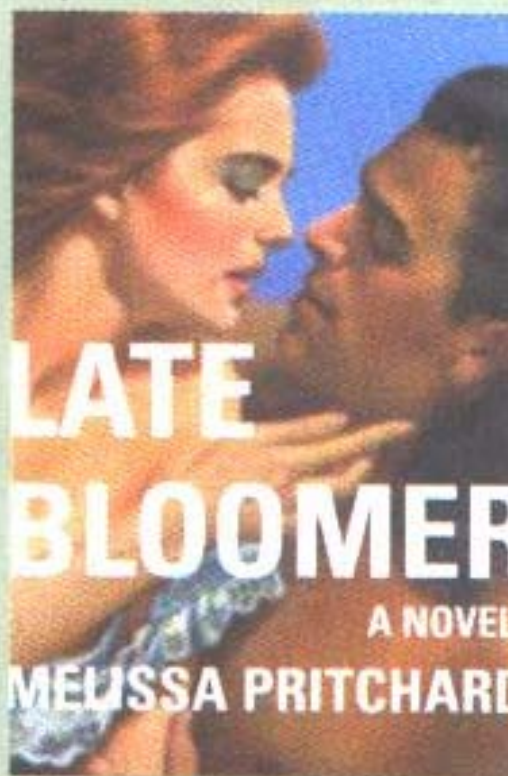


METRO PRESENTS: **Melissa Pritchard**

April 9 & 13. Award-winning writer and ASU professor Melissa Pritchard reads passages from her latest (and funniest) novel, *Late Bloomer*, at the Scottsdale Center for the Arts and Changing Hands Bookstore.

Late Bloomer is a fast paced, quick witted romance novel within a novel that follows the life of a debt-ridden community college professor/writer, Prudence True Parker, as she takes up ghost writing a wildly popular romance series while carrying on a high-spirited romance with a mysterious, young Comanche artist. Hilarity ensues when Prudence's real life overshadows that of her imagination. Pritchard's latest work is a clever and unconventional antidote for every woman who has ever turned up her nose at the romance novel. Described as "smartly written and wickedly funny," there's no doubt that her live reading will be just as entertaining, if not more so.

Pritchard, the director of the M.F.A. creative writing program at ASU, has received two Pushcart Prizes, the Flannery O' Connor Award, and the Janet Heidinger Kafka Prize.



Metro Presents: Melissa Pritchard at the Scottsdale Center for the Arts at 7:30 pm on April 9 in Solo Voices Times Three (with Alberto Rios and Alexis Pate) and at Changing Hands Bookstore for a reading and signing at 7 pm on April 13.