

Reporter set to launch her new book

Barbara Turnbull looks in the mirror

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A Mississauga woman who was gunned down as a teenager while working at her part-time job as a convenience store clerk will read from her new book in an upcoming special presentation at the Mississauga Central Library.

Looking In The Mirror: An Evening With Barbara Turnbull is set for Thursday, May 1 from 7-8 p.m. in the Noel Ryan Auditorium.

Turnbull, now 32, will read from her book, *Looking In The Mirror*, which chronicles events of that fateful night of Sept. 12, 1983, when a gunshot wound left her paralyzed from the shoulders down.

She had been working as a clerk in a convenience store when four armed robbers burst in and then shot her as they left.

While her assailants celebrated their deed later that evening by sipping champagne in a Mississauga nightclub, Turnbull underwent emergency surgery to save her life. The next day she was on a respirator, unable to speak, paralyzed from the shoulders down.

She said the reason she wrote the book is to tell the real story of her long and painful recovery. Much of the book centres on how she felt being a "celebrity victim" during a trial that sent shock waves through Mississauga and much of Ontario.

Turnbull said the book will also delve into "the facts of life for the disabled in our communities, and in the work place."

But, she stressed that her reading at the Mississauga Central Library will be upbeat.

A graduate of the journalism program at Arizona State



Gunned down as a teenager while working at a convenience store, Mississauga's Barbara Turnbull will read from her new book in an upcoming special presentation at the Mississauga Central Library. Today, Turnbull works as a reporter for *The Toronto Star*.

University, Turnbull lives in Toronto. Today, she is a reporter covering the GTA for *The Toronto Star*.

Turnbull decided to write her book while temporarily laid off from her job as a reporter. She doesn't want to dwell on the past, but feels there is a story in what she has endured, and her ability to forge ahead. Her story recounts her long and painful recovery and the dramatic events of her assailants' trial. Turnbull will also describe how she has refused to let her life be ruined by tragedy.

The reading will take place in the Noel Ryan Auditorium at the Central Library, 301 Burnhamthorpe Rd. W. Admission is free. For information call 615-3500.

Priced at \$29.95, her book is due in bookstores this month.