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Barbara Turnbull**She'll never forgive them**By JIM ROBINSON
Staff

Barbara Turnbull doesn't hate anyone, not even the four men who gunned her down and left her for dead 14 years ago.

But she'll never ever forgive them, or forget them.

Turnbull was a happy and healthy Mississauga teen working in a convenience store the night of Sept. 23, 1983, when the store was robbed. One of four bandits shot the young clerk in the robbery.

Turnbull was left paralyzed from the shoulders down. Her attackers are now all out of jail, having been either deported or paroled.

Turnbull, who battled to live, recently spent 15 months away from her job as a reporter at *The Toronto Star* to tell her story in a book about her life called *Looking in the Mirror*.

She was at the Central Library in Mississauga Thursday to read excerpts from it.

Referring to the four assailants always as "them" or "the shooter," but never by name, Turnbull said she can never forgive them for having sentenced her to life in a wheelchair.

"I look at my life as before

and after," she said. "No, I can't forgive them."

"Only one of the four who showed any kind of remorse for what he had done."

It upsets Turnbull that all four men have been deported to their native Jamaica, where they are now free.

"The one who showed remorse, was the only one who had not taken out Canadian citizenship," she said. "But the other three, because they have Canadian citizenship, are eligible to return to Canada. The shooter can return to Canada in the year 2003."

Turnbull, now 32, started her book by sitting down at her computer to write about waking up on a respirator the day after the shooting, unable to speak.

A general assignment reporter at *The Star*, Turnbull is now writing a children's book she hopes might develop into a series. She's also looking at doing more speaking engagements.

Turnbull hopes to illustrate disability. "I hope people will understand what it's like to be us, what attitudes help, and what attitudes hurt."

Looking in the Mirror is available at most book stores and priced at \$29.95.