



Thursday, January 29, 2015  
by Liz Smith

## Judith Ann Abrams takes *A Time To Kill* to Broadway

**HERE COMES** producer **Judith Ann Abrams** (she is just one of the Tony Winners and Olivier Winners for "Kinky Boots" and "Matilda.")

So you see, I know another big winner who I never dreamed would succeed as she has. Judith is working with **Daryl Roth**, the theater's big deal producer and along with many others, they are mounting **John Grisham's** "A Time to Kill."

The writer has never allowed a play from one of his plethora of successful and thrilling novels to be done onstage. The movie, directed by **Joel Schumacher**, was a big hit back in 1996. (It made a major star out of **Matthew McConaughey**.) The enduring timeliness of the book, dealing with Civil Rights issues, might have something to do with the idea of putting it on Broadway now. It opens Oct. 20th.



Judy reminds me that **Rupert Holmes** has adapted Grisham's novel and the director will be **Ethan McSweeney**. And I am just thinking of producer Judy as a grown up person. When I first met her, she was doing children's shows; now she has arrived. We both learned a lot under the wing of our mutual pal, the actress **Elaine Stritch**.

Judith Abrams has also long been a supporter of the Police Athletic League. So you'll be hearing more about her now that she is an adult.

