



The Recovering: Intoxication and Its Aftermath

Leslie Jamison

Author, *The Empathy Exams*, *The Gin Closet*, and *The Recovering*.

Interviewer: Catherine Lacey

Author, *Nobody is Ever Missing*, *The Answers*, and *Certain American States*.

Tuesday, January 22, 2019 -- TWO EVENTS

12:00 PM: Loyola University Chicago School of Law, 26 E. Pearson St., Chicago

Registration: www.bit.ly/JamisonFAN

7:00 PM: New Trier High School/Northfield, Cornog Auditorium, 7 Happ Rd., Northfield

Presented by **Family Action Network (FAN)**,
in partnership with **Connections for the Homeless**, **Family Service Center**,
Family Service of Glencoe, and **Haven Youth and Family Services**.

These events are **free and open to the public**; the evening event will be taped. Suitable for youth 12+.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: LESLIE JAMISON – TWO EVENTS

CONTACT: Lonnie Stonitsch, Executive Director of FAN, lonnie@familyactionnetwork.net

EVENT 1: Tuesday, January 22, 2019, **12:00 PM**, **The Recovering: Intoxication and Its Aftermath**, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, 25 E. Pearson St., Chicago, IL 60611. **Registration requested:** www.bit.ly/JamisonFAN

EVENT 2: Tuesday, January 22, 2019, **7:00 PM**, **The Recovering: Intoxication and Its Aftermath**, New Trier High School, Northfield Campus, Cornog Auditorium, 7 Happ Rd., Northfield, IL 60093.

With its deeply personal and seamless blend of memoir, cultural history, literary criticism, and reportage, *The Recovering* turns our understanding of the traditional addiction narrative on its head, demonstrating that the story of recovery can be every bit as electrifying as the train wreck itself. **Leslie Jamison** deftly excavates the stories we tell about addiction – both her own and others' – and examines what we want these stories to do and what happens when they fail us. All the while, she offers a fascinating look at the larger history of the recovery movement, and at the complicated bearing that race and class have on our understanding of who is criminal and who is ill.

At the heart of the book is Jamison's ongoing conversation with literary and artistic geniuses whose lives and works were shaped by alcoholism and substance dependence, including John Berryman, Jean Rhys, Billie Holiday, Raymond Carver, Denis Johnson, and David Foster Wallace, as well as brilliant lesser-known figures such as George Cain, lost to obscurity but newly illuminated here. Through its unvarnished relation of Ms. Jamison's own ordeals, *The Recovering* also becomes a book about a different kind of dependency: the way our desires can make us all, as she puts it, "broken spigots of need." It's about the particular loneliness of the human experience - the craving for love that both devours us and shapes who we are.

With enormous empathy and wisdom, Ms. Jamison has given us nothing less than the story of addiction and recovery in America writ large, a definitive and revelatory account that will resonate for years to come.

Ms. Jamison is the author of the essay collection *The Empathy Exams*, a *New York Times* bestseller, and the novel *The Gin Closet*, a finalist for the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize. She is a contributing writer for the *New York Times Magazine*, and her work has appeared in publications including *The Atlantic*, *Harper's*, and the *New York Times Book Review*. She directs the graduate nonfiction program at **Columbia University**.

At the 7:00 PM event, Ms. Jamison will be interviewed by the writer **Catherine Lacey**, author of *Nobody is Ever Missing*, *The Answers*, and *Certain American States*.

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