

MILLION-DOLLAR QUESTION » BOOK LOVER'S BALL IN SUPPORT OF THE TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY

# Which literary character would you like to have an affair with?

THE DETAILS:  
Fairmont Royal York  
Feb. 11

Bibliophiles reveal secret crushes on the most beloved protagonists of prose.  
Reporting by **Laura Serra**. Photos by **Tom Sandler**



**Sherlock Holmes.** He's so mysterious. You don't know what side he plays on, he's super witty, smart, and a workaholic.

Jeremiah Ing, MAC Cosmetics

**Atticus Finch.** I think it's his moral character, the fact that he cares about his children so much, and that despite what society deemed right at that point, he stood up for what he believed in. And I love Gregory Peck.

Singa Bui, MAC Cosmetics



I would have an affair with Princess Leia, who is not, strictly speaking, a classic literary character. But that's the character, that I, as a 16-year-old, definitely would have had an affair with.

Vincent Lam, author



**Count Vronsky,** because who doesn't want to have an affair with a count?

Linda Holeman, author

**If I were younger, Daisy Miller – James's Daisy Miller – before she died.** If she was with me, she wouldn't have had to die, it would have worked out. To have a European summer with Daisy Miller ...

Andrew Pyper, author



**Dr. Zhivago, Boris Pasternak.** When I saw the movie for the first, I was a child, and I was so struck by it – it was the first epic I had ever seen. I fell in love with Omar Sharif and, actually, I even named my daughter Lara.

Diana Swain, anchor, CBC News



Authors Tish Cohen, left, and Cathy Marie Buchanan



Lawrence Hill, author



The CBC's Denise Donlon, left, and Shelagh Rogers



Chef David Rocco and his wife, Nina



Heather Rumball, Toronto Public Library Foundation



Josie Dworak



Canadian designer Evan Biddell's interpretation of Twilight

FIVE THINGS » THIS WEEKEND

## First thing: Young people these days

Expect hormonally charged emotion, challenging of authority and impenetrable referencing of text-messaging acronyms as 13 teenagers take the stage at Harbourfront Centre in *Once and For All We're Gonna Tell You Who We Are So Shut up and Listen!* (Today, 8 p.m. Enwave Theatre, 231 Queen's Quay W. \$30.)

**2 ICE, ICE, BABY**  
Once again, it's time for the annual Bloor-Yorkville IceFest. This year's theme – somewhat predictably – is Canadian, which means strollers can take in renderings of geese, polar bears, beavers and an Inuk on a sled being hauled by huskies. The Sasashaz Ice Carving Competition starts today at noon. (Today and tomorrow, 12-5 p.m. Yorkville Park. Free.)

**3 IT'S TO DIY FOR**  
Looking for another reason to max out that line of credit? You'll find plenty in the form of landscaping products, quality appliances, home spas, antiques and some of that high-end lighting from Europe. That and more is on display at the National Home Show. (Today, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; tomorrow, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Direct Energy Centre, Exhibition Place. \$15.)

**4 THE AXE GODS COMETH**  
Jeff Beck and Eric Clapton – two men who, between them, have inspired almost 80 years of feversh-boomer air-guitaring – play the ACC this Sunday. High-rollers and hard-core yardbird-watchers can still get gold seats. (Tomorrow, 7:30 p.m. Air Canada Centre, 40 Bay St. \$69.50 to \$225.)

**5 HIPPER HOP**  
And for those whose music is heavier on the rhythm, old-school rappers People Under the Stairs take their high-energy funk-infused show to the Opera House. (Today, 9 p.m.; 735 Queen St. E. \$17.50.)