

**erin brockovich is back, with tales of warrior women**  
Move over, Julia Roberts. The real Erin Brockovich, 42, is back as the host of *Final Justice*, a new Lifetime Television series about women who've fought the legal system, just as she did.

But she's still working at the same firm. And Ed Masry (played by Albert Finney in the film) is still her boss, "although he keeps trying to fire me," she laughs.

When she's not at work or lecturing around the country, she relaxes with her husband, actor Eric Ellis, 37; kids Matthew, 19, Katie, 18, and Beth, 11; and their cat, Jade. "I'm very nesty," Brockovich says. "I'd rather be home."  
—Cheryl Alkon

## Three novelists on how they met their other half

mother  
knows best

And, as it turned out, I did.

ISAACS LAST WROTE *LONG TIME NO SEE* (HARPERCOLLINS)

trial  
by fire

"I wouldn't go around telling everybody that if I were you."

With that insult absorbed I thought of nothing else except my pursuit of this woman up and to the point we were married, which goes to show that even fools can strike gold.

BALDACCI LAST WROTE  
THE CHRISTMAS TRAIN  
(WARNER BOOKS)

—COMPILED BY  
LEWIS BURKE FRUMKES

my type  
of woman

Immediate and mutual dislike. That's what we felt for each other. She was my sister's friend and probably a snob. She'd come to my parents' house dinner.

Once in a great while, when my father said something witty or literary, she'd let out a little laugh. Not a big laugh, mind you, but a little laugh. Clearly audible, I mean, if you were sitting right beside her. Which I happened to be.

Pretty soon I was telling everybody about my brand-new Smith Corona typewriter. The ribbon came in a cartridge. If you wanted to write in blue, you used the blue cartridge. If you wanted to write in red, you used the red cartridge.

Janet nodded. "I have one of those," she said.

"How is it?"

"Well," she said, "you have to change the ribbon a lot."

Feminine wiles. That's what got me. But then it's been a splendid marriage. Go figure.

CHEEVER IS AUTHOR OF *FAMOUS AFTER DEATH* (BLOOMSBURY PUBLISHING)

"I had one of those weird, stretchy training bras. And I had it about a year after I needed it, because I blossomed young. But everyone was in denial, acting like I hadn't."

"As a Harlette [backup singer to Bette Midler], I wore a mermaid costume—a green bra and a long, tight fin. That was fun. Bette ran around in her bra all the time."

"Peg [from *Married... with Children*] wore a black Frederick's of Hollywood push-up bra. It's in their Lingerie Museum. She thought she was really something else."

"I wore maternity bras for five years! That's a funny little bra. It's really wild, what happens to your body. At that point, you don't care, you just want to be covered."

