

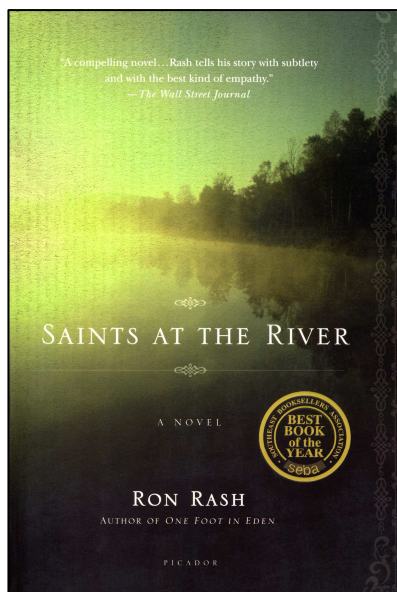
# PICADOR

Publication Date:  
July 1, 2005

Contact: James Meader  
Executive Director of Publicity  
646-307-5632  
james.meader@picadorusa.com

## New in Paperback

WINNER: Southern Book Award  
WINNER: SEBA Book of the Year.  
~  
A SEBA Bestseller  
Winner of The Weatherford Award



## Saints at the River

A Novel

by **Ron Rash**

“Captivating...Rash’s clear, concise prose and regional voice add an authentic veneer to this rich tableau of Southern life.”

—*Entertainment Weekly*

“A compelling novel...Rash tells his story with subtlety and with the best kind of empathy.”

—*The Wall Street Journal*

“Often riveting and always intelligently nuanced....Rash is a thoughtful novelist exploring serious concerns about the environment, the power of the media and the limitations of law.”

—*San Francisco Chronicle*

“From the first page to the last, the author’s down-to-earth characters and rich descriptions of the backwoods carry readers through this emotionally charged story.”

—*Library Journal* ★ Starred Review ★

“Rash beautifully captures the resulting emotions, which surge as powerfully as the river that wrought them.”—*Southern Living*

“Rash’s clean prose and love for the land easily carry this book to its conclusion, providing readers with a powerful ending that is both surprising and well earned.”—*The Charlotte Observer*

### **About SAINTS AT THE RIVER**

When a twelve-year-old girl drowns in the Tamassee River and her body is trapped in a deep eddy, the people of the small South Carolina town that bears the river's name are thrown into the national spotlight. The girl's parents want to attempt a rescue of the body; environmentalists are convinced the rescue operation will cause permanent damage to the river and set a dangerous precedent. Torn between the two sides is Maggie Glenn, a twenty-eight-year-old newspaper photographer who grew up in the town and has been sent to document the incident. Since leaving home almost ten years ago, Maggie has done her best to avoid her father, but now, as the town's conflict opens old wounds, she finds herself revisiting the past she's fought so hard to leave behind.

### **More Praise for SAINTS AT THE RIVER**

“Shows [Rash’s] versatility and chutzpah...Rash’s prose...has a peculiar headlong drive akin to that of hard-boiled detective novels—the best sort.”

—*The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

“Maggie is an ideal observer from the center for things. Her knowing voice carries us through this sad, complex, and beautiful story.”

—*Time Out New York*

“If traditional, straightforward storytelling with fleshy characters and detail is your thing, allow Ron Rash to sweep you deep into the South Carolina wild.”

—*Greensboro News & Record*

“Gripping....Spare, resonant, unputdownable.”

—*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

“Rich with nuance....Rash clearly knows the people and places he writes about, and that authenticity pays off in a conclusion that packs an unexpected and powerful punch.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

### **SAINTS AT THE RIVER**

A Novel by Ron Rash

Trade Paperback / 978-0-312-42491-6; \$15.00; 256 pp.

Publication Date: July 1, 2005

For more information about SAINTS AT THE RIVER or to interview Ron Rash please contact James Meader in Picador's Publicity Department:  
**james.meader@picadorusa.com** or **646-307-5632**

**Reading Group Guide Available Online at [www.picadorusa.com](http://www.picadorusa.com)**

[www.picadorusa.com/Freedom](http://www.picadorusa.com/Freedom) • [twitter.com/picadorusa](https://twitter.com/picadorusa) • [facebook.com/picadorusa](https://facebook.com/picadorusa)

## About RON RASH



**RON RASH** is a *New York Times* best-selling author, two-time PEN/Faulkner finalist, two-time winner of the O. Henry Prize, and winner of the James Still Award from the Fellowship of Southern Writers. A son of Buncombe and Watauga County natives, Rash was raised in Boiling Springs, North Carolina, and his family has lived in the southern Appalachian Mountains since the mid-1700s. Rash made his first serious attempt at creative writing as a student at Gardner-Webb University and then Clemson University. Since then, his love and deep appreciation for the Southern Appalachians has launched him into a spectacular literary career. He wrote three collections of poetry and two collections of short stories before transitioning to writing a series of critically acclaimed and award-winning novels. A popular keynote speaker at universities, libraries, and community reading events, Rash discusses Appalachia's influences on his writing.

Ron Rash is the author of the novels *Serena* (finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award and a *New York Times* best-seller); *One Foot in Eden* (winner of the Appalachian Book of the Year Award, the Novello Literary Award and *Forward* magazine's Gold Medal for Literary Novel of the Year, shortlisted for the William Saroyan International Prize for Writing, and a Southern Independent best-seller); *Saints at the River* (winner of the Southern Book Critics Circle Southern Book Award, the SEBA Book of the Year Award and the Weatherford Award, and a Southern Independent best-seller); and *The World Made Straight* (winner of the Sir Walter Raleigh Award for Fiction and the 2007 ALA Alex Award). He is also the author of the story collections *Chemistry and Other Stories* (finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award) and *Burning Bright* (winner of the 2010 Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award). His new novel, *The Cove* (Ecco), will be published in April, 2012.

He joined the faculty of Western Carolina University in 2003, coming back to his family's homeland in the mountains, where he currently serves as the Parris Distinguished Professor of Appalachian Studies.

Photo Credit: Jeff Daniel Marion