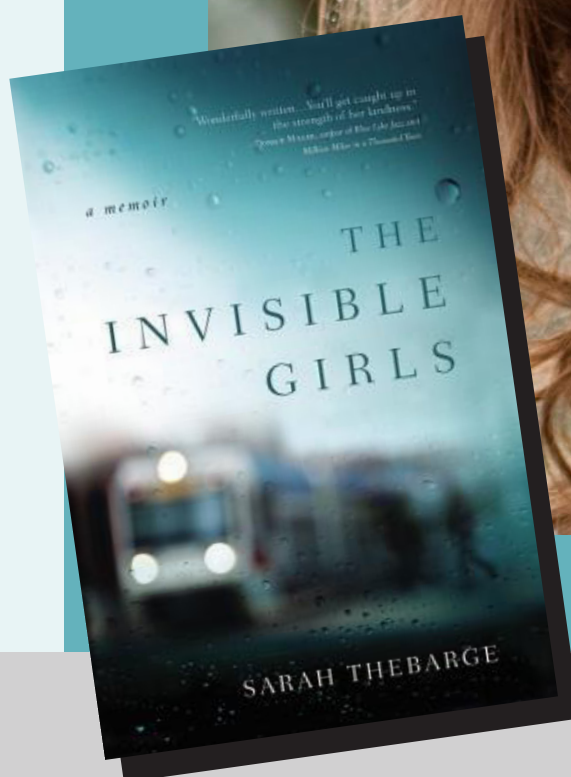


lowercolumbia.edu/aande

Author Sarah Thebarger

Monday, October 21



Workshop: “The Story In You: A workshop to help you find your story and tell it well.” 3:30-5 p.m. in Rose Center for the Arts

Reading: Longview Public Library from 7-8 p.m.

Growing up in a conservative family in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Sarah became the first woman in her family to graduate from college. She went on to earn a master’s degree in Medical Science from Yale School of Medicine. While studying Journalism at Columbia University, her forward trajectory came to a grinding halt when she was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 27. Barely escaping the grueling treatments alive, she moved to Portland, Oregon, with just a suitcase of clothes and a desire to start over.

A chance encounter with a Somali refugee family on a train in Portland provided a turning point in Sarah’s life. As she developed a relationship with them over the next few months and taught the single Somali mom and her five daughters how to live in America, they taught her how to love and be loved again. The details of Sarah and the Somali girls’ story of survival, recovery, and redemption are recorded in her memoir, *The Invisible Girls* (Jericho Books, 2013).

In addition to writing and speaking, Sarah is a clinical manager for a Portland-based medical company, and the Director of Communications at Imago Dei Community.

The public is invited to these free events.



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