

## Touch of Rochester flavors work of area authors

Vincent Rosella's *Not Without Protest* (1stBooks, \$10.95) is a science-fiction story about the home's evil owner, aliens and 70-year-old baby boomers who band together to fight the power. The story is set in Rush and includes references to Rochester.

Rosella, 51, began working on *Not Without Protest* in 1985. But he was far from dedicated to his craft at first.

"It wasn't a serious thing," says the Henrietta resident. "My time for writing was once in a while on a Saturday."

But Rosella finally got serious and worked steadily on his first book for about nine months. It was released in September.

He knows only too well how difficult it is to get a publishing company's attention and land a book deal.

"I bet you I have at least 50 (rejection letters)," says the married father of two.

It has always been difficult to make publishing houses take notice, says Nick DiChario.

"Sometimes you'll go through a number of rejections," he says. "But today, there are a lot more opportunities to publish yourself."

One of those opportunities can be found on the Internet. Rosella released *Not Without Protest* on 1stBooks, an eBooks publishing company.

Readers can order a paperback for \$10.95 or an electronic copy of the book for \$3.95 at [www.1stbooks.com/bookview/6008](http://www.1stbooks.com/bookview/6008). The site also offers a free preview of the book.

"Since this is the Internet age, I think this is the way to go," says Rosella, a project manager at Premier Technical Services in Rochester. But, he adds, "If I had the opportunity to get published by one of the big publishing houses, I'd like that."

*Not Without Protest* is the realization of a childhood dream for Rosella.

"When I was younger, I always had an inkling that I wanted to write something," says Rosella.

"I taught myself to type on a typewriter ... on a Smith-Corona. I was about 12 years old. I remember one day sitting down at a desk and saying, 'I wanna write a book.'"

A longtime lover of literature, Rosella says he still has his first set of encyclopedias.

"I like reading about ancient civilizations. I always liked fiction. I like to read biographies."

Rosella's taste in books varies. He doesn't have a favorite subject, per se.

"I get on kicks. Right now I'm in a kick on action-adventures."

And just like his reading-for-pleasure material, Rosella won't necessarily stick with the same genre when he pens his next book. He is now working on two projects.

"I want to make each (book) different." □

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VINCENT ROSELLA, AUTHOR

# Our Towns

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2001  
CHRONICLE

DEMOCRAT AND

## *Write here, right now*

*Books by local authors with local settings  
are getting more-than-local notice.*

BY STAFF WRITER  
**SHEILA RAYAM**

**C**hilly weather is the perfect time to curl up with a good book. With so many to choose from, the question is, which one?

You might find the answer surprisingly close to home.

Local authors are among the thousands of writers whose works are filling up bookshelves. Rochester has quite the literary scene, insiders say.

"We have some really talented writers in this area," says Nick DiChario, director of programming at Writers & Books in Rochester.

"Many of them are nationally published authors.

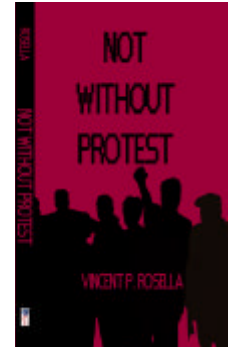
"Some readers enjoy books that feature exotic locations and faraway lands. But for those who prefer stories set a little closer to home, some books out there will seem familiar.

Take Andrea Barrett, for example. The Rochester author recently received a coveted \$500,000 MacArthur Foundation grant for creative work.

Barrett also won the National Book Award for Fiction in 1996 with *Ship Fever and Other Stories* (Norton, \$13).

No single genre defines the Rochester literary scene.

"It's so varied," says Rebecca Budinger, community relation's manager at Barnes & Noble Booksellers in Greece. "Local history is huge, Civil War History. There is also fiction (and) children's authors."



Vincent Rosella and his science-fiction novel *Not Without Protest*.

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Many local authors are using Rochester as the setting for their stories. Their tales contain familiar street names found in the city and suburbs, and the names of towns and villages in the region.

### **Alien encounter**

Things have gone south in the South Wing.

It's there, in the futuristic St. Vincent's Nursing Home, that the owner and evil doctor are using extraterrestrial technology to map and steal information from the minds of residents.

Things sure are freaky in Rush in 2026 A.D.

*"We have some really talented writers in this area. Many of them are nationally published authors."*

**NICK DICHARIO, WRITERS & BOOKS**