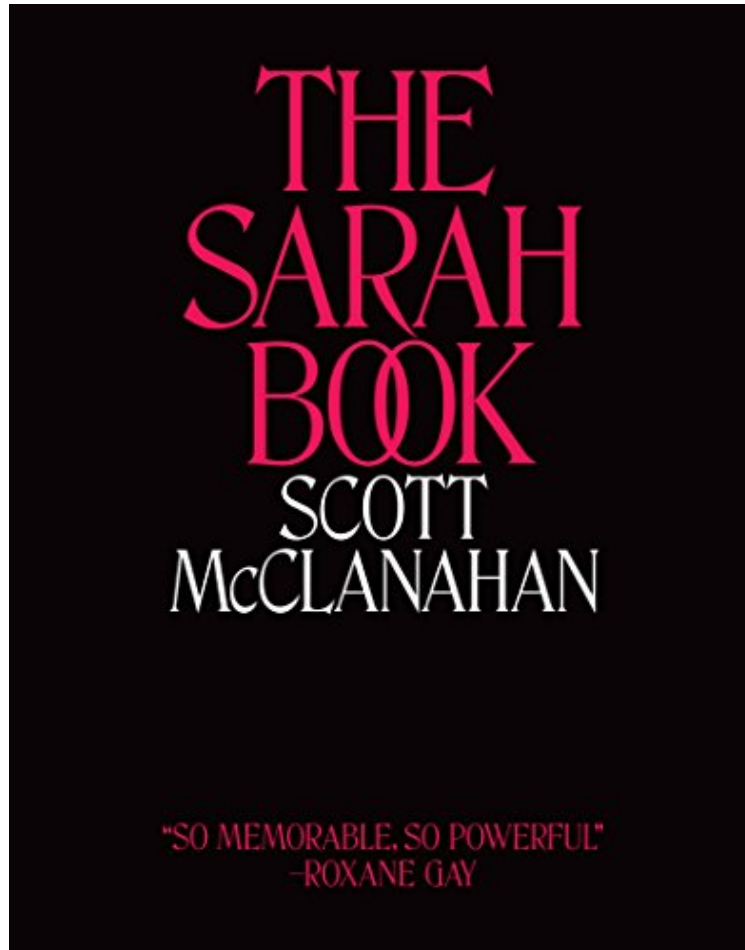


(Free pdf) The Sarah Book

## The Sarah Book

*Scott McClanahan*

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**Scott McClanahan : The Sarah Book** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Sarah Book:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. IT JUST DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER THAN SCOTT McCLANAHANBy Hassan CHOIf i could give this book A HUNDRED STARS, i would. no one writes like McClanahan. NO one. the story is great, but like any genius writer, McClanahan's talent is in the manner in which he TELLS it. his words reach up to you from the page and pull you in. you get wholly lost in his sentences, and like the characters in the book, there's just no way out. and the feeling lingers long after you're done reading.everything in this book reverberates like a church bell in a nightmare. the same can be said for this author's other books, especially CRAPALACHIA and HILL WILLIAM, his two previous masterpieces. And he's also a master of the short story.i'll never forget this book. it's as close to PERFECT as anything i've read since Faulkner.In fact, i'd wager Faulkner would have loved McClanahan.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. What a mess!By Donna S. MeredithThis is a difficult book to review. First, I questioned the sanity and stability of the narrator and his wife, and I guess we are

meant to. I could certainly feel the author's pain and loss, but because he brings on his own pain, I didn't feel sorry for him. He comes across as creepy--and his wife, also, for liking him. He didn't come across as anyone I wanted to have dinner with, let alone marry--so why did she? 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A sad, funny, brutal, and honest story of love and divorce. By Rodney Gardner. The Sarah Book is undeniably genuine as it relays a sad, funny, brutal, and honest story of love and divorce. The difference when comparing this to McClanahan's previous output is that he is the focus here, as opposed to other characters from his life, yet he maintains his trademark style that resonates so strongly. This book was over before I knew it.

McClanahan's prose is miasmic, dizzying, repetitive. A rushing river of words that reflects the chaos and humanity of the place from which he hails. He writes in an elliptical fever dream so contagious that slowing down is not an option. It would be like putting a doorstop in front of a speeding train. This is not a book you savor. It is one you inhale. The New York Times Part memoir, part hillbilly history, part dream, McClanahan embraces humanity with all its grit, writing tenderly of criminals and outcasts, family and the blood ties that bind us. Interview Magazine McClanahan's prose is miasmic, dizzying, repetitive. A rushing river of words that reflects the chaos and humanity of the place from which he hails. [McClanahan] aims to lasso the moon... He is not a writer of halfmeasures. The man has purpose. This is his symphony, every note designed to resonate, to linger. New York Times Book Review The Sarah Book is Scott McClanahan's continuation of the semi-autobiographical portrait he's been writing over the years about his life in West Virginia. This one is his portrait of love. Scott McClanahan is the author of Hill William, Crapalachia, The Incantations of Daniel Johnson and many more.

"Scott McClanahan's *The Sarah Book* is a furious exhalation of love and hurt and hate and tenderness and anger. This is a chronicle of a couple coming together and breaking apart. There is courage in these pages because so much of what McClanahan details is ugly and desperate and raw everything, food, drink, love, heartbreak, to excess. The writing is so intimate you want to reach into the book to save this man from himself but you can't. That impossibility is what makes this book so memorable, so powerful." Roxane Gay "Scott McClanahan's writing is so pure, honest and immediately engaging, it felt like I wasn't just reading prose: it felt like I was reading the prose. *THE SARAH BOOK* is hilarious, unflinching and deeply sad. Its every chapter, every page, every observation an addictive delight. I read it in one sitting and days later am still stumbling around from its unexpected wallop." Maria Semple *The Sarah Book* (Tyrant Books, June '17) is indie lit icon Scott McClanahan's semi-autobiographical novel about love and loss in contemporary West Virginia. *The Sarah Book* is as humorous as it is sad, as tragic as it is hopeful, and as redeeming as it is damned. Through McClanahan's unique Appalachian vision, we watch a young couple fall in love, begin their life together and then fall apart as the marriage breaks down. The story is told all with the purple mountains and Wal-Mart's of modern life in Appalachia as the backdrop. McClanahan weaves the telling of his life through a mix of language akin to the Romantic poets and hick twang that is unforgettable. "The romance and destruction of a marriage. I couldn't put it down. Written with all the punches left in. McClanahan shows us the dents and scrapes and breakdowns of a man trying to be to a husband and father while at the same time sabotaging the very things he loves. Unnerving but remarkable." Willy Vlautin "Remarkably painful, funny, and grotesque, *The Sarah Book* offers a particularly American form of abjection. But what's remarkable is less the way McClanahan makes us gawk at this sodden car wreck of a life, but the way in which, despite all the messing up, he manages to touch on something tender and altogether human." Brian Evenson "Welcomely (and sometimes uncomfortably) honest, incredibly funny, and strangely beautiful." Vox "McClanahan writes as if he might be the illegitimate literary offspring produced from an accidental coupling of Flannery O'Connor and Harry Crews after a long night of bourbon drinking and something going awry during the birth." 3:AM Scott McClanahan writes like Walt Whitman and Barry Hannah had a love child who grew up addicted to speed and porn and The History Channel. I've never read anything with so much wide-armed, grief-stricken love inside descriptions of strip clubs and drug deals and excrement and road kill and drunkenness and child neglect. I feel like there's almost no way to describe the book, it's so packed like McClanahan flung his arms open and gathered all the objects and people and emotions in his world, then compressed them into three-hundred thousand tiny quivering black marks, each one ready to explode with the slightest touch. I can't come up with a single adjective to capture the multiplicity of emotions I experienced as a reader, so I'll just say that *The Sarah Book* is a crazy heartbreaking surprising sad delicious desperate horrifying hilarious ride." Jamie Quatro *The Sarah Book* is the saddest song you've ever heard. It's the last sip of whiskey from a bottle that's been kicking around for too long. It's a mixed-up story of a great romance gone awry, told in Scott McClanahan's distinctive voice. The main characters are true love, paranoia, the devil, and God. It's set in parking lots and strip clubs and in shopping malls. It's fiction and it's memoir and it's also neither of those things. It's a hell of a read. *The Fader* (Maria Semple) About the Author Scott McClanahan is a writer from West Virginia. His work has appeared or has been featured in *New York Tyrant*, *Bomb*, *Vice*, and *Harper Perennial's 52 Stories*. His books include "Hill William," "Crapalachia," and "Stories." He helps run the video-terrorist group *Holler Presents* with C.J. Oxley. Their films include "Preacher Man", "The Education of Bertie Mae McClanahan", "Lil' Audrey's Last Day of School", and the 34 film video monologue/poem project, "The Life and

Death of Scott McClanahan". You can view this work at [hollerpresents.com](http://hollerpresents.com). He is also part of the band Holler Boys. He was married to Sarah and is now married to Juliet. His children are Iris Grace and Samuel Ray. Scott likes chicken wings and beer and cheese. He is happy you bought this book from New York Tyrant Books.