

SARA PARETSKY

“There are plenty of women among the ranks of genre authors, but not many like Sara Paretsky.” —*The New York Times*

Sara Paretsky is a writer of great courage and intellect. Her work has revolutionized a genre where all too often women have been portrayed as either vamps or victims.

In 1982 she wrote *Indemnity Only* and first introduced the world to V.I. Warshawski, a female detective who is empowered and independent. Since that first novel Sara has written fifteen more best-selling Warshawski novels.

Called “passionate” and “electrifying,” V.I. reflects her creator’s own dedication to social justice. Sara is a devoted advocate for those on society’s margins. Moving to Chicago from rural Kansas in 1966 Sara worked as a community organizer on Chicago’s South Side during the turbulent race riots of that year. More recently she has mentored teens in Chicago’s most troubled schools, and she works closely with literacy and reproductive rights groups.

Not only has Sara’s own work broken barriers but she has also helped open doors for other women. In 1986 she created Sisters in Crime, a worldwide organization to support female crime writers, which earned her *Ms. Magazine*’s Woman of the Year award. She is also the recipient the British Crime Writers’ Association’s prestigious Cartier Diamond Dagger and the Grand Master Award from the Mystery Writers of America.