



The inaugural Pat Conroy Literary Festival is finally upon us, bringing literary stars to Beaufort from all over the South for an exciting series of workshops, presentations, performances, panel discussions, film screenings, and social events centering around the USCB Center for the Arts.

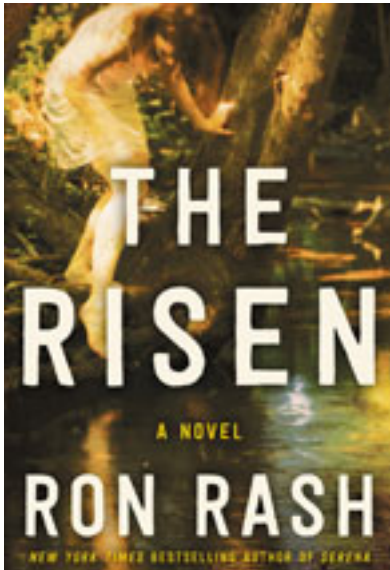
Shining bright among those stars is Ron Rash, a central figure in this year's festival. Rash is the author of the 2009 PEN/Faulkner Finalist and *New York Times* best-selling novel *Serena*, in addition to six other novels, most recently *Above the Waterfall* and *The Risen*. He is also the author of five collections of poems and five collections of stories, among them *Burning Bright*, which won the 2010 Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award, and *Chemistry and Other Stories*, which was a finalist for the 2007 PEN/Faulkner Award. Twice the recipient of the O. Henry Prize, Rash teaches at Western Carolina University.

Several events at this year's Conroy Festival will focus on Rash's work, including, but not limited to: a USCB Authors Luncheon

Ron Rash Rising

Written by Editor

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