

View from a Burning Bridge
a novel by Sarah Goodyear

Freefalling from a scandal of her own making, reporter Frances Treadwell only thinks she has hit bottom when she finds herself alone and out of work in her ancestral farmhouse in Maine. Soon after she arrives, a meteorite crashes to earth in the woods behind her house, igniting a firestorm of malicious chatter among locals who suspect Frances is somehow connected to a larger, more sinister phenomenon. Caught between a petty criminal she can't resist and a pair of unlikely suitors, Frances watches in horror as the events turn from near farce to life-shattering, irreversible tragedy. Sweetly sexy, miserably funny, and a little scary, *View from a Burning Bridge* is an enthralling debut novel from a natural heir to Flannery O'Connor and Shirley Jackson.

Compactly, elegantly, in quick-moving prose of literary distinction, Sarah Goodyear's fictional narrative conveys the decency and malice, the banality and nuttiness, the greeds and fantasias, that animate an ordinary American community. That is, with a story-teller's art, Goodyear shows how nothing is 'ordinary.'

—Robert Pinsky, former Poet Laureate of the United States

View from a Burning Bridge is a flawlessly executed, riveting novel in which the suspense never slackens, in which nothing comes between the reader and his or her absorption in its dreamlike intensity. But it is also something even more rare. While never violating the inner logic of her narrative, or betraying her allegiance to the specific, the local, the believable, or relying on commonplace and obvious connections, Sarah Goodyear has nevertheless managed to forge an undeniable parable for our anxious historical moment.

—Vijay Seshadri, author of *The Long Meadow* and *Wild Kingdom*

Watch out, A.M. Homes: Sarah Goodyear's knowing screwball tragedy is all that and a bag of chips. Her excellent debut, View from a Burning Bridge, conjures up the bloodthirsty intimacy of Rachel Ingalls and the domestic dread of Wisconsin Death Trip. Goodyear's book will surely be banned by the Greater Bangor Convention & Visitors Bureau. With any luck, the movie version will have a soundtrack by arch balladeer Nick Cave.

—LD Beghtol, author of *69 Love Songs*, *A Field Guide*

About the Author:

Sarah Goodyear has written for the *Village Voice*, *Time Out New York*, *Ms.* magazine, and many other publications. *View from a Burning Bridge* is her first novel. She lives in Brooklyn, New York with her family.

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FICTION BY SARAH GOODYEAR
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