



## Southern Fried Divorce

*Judy Conner*

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**Southern Fried Divorce** Judy Conner

**The hilarious account of one woman's marriage and divorce—Big Easy- style**

Set against the colorful backdrop of New Orleans, SOUTHERN FRIED DIVORCE raucously recounts the author's divorce from "That X"—a classic bad boy—and the unpredictable roles he plays in her life afterward. The book opens with his showing up on her doorstep, in mid-Spring, covered in red and green ribbon, smelling of Jim Beam, and bearing a belated Christmas gift—a home security package in the form of a .38 revolver and a brown puppy. After wondering what kind of ex-husband gives his wife a gun, she gives the puppy back and the adventures with that ex-husband and the brown dog, who are soon inseparable, begin.

The hilarious vignettes that ensue include: the rules to Redneck Roulette; post-divorce sex ("Smurfing"); a divorce settlement that includes a bar tab for life; how to teach a dog to drive a Cadillac; getting mugged with her own cutlery; wearing a keg into a football game; instructions on how to cook the best Christmas roast south of the Mason-Dixon line and other fine Southern recipes; and the antics of her infamous ex and the brown dog—two cohorts mythic and so inseparable they performed naked synchronized swimming together at the 1984 World's Fair. Conner weaves together a one-of-a-kind love story that exposes the humility of all human relationships, and shows that the end of marriage is not the end of love.

## Southern Fried Divorce Details

Date : Published December 29th 2004 by Gotham (first published 2004)

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Author : Judy Conner

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## From Reader Review Southern Fried Divorce for online ebook

### Stacey says

I read about this book in one of Jill Conner Brown's SPQ books and just had to read it. It is only slightly entertaining and not nearly as good or humorous as the SPQ books; Jill and Judy are "seesters" in case you don't know.

Over the past 12 months, many of my friends have separated and/or divorced. Whereas most of those relationships ended badly, Judy and "that X" enjoyed a better relationship post-divorce than they had had when they were married. I loved the way she always referred to him as "that X" and I'm not even sure I remember what his given name was or if it was even mentioned in the book.

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### Melissa says

I was all prepared for **Southern Fried Divorce** to be another book about a bitter, vindictive divorcee. While I am sure the actual divorce was not easy to live through, **Judy Conner** surprisingly shares with the reader many amusing stories about her "X", as she affectionally calls him.

"X" is a character in only the way that a resident of New Orleans can be. "X" is an owner of drinking establishment. He constantly seems to attract trouble. "X" hangs out with everyone from the highest local officials to the lowliest bum on the street. Throw in a huge amount of alcohol and the most amusing things seem to happen wherever he goes!

Judy shares mixed feelings for her "X". She cares about him, and loved their private life but couldn't stand that he was constantly embarrassing her in public. She loves the attention he lavishes on her - even after their divorce - but can't stand his skirt chasing. He clearly loves her but just can't stay on the straight and narrow. Surprisingly, Judy also shares that she is not without her own faults, the main one being a mean streak.

I love a good Southern writer. Judy Conner tells her story with humor and lots of New Orleans color. She entertains us with humor and wit, and, at the same time, makes the most of a difficult situation. I am sure we will be hearing more from her in the future.

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### Gail says

You ever read a book, hoping it will get better? It doesn't!

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### Victorian Vickie says

I really wanted to like this book...but for some reason it just didn't work for me. I just kept waiting for something...but nothing.

### **Cinthny says**

I liked it, I really did. There were a few parts that cracked me up and one part where she talked about when she is ready to leave a party that reminded me totally of MYSELF. It was very good and the recipes sounded yummy. This book was just what I needed since I haven't read a book in just about forever. Such is life with a four year old and a one year old.

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### **Renie says**

This book sounds like it was written by the author of the Junie B. Jones, books. Anyway, I didn't care for the language in this book....the way the author refers to her ex-husband as "that ex-husband" and how she inserts made-up words like "myownself." Ugh. I couldn't stand it. Otherwise, the premise of the book was palatable enough, a tale of a southern gal's relationship with her ex-husband and "that nephew" of his. The book, whimsically, includes random recipes as well as a 3 page list of nicknames garnered from obituary columns. Had it been written in a more conventional manner, I think it would've been a delight to read.

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### **Sherry Grussing says**

Well, I finished it. That's about it.

She tries to hard to be funny. I think she is trying to keep up with her sister (she wrote The Sweet Potato Queens books).

She jumps from topic to topic and then back. At one point, she spent about four or five pages just listing nicknames out of obituaries. Really? Was that necessary?

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### **Teresa says**

I REALLY wanted to like this book. Judy Conner's sister is THE amazing Sweet Potato Queen herself, Jill Conner Browne, whom I love. Jill writes in anecdotes and funny short stories. Judy was trying to tell a story sequentially, but the short stories and anecdotes were un-relatable for me.

I'm not sure why, but I couldn't get into this book. I stopped reading half-way through because in all honesty, I really didn't care what happened to "the Ex" and his dog. Sorry, Judy.

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### **Kattie says**

I was in need of a new audiobook, so I looked at my options online.

It mentioned humor, and despite the fact that I have absolutely no intention of "unleashing my hound", I was in desperate use for humor on a day that I have to work 16 hours.

This author, despite the occasional humor, rambles all over a page more than a drunkard on a police walk.

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This book does not follow a timeline or let alone a similar thought. It was not until I was a while into the book (which I think would be better in actual print over audiobook,) that I found out that the author was the sister of Sweet Potato Queen author Jill Conner Browne. Browne too, is not the best at following a book topic in a straight-forward order. So far, Browne is the better author. But the sisters are two people that would be hilarious to drink with.

Unfortunately, this book, of which the humor aspect was the best thing it had going for it, has a sad ending. All the hopes of saving this book were dashed in the last hour.

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### **Blow Pop says**

I can't properly put into words how much I DETEST this book. It was unfunny. And I'm not saying that because I don't have a sense of humour. I have one. I just don't see how "redneck roulette" is amusing. Or being a self centered asshole who cares about getting as much alimony as they can is amusing. Or having a dog "drive" a cadillac is amusing.

Also, who the hell thinks it's a good idea to call up the ex of the person they're screwing to lament about that person and shit?

I will give this book one thing. They did have a fairly amicable divorce which is kind of rare for how they had it.

Also, I DETEST using the phrase "so and so is whipped" for various reasons but it's almost the best phrasing for how "that ex/x" was in relation to her.

I considered putting this book down many many times. But I didn't. In hopes that I would actually find something funny. I found none of it funny or amusing.

I really wish I could rate this in negative stars.

The entire thing was a big bunch of "Do Not Want".

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### **Robin says**

I loved this book. The author perfectly combined the charm of her MS upbringing and the raunchiness of life in LA. I thought she did a brilliant job of depicting the characters found only in the deep south. I can see how it might seem farfetched for those that are not familiar with the local colloquialisms. Ultimately, it was a beautiful love story and tribute to her true love.

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### **Greg Bascom says**

SOUTHERN FRIED DIVORCE is a funny first person memoir about the author's after marriage to "that ex-husband." It is a whacky tale set in New Orleans in the nineties with chunks of backstory on the relationship between the author and that ex-husband, who is a nice guy but acts like a lunatic. He is remarkably like several of my friends in New Orleans. The antics and the escapades in this book reveal the true character of the Big Easy that the tourists miss.

### **Lisa Kay says**

★★★?? (This is a review of the audiobook.) Cynthia Darlow does a nice job of narrating this one; however, I didn't find it particularly funny, so she had an uphill battle winning me over. I found my mind drifting *repeatedly* while listening to this audiobook – a problem I don't usually have. Maybe it was just my mood. Ms. Darlow makes the ex-husband sound like a doofus, which he is, so that fits, but I could help wondering what the heroine ever saw in him and kept mentally rolling my eyes. She does a decent Southern accent, a couple of other voices (for shorts stories interspersed through-out) that are easy to differentiate, and even a Scottish accent that sounds authentic.

**Special Note to Marketing Persons:** Don't put a cute puppy on the cover to attract those readers that have a strong "Awww!" gene in their animal loving DNA, only to find that the heroine does not particularly care for said puppy.

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### **Pam Lane says**

This book was boring. The author tried too hard to be funny, which made her just the opposite in my opinion.

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### **Bonnie says**

Playfully, punchy patois. Will take a bad taste of any previous, poorly devised attempts at humor/memoir anecdotes by weak-kneed authors, out of your sour mouth. A dog-gone, tasty eulogy, for 2 curs' heartfelt memories given a Big Easy, big, blaring horns tribute w/banners waving salute. Praise worthy also, is that Ms. Conner had the gumption to compete with her sister's fame in the publishing game. We raise gals up strong-headed Down South & Big Hearted, too.

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