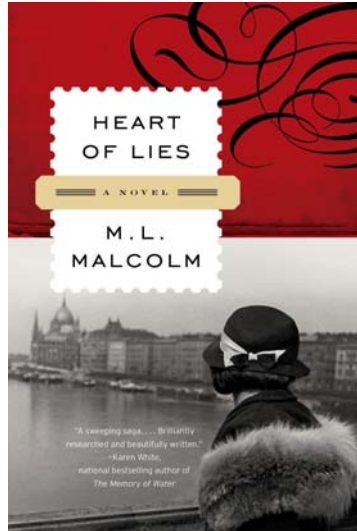


**August 2, 2010
For Immediate Release**



An Evening with Author M. L. Malcolm

The public is invited to attend a wine and cheese reception at the **Carrollton Cultural Arts Center** with award-winning author M.L. Malcolm on Thursday, September 2nd, at 7:00 p.m., where Ms. Malcolm will discuss her latest novel, *Heart of Lies*.

Heart of Lies is a blend of history, fiction, and personal family experiences set in the Pre-World War II era in Europe, Shanghai, and New York. The book was released this past June by Harper Collins Paperback Originals, and was just selected by the American Booksellers Association as an “Indie Pick Next Great Read” for August.

The event is being co-sponsored by the **Carrollton Creative Writers Club**, the **Carrollton Pulpwood Queens Book Club**, and **Horton's Book and Gifts**. *Heart of Lies* will be for sale at Horton's prior to the event and at the reception and Ms. Malcolm would be delighted to sign copies for those in attendance after her talk.

Heart of Lies was inspired by the Jewish family members of M. L. Malcolm's husband, who faced struggles with the persecution of Jewish people in Hungary after World War I, and throughout Europe during the Nazi regime. His great Aunt Melitta was an artist who used her skill to forge a Siamese transit visa for herself and her family, and they escaped the Nazis by fleeing to Shanghai. Melitta and her husband evaded

confinement in the Jewish ghetto in Shanghai because, like Malcolm's main character, Leo Hoffman, they invented new identities for themselves.

The family stories began Malcolm's fascination with Shanghai, which for over 50 years was the only place in the civilized world where one could begin a new life without a passport or visa. In Malcolm's words, "At some point I came across a story about a notorious Shanghai gangster, the head of one of the Chinese Triads (which were like the Mafia families, only worse). He supported Chiang Kai-shek's revolution in rather nefarious ways, and that became the genesis for part of Leo's story, In fact all of the events – the fall of Budapest, The Hungarian counterfeiting scandal, the bombing of Shanghai – actually happened the way I describe them. I just inserted a fictional character."

Ms. Malcolm's awards include recognition in the prestigious Lorian Hemingway International Short Story Competition, and a silver medal from ForeWord Magazine for Best Historical Fiction Book of the Year in 2009. M.L. (Mary Lee being her full name) began her professional career as an attorney in Atlanta after graduating from Emory and Harvard Law School, although she now refers to herself as a "recovering attorney" as she pursues her writing. She also collects hats and loves to wear them. For more information about M.L. and her work, please visit her website, www.MLMalcolm.com.

The Carrollton Creative Writer's Club meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 10:00 until noon, at the Carrollton Cultural Arts Center, located at 251 Alabama Street in Carrollton. For more information about the writer's club, please visit their website at www.carrolltoncreativewritersclub.com.

For more information about this program or other events and services at the **Carrollton Cultural Arts Center**, please contact Penny Lewis, Cultural Arts Center Manager, at plewis@carrollton-ga.gov, or (770) 838-1083.

Horton's Books and Gifts, located on the square in Carrollton, is proud of its history as the "oldest book store in Georgia." The telephone number is 770.832.8021.

The Pulpwood Queens is a nationwide "read and meet" book club with over 350 chapters in the United States (and even a few international ones). It was founded by Kathy Patrick of Jefferson Texas, owner of the country's only "beauty salon and book store." **The Carrollton Pulpwood Queens** has two groups, a daytime bookclub that

meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 12:30 and a night book club that meets on the 4th Monday evening at 7:00. You can find out more about the Queens from Kathy's website, beautyandthebook.com, or by contacting the leader of Carrollton's chapter, Anita Buice, at anitawbuice@gmail.com.

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