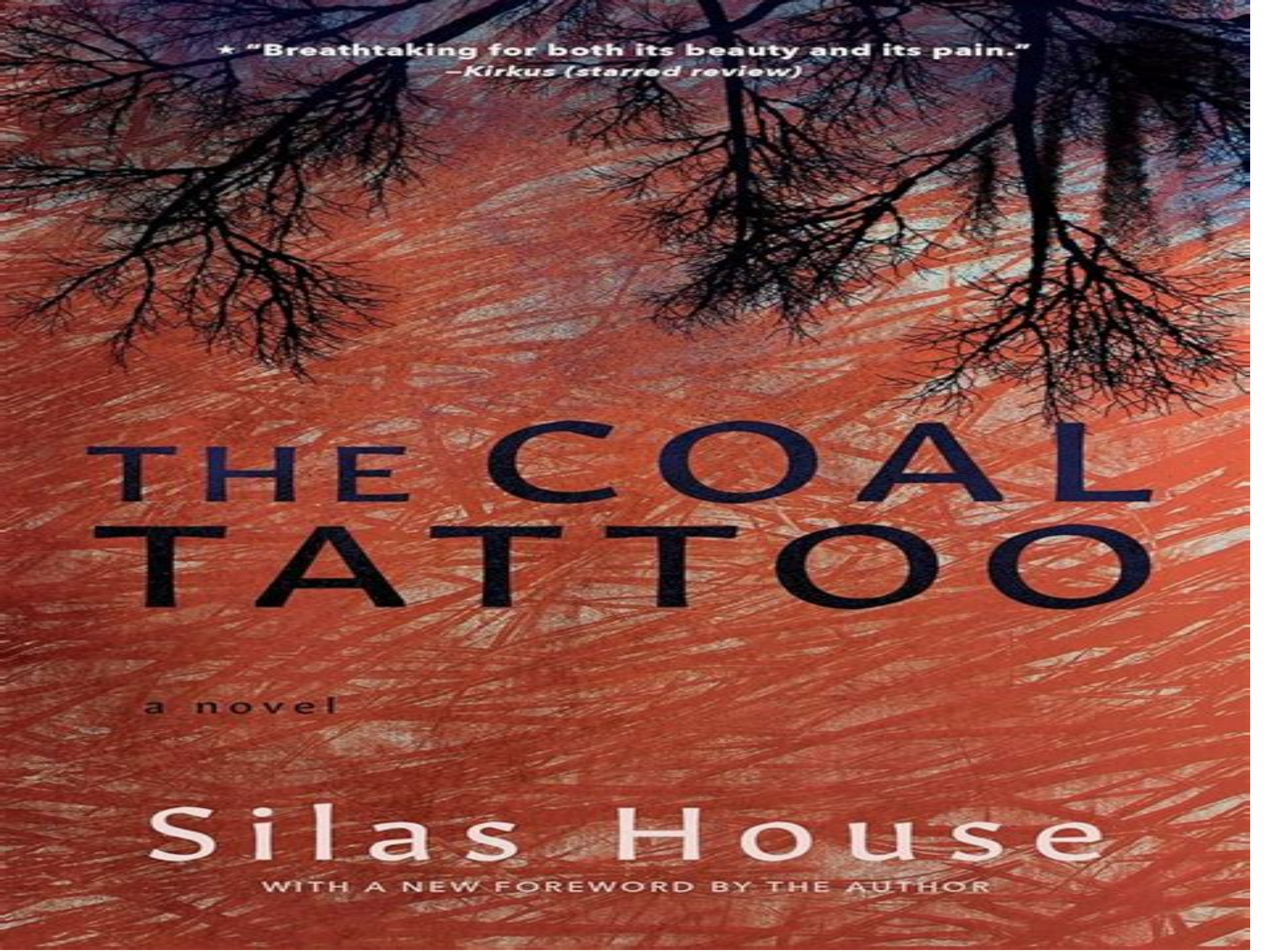




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THE COAL TATTOO

a novel

Silas House

WITH A NEW FOREWORD BY THE AUTHOR

The Coal Tattoo A Novel

Yi-Tong Ma



The Coal Tattoo A Novel:

The Coal Tattoo Silas House, 2004-09-24 Left to raise themselves in a small coal mining town in Tennessee Annet and Easter two very different sisters one destined for the glittering world of Nashville the other a devout Pentecostal struggle to come to terms with the death of their mother as their long and difficult journey brings them back to their origins and to each other By the author of *Clay's Quilt* *Silas House* Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt, 2021-06-30 Bestselling author journalist playwright and activist Silas House has focused nearly all of his work on Appalachia His acclaimed and diverse body of work includes the novels *Clay's Quilt* *A Parchment of Leaves* *The Coal Tattoo* *Eli the Good* and *Southernmost* Well known for its lyrical style diverse and sympathetic characters and political engagement House's work is overdue for deeper critical study In this groundbreaking book editor and coauthor Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt brings together established and rising scholars to discuss House and his writings through a critical lens Various chapters address different aspects of House's fiction and nonfiction including the ways in which he deconstructs regional stereotypes how he explores issues of diversity his environmental activism and his approach to LGBTQ issues The collection begins with a foreword by Denise Giardina and concludes with a chapter by celebrated poet Maurice Manning exploring the lyricism that distinguishes House's work Featuring an interview with House that further illuminates his philosophy and art this timely volume offers an important critical appraisal of his oeuvre to date and illustrates why he is one of the most significant voices in Appalachian and American literature today

Conversations with American Writers Dale Brown, 2008-04-14 For years Dale Brown has interviewed American writers listening particularly for what they have to say about wrestling with the sacred in their writing In this book a follow up to his earlier collection *Of Fiction and Faith* Brown gives readers the opportunity to listen in on his thoughtful conversations with ten contemporary writers While many of these authors shy away from being labeled Christian writers they all have much truth to tell through their work as they struggle with expressing both faith and doubt The conversations recorded here offer a fresh dialogue on the power of art to sustain faith in unexpected ways Interviews with Eleanor Taylor Bland David James Duncan Terence Faherty Ernest Gaines Philip Gulley Ron Hansen Silas House Jan Karon Sheri Reynolds Lee Smith

Rough South, Rural South Jean W. Cash, Keith Perry, 2016-02-12 Essays in *Rough South* *Rural South* describe and discuss the work of southern writers who began their careers in the late twentieth and early twenty first centuries They fall into two categories Some born into the working class strove to become writers and learned without benefit of higher education such writers as Larry Brown and William Gay Others came from lower or middle class backgrounds and became writers through practice and education Dorothy Allison Tom Franklin Tim Gautreaux Clyde Edgerton Kaye Gibbons Silas House Jill McCorkle Chris Offutt Ron Rash Lee Smith Brad Watson Daniel Woodrell and Steve Yarbrough Their twenty first century colleagues are Wiley Cash Peter Farris Skip Horack Michael Farris Smith Barb Johnson and Jesmyn Ward In his seminal article Erik Bledsoe distinguishes *Rough South* writers from such writers as William Faulkner and Erskine Caldwell

Younger writers who followed Harry Crews were born into and write about the Rough South. These writers undercut stereotypes forcing readers to see the working poor differently. The next pieces begin with those on Crews and Cormac McCarthy, major influences on an entire generation. Later essays address members of both groups: the self-educated and the college-educated. Both groups share a clear understanding of the value of working-class southerners. Nearly all of the writers hold a reverence for the South's landscape and its inhabitants as well as an affinity for realistic depictions of setting and characters.

Something's Rising Silas House, Jason Howard, 2009-04-17 Two Appalachian authors record personal stories of local resistance against the coal industry in this revelatory work of oral history at its best. Studs Terkel developed as an alternative to strip mining: mountaintop removal mining consists of blasting away the tops of mountains, dumping waste into the valleys, and retrieving the exposed coal. This process buries streams, pollutes wells and waterways, and alters fragile ecologies, all of which has a devastating impact on local communities. *Something's Rising* gives a stirring voice to the lives, culture, and determination of the people fighting this destructive practice in the coalfields of central Appalachia. The people who live, work, and raise families here face not only the destruction of their land but also the loss of their culture and health. Each person's story, unique and unfiltered, is prefaced with a biographical essay that vividly establishes the interview settings and the subject's connections to their region. Included here are oral histories from Jean Ritchie, the mother of folk who doesn't let her eighty-six years slow down her fighting spirit; Judy Bonds, a tough-talking coal miner's daughter; Kathy Mattea, the beloved country singer who believes cooperation is the key to winning the battle; Jack Spadaro, the heroic whistle blower who has risked everything to share his insider knowledge of federal mining agencies; Larry Bush, who doesn't back down even when speeding coal trucks are used to intimidate him; Denise Giardina, a celebrated writer who ran for governor to bring attention to the issue; and many more.

American Book Publishing Record, 2005 **Same Sun Here** Neela Vaswani, Silas House, 2012-02-14 In this extraordinary novel in letters, an Indian immigrant girl in New York City and a Kentucky coal miner's son find strength and perspective by sharing their true selves across the miles. Meena and River have a lot in common: fathers forced to work away from home to make ends meet; grandmothers who mean the world to them; and faithful dogs. But Meena is an Indian immigrant girl living in New York City's Chinatown, while River is a Kentucky coal miner's son. As Meena's family studies for citizenship exams and River's town faces devastating mountaintop removal, this unlikely pair become pen pals, sharing thoughts and, as their camaraderie deepens, discovering common ground in their disparate experiences. With honesty and humor, Meena and River bridge the miles between them, creating a friendship that inspires bravery and defeats cultural misconceptions. Narrated in two voices, each voice distinctly articulated by a separate gifted author, this chronicle of two lives powerfully conveys the great value of being and having a friend and the joys of opening our lives to others who live beneath the same sun.

Eli the Good Silas House, 2010-03-16 In his timely YA debut, a best-selling novelist revisits a summer of tumult and truth for a young narrator and his war-torn family. Bicentennial fireworks burn the

sky Bob Seger growls from a transistor radio And down by the river girls line up on lawn chairs in pursuit of the perfect tan Yet for ten year old Eli Book the summer of 1976 is the one that threatened to tear his family apart There is his distant mother his traumatized Vietnam vet dad his wild sister his former warprotester aunt and his tough yet troubled best friend Edie the only person with whom he can be himself As tempers flare and his father s nightmares rage Eli watches from the sidelines but soon even he cannot escape the current of conflict From Silas House comes a tender look at the complexities of childhood and the realities of war a quintessentially Southern novel filled with music nostalgic detail a deep respect for nature and a powerful sense of place MLA International Bibliography of Books and Articles on the Modern Languages and Literatures ,2008 **Appalachian Gateway** George Brosi,Kate Egerton,2013-04-30 Featuring the work of twenty five fiction writers and poets this anthology is a captivating introduction to the finest of contemporary Appalachian literature Here are short stories and poems by some of the region s most dynamic and best loved authors Barbara Kingsolver Ron Rash Nikki Giovanni Robert Morgan Lisa Alther and Lee Smith among others In addition to compelling selections from each writer s work the book includes illuminating biographical sketches and bibliographies for each author These works encompass a variety of themes that collectively capture the essence of Appalachia love of the land family ties and the struggle to blend progress with heritage Readers will enjoy this book not just for the innate value of good literature but also for the insights it provides into this fascinating area This book of fiction is an enlightening companion to non fiction overviews of the region including the Encyclopedia of Appalachia and A Handbook to Appalachia An Introduction to the Region both published by the University of Tennessee Press in 2006 In fact the five sections of this book are the same as those of the Encyclopedia Educators and students will find this book especially appropriate for courses in creative writing Appalachian studies and Appalachian literature Editor George Brosi s foreword presents an historical overview of Appalachian Literature while Kate Egerton and Morgan Cottrell s afterword offers a helpful guide for studying Appalachian literature in a classroom setting

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The Coal Tattoo A Novel Introduction

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