 Oaks Mall in Novi has the following events planned:

SATURDAY, NOV. 24

Observer & Eccentric columnist Monte Nagler will sign copies of his calendar 2-4 p.m. at Waldenbooks at 12 Oaks Mall, Novi

CHILDREN'S READING AND

CHILDREN'S READING AND ACTIVITIES At Waldenbooks, 12 Oaks Mail, Novi 11 a.m. to noon every Thursday Borders Books and Music, at 612 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor, has the following events planned:

PERFECT STORM OF AUTHORS
The Metro-Detroit Book & cusses and signs copies of his

book "Great Projects," 7 p.m. CHILDREN'S EVENTS

SUNDAY, OCT. 28 Valerie Tripp hosts an American Girls party, 2-4 p.m. WEDNESDAY, OCT. 31
Halloween party with Dinne
Baker, 7 p.m.

Barnes & Noble, at 2800 S. Rochester in Rochester Hills, has the following events planned: MUSIC PERFORMANCES

MAKE IT MONDAYS'
Activities, adventures in crafts and storytime are held each Monday at 11 s.m.

Borders Books, Music, Video & Cafe, 1122 S. Rochester in Rochester Hills, has the follow-ing events planned:

THURSDAYS

"Reading Without a Net," a a program about the neglected art of reading

about the negation aloud, 7 p.m.
CHILDREN'S

Toddler Time with Ms. Allison for chil-dren 4 and younger, 10 s.m.

Rosedale Players spotlight comedy

Rosedale Community Players recently began its 33rd senson with Moon Over Buffalo by Ken Ludwig.

Moon Over Buffalo by Ken Moon Over Buffalo is a comedy holds auditions for Wait Until

Ludwig.

Performances 8 p.m. Friday
Sturday, Nev. 2-3, and 2 p.m.
Sturday, Nev. 2-3, and 2 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 28 at the Upstage
Theatre, 21728 Grand River,
east of Labser in the Old Red-

Rosedale Community Players holds auditions for Wait Until Dark, 7 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Oct. 22-23 at the Upstage Theatre. Call (313) 532-4010 for information.

Players Guild of Dearborn presents musical

The Goodbye Girl opens 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 9 at the Players Guild of Dearborn and continues weekends through Sunday, Nov. 25.

The Goodbye Girl opens 8 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 9 at the Players
Guild of Dearborn and continues
weekends through Sunday, Nov.

Based on a book by Neil
Simon and music by Marvin
Hamilisch, the story centers on
an actress who hasn't had much
luck with relationships. As the
luck with relationships. As the
luck with relationships. As the
laybegins her most recent partner has gone off to Italy to purThe play features Brian
Townsend of Plymouth as Billy

and Garden City residents Mark
Byars and Amy Hondrickson.
Valerie Haas of Westland
cliricats.

Performances 8 p.m. Friday
Fortrances 8 p.m. Priday
Fortrances 8 p.m. Nov. 16-17,
Nov. 23-24, and 2:30 p.m. Sunthat the has sold the
discount of the new comer until someone gets
enough money to move out.
The play features Brian
Townsend of Plymouth as Billy

(313).