



CHELSEA DISTRICT LIBRARY

MIDWEST LITERARY WALK

12TH ANNUAL
SATURDAY
APRIL 25, 2020
1-5PM
DOWNTOWN
CHELSEA



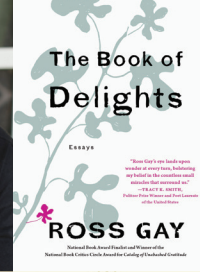
LAURIE HALSE ANDERSON



speak



POETRY IS NOT A
ROSS GAY



The Book of Delights

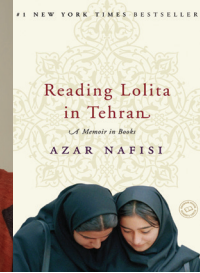
ESSAYS

ROSS GAY

National Book Award Finalist and Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award for Best of the Best Hardcover Book



AZAR NAFISI



Reading Lolita in Tehran

A Memoir in Books

AZAR NAFISI



2020 LINEUP

Laurie Halse Anderson | *New York Times* Best-selling Author

1:00pm | Chelsea First United Methodist Church | 128 Park Street

Ross Gay | National Book Award Finalist

2:30pm | Chelsea First Congregational Church | 121 E. Middle Street

Azar Nafisi | *New York Times* Best-selling Author

4:00pm | Chelsea First United Methodist Church | 128 Park Street

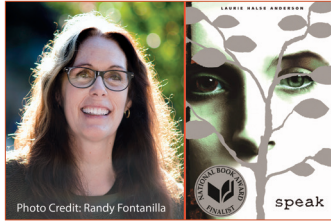
For the most up-to-date information, visit midwestliterarywalk.org, text MLWNEWS to 22828* for email updates, or follow us on:



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1:00pm | Chelsea First United Methodist Church (128 Park St.)



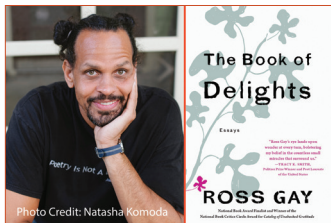
Laurie Halse Anderson is a *New York Times* best-selling author whose writing spans young readers, teens, and adults. Combined, her books have sold more than 8 million copies. Her new book, *SHOUT*, a memoir-in-verse about surviving sexual assault at the age of thirteen and a manifesto for the #MeToo era, has received widespread critical acclaim and was Anderson's eighth *New York Times* best-selling book.

Two of her novels, *Speak* and *Chains*, were National Book Award finalists, and *Chains* was short-listed for the prestigious Carnegie Medal in the United Kingdom. Anderson has been nominated for Sweden's Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award three times, selected by the American Library Association for the Margaret A. Edwards Award, and has been honored for her battles for intellectual freedom by the National Coalition Against Censorship and the National Council of Teachers of English.

Anderson was born in Potsdam, New York and graduated from Georgetown University with a bachelor's degree in language and linguistics. In addition to combating censorship, Anderson regularly speaks about the need for diversity in publishing and is a member of RAINN's National Leadership Council. She now lives in Philadelphia.

Praise for *Speak* "An uncannily funny book even as it plumbs the darkness, *Speak* will hold readers from first word to last." ~ *The Horn Book*

2:30pm | Chelsea First Congregational Church (121 E. Middle St.)

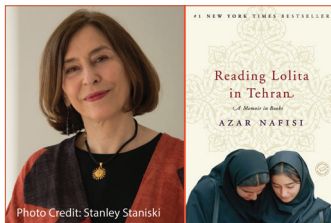


Ross Gay is a 2015 National Book Award finalist and author of three books of poetry: *Against Which*; *Bringing the Shovel Down*; and *Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude*, winner of the 2015 National Book Critics Circle Award and the 2016 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award. His most recent work, *The Book of Delights*, was named one of the Best Books of 2019 by the *Washington Independent Review of Books* and *Shelf Awareness*, as well as one of the best reviewed books of 2019 by Lit Hub. This book of lyric essays was written over one tumultuous year, and celebrates the beauty of the natural world and the small joys of life, without dismissing the harsher complexities and realities of living in America as an African American man.

Gay was born in Youngstown, Ohio, and currently teaches at Indiana University. He received his B.A. from Lafayette College, his MFA in poetry from Sarah Lawrence College, and his Ph.D. in American Literature from Temple University. He has received fellowships from Cave Canem, the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference, and the Guggenheim Foundation.

Praise for *The Book of Delights* "The delights he extols here (music, laughter, generosity, poetry, lots of nature) are bulwarks against casual cruelties. As such they feel purposeful and imperative as well as contagious in their joy." ~ *The New York Times Book Review*

4:00pm | Chelsea First United Methodist Church (128 Park St.)



Azar Nafisi is the critically acclaimed author of *Reading Lolita in Tehran*, an international bestseller remaining on the *New York Times* bestseller list for 117 weeks and published in thirty-two languages, as well as winning several literary awards, including the 2004 Non-fiction Book of the Year Award from Book Sense. Nafisi has lectured, consulted, and written extensively in English and Persian on the political implications of literature and culture, as well as the human rights of female Iranians. A former fellow at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies, Nafisi has taught at Oxford University and several universities in Tehran. Awarded five honorary doctorates, Nafisi was recently named a Georgetown University/Walsh School of Foreign Service 2018-2019 Centennial Fellow.

Nafisi's latest title, *That Other World*, was published by Yale University Press in June 2019. In this forerunner to her international bestseller *Reading Lolita in Tehran*, Nafisi deftly explores the worlds apparently lost to Nabokov's characters, their portals of access to those worlds, and how other worlds hold a mirror to Nabokov's experiences of physical, linguistic, and recollective exile. Born in Tehran, Nafisi now lives in Washington, D.C.

Praise for *Reading Lolita in Tehran* "Transcends categorization as memoir, literary criticism or social history, though it is superb as all three . . . Nafisi has produced an original work on the relationship between life and literature." ~ *Publishers Weekly* (starred review)



Don't forget to hand in your evaluation form for a chance to win a gift certificate from Zou Zou's Cafe or Serendipity Books!

Winners will be drawn and contacted after the final author talk.



Not ready for the fun to be over? Meet up with other fellow walkers at one of the businesses highlighted in our Local Discount section!

MIDWEST LITERARY WALK

EVENT VENUES

- A. Chelsea First United Methodist Church
~ 128 Park St.
- B. Chelsea First Congregational Church
~ 121 E. Middle St.

LOCAL DISCOUNTS

Show this brochure on the day of the event and receive the following discounts:

- 1. **Ugly Dog Distillery**
~ 15% off drinks, merchandise, and bottles
- 2. **Garden Mill** ~ 10% off (cannot be combined with other discounts)
- 3. **Serendipity Books**
~ 10% off
- 4. **Zou Zou's Cafe**
~ 15% off
- 5. **Brahma Haus**
~ 20% off
- 6. **Jet's Pizza** ~ 25% off (dine in only, not including alcohol)
- 7. **Thompson's Pizza**
~ 20% off (dine in only, not including alcohol)



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221 S. Main St. • Chelsea, MI

Chelsea, MI



7 Thompson's Pizza
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