

For Immediate Release March 23, 2005

Contact Bill Taylor, Asst. Director, News Services taylorb@ferris.edu, (231) 591-2065 or 591-5604

## Wurtzel, author of 'Prozac Nation,' to lecture at Ferris

BIG RAPIDS – Elizabeth Wurtzel, author of the groundbreaking memoir of depression, "Prozac Nation," will present a lecture on March 29 at Ferris State University.

In addition to speaking at 7:30 p.m. in Williams Auditorium, Wurtzel will conduct a question and answer session and book signing following her talk. The Student Leadership and Activities Speaker Series event is free and open to the public.

Wurtzel published her critically acclaimed work at just 26 years of age. Through her high school years and undergraduate studies at Harvard University, she suffered from bouts of acute depression. She was given prescription drugs to aide her in recovery.

She became dependent on these anti-depressants and later became addicted to harder drugs such as cocaine. In her harrowing account, she contemplates what it means to be in love with something in your blood that takes over your body, becomes the life force within you – and could ultimately kill you.

The worldwide success of her book turned her into a cultural phenomenon and opened doors to a rarefied world about which she had only dared to dream during her middle class upbringing by her divorced mother on Manhattan's Upper West Side. Using the insight of her life experiences, Wurtzel has published other books, including "Bitch: In Praise of Difficult Women and Radical Sanity."

Her 2002 publication, "More, Now, Again," is a story of survival as she hits rock bottom, gets clean, uses again, and finally gains control over her drug and her life. She is now a literary diva of *The New Yorker* and New York magazines.

Release W05-65