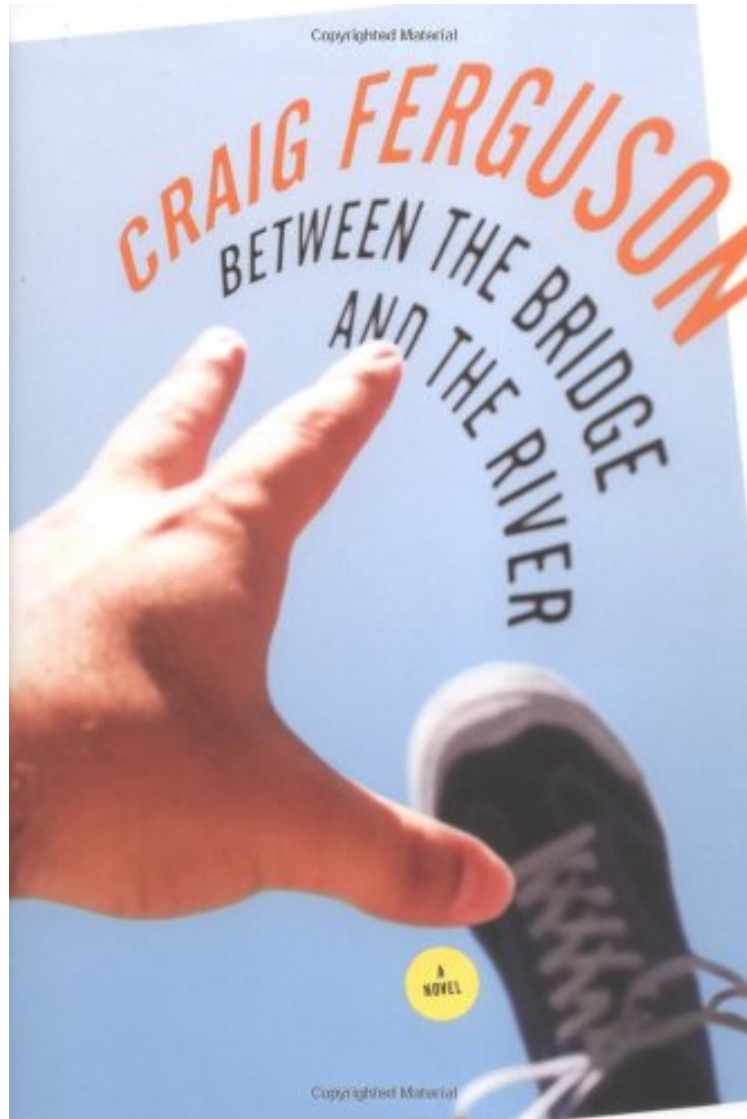


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Between the Bridge and the River

Craig Ferguson

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Craig Ferguson : Between the Bridge and the River before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Between the Bridge and the River:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Between the Bridge and the ... by Craig FergusonBy Gaynor SongerBetween the Bridge and the ... by Craig Ferguson is a collection of short stories. I am not driven to plow through this like I was by his book "American by Choice." I believe he may have an underlying theme that I am not getting since I can't connect with the characters. I'd like to read a review by someone who has finished the book0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy S. G.Good read; really enjoyed it.3 of 3 people found the

following review helpful. Sacred. Profane. Very Entertaining. By Teresa Very, very enjoyable. The story is just complex enough to be intriguing, but is a quick read. It's witty and often subtly (and not-so-subtly) sarcastic. In places it is also jarringly crude gritty; but all in keeping with the characters underlying storyline. I really enjoyed the convoluted flow of the story and the fated, interwoven lives of the characters. In this book, as in his comedy, Craig Ferguson can be a keen storyteller. He often veils his message with a nudge-and-a-wink....he likes to make you work for it. The result is satisfying entertaining and gives one a peek at the well-read, rapier-witted thinker behind the cheeky-monkey facade. I look forward to more of his fiction writing.

Two childhood friends from Scotland and two illegitimate half-brothers from the deep South suffer and enjoy all manner of bizarre adventures that, it turns out, are somehow interconnected and, even more surprisingly, meaningful. The eclectic cast of characters features Socrates, Carl Jung, and Tony Randall, along with an ex-television evangelist with a penchant for booze, prostitutes, and uncomfortable knitwear who gets mugged in Miami by an almost pure-blooded Watusi warrior - and sets off on a road trip in a stolen motor home.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . A gallery of grotesques slogs through the sewers of the entertainment industry toward redemption in this exhilarating debut novel from the host of The Late Late Show. Leading the pack are Fraser, a Scottish "phony TV evangelist... drunken, selfish media prick... gossip and sot" who has been disgraced in a sex scandal; his cancer-stricken boyhood pal, George; vapid sit-com star Leon; and Leon's 300-pound, sexually perverted Svengali brother, Saul. They make their separate but linked ways through a world populated by snake handlers, serial killers, dead-eyed whores and hack studio executives pushing formulaic action films, while they take hallucinatory side trips. The sprawling tale, with plenty of Scottish backstory, casts a jaundiced eye on media debaucheries and petty vanities, throwing in miscellaneous riffs on everything from Starbuck's to escort ads, but Ferguson is particularly sharp—and funny—on Hollywood proper. For every satire of organized religion or a Vegas that's "as glitzy as a trailer park at Christmas," however, he delivers an injunction to "help others" or an ode to Paris in springtime that somehow sounds fresh. The result is a tour de force of cynical humor and poignant reverie, a caustic yet ebullient picaresque that approaches the sacred by way of the profane. (Apr. 10) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Ferguson is best-known to Americans as host of The Late Late Show, and moviegoers may recognize him as the Glasgow hairdresser in The Big Tease and the pot-puffing lead in Saving Grace. His strange, funny, profane, surreal, and surprisingly moving first novel is about friends since childhood from Glasgow. Fraser meets fame and fortune--well, the Scottish equivalents, at least--as a televangelist but unfortunately has insatiable yens for booze, prostitutes, and . . . knitwear. Meanwhile, George is a bit of a lost soul, who may or may not have a terminal illness. The novel also features illegitimate half-brothers Saul and Leon from the American Deep South and an eclectic cast of historical figures, including Carl Jung. Ferguson pokes good-natured fun at the media, pop culture, reality TV, religion, and, of course, Scotland as the novel jumps gleefully from Glasgow to London to Paris to Miami to Vegas to L.A., and from one character to another, while somehow managing to make weird literary sense. Fond of deranged, slightly warped humor? Try this. June Sawyers Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved "Profane on its surface, ethical at its core, and always fun . . ." Kirkus s (Starred) " . . . a talk show host who can hold his own as a literary storyteller . . . [An] impressive debut novel . . ." The Los Angeles Times "Witty, furiously paced, and frequently hysterical." People Magazine " . . . particularly sharp and funny. . . a caustic yet ebullient picaresque that approaches the sacred by way of the profane." Publishers Weekly (Starred) " . . . filled with many surprises . . ." The New York Times " . . . [A] strange, funny, profane, surreal, and surprisingly moving first novel." Booklist " . . . fresh, ribald, incisive, and a fine read." The Baltimore Sun " . . . often says more about love and life in one paragraph than some books say in 100 pages. After reading it, you will know Craig Ferguson is not a talk-show host moonlighting as an author it might be the other way around." Mitch Albom "An unequivocal whoop of enthusiasm . . . Buy this book. Read it. You'll thank me." Lawrence Block