

Bonnie Jo Campbell is six foot tall and rides a donkey. She was a 2009 National Book Award finalist and National Book Critics Circle Award finalist for her collection of stories, *American Salvage*. That collection won the Foreword Book of the Year award. Campbell is also author of the novel *Q Road* and the story collection *Women & Other Animals*. Her novel *Once Upon a River* is forthcoming from W.W. Norton July 2011. She's received the AWP Award for Short Fiction, a Pushcart Prize, and the Eudora Welty Prize. Her poetry collection *Love Letters to Sons of Bitches* won the 2009 CBA Letterpress Chapbook award. Her new novel *Once Upon a River* is forthcoming from Norton in July 2011. Campbell teaches at Pacific University Low Res MFA program.

She grew up on a small Michigan farm with her mother and four siblings in a house her grandfather Herlihy built in the shape of an H. She learned to castrate small pigs, milk Jersey cows, and make remarkable chocolate candy. When she left home for the University of Chicago to study philosophy, her mother rented out her room. She has since hitchhiked across the U.S. and Canada, scaled the Swiss Alps on her bicycle, and traveled with the Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus selling snow cones. As president of Goulash Tours Inc., she has organized and led adventure tours in Eastern Europe, including Russia, Latvia, Romania and Bulgaria. She currently lives with her husband Christopher in Kalamazoo, Michigan, where she practices weapons arts, holding the rank of Nidan in Koburyu kobudo. In her spare time, she tries to train her donkeys Jack and Don Quixote.