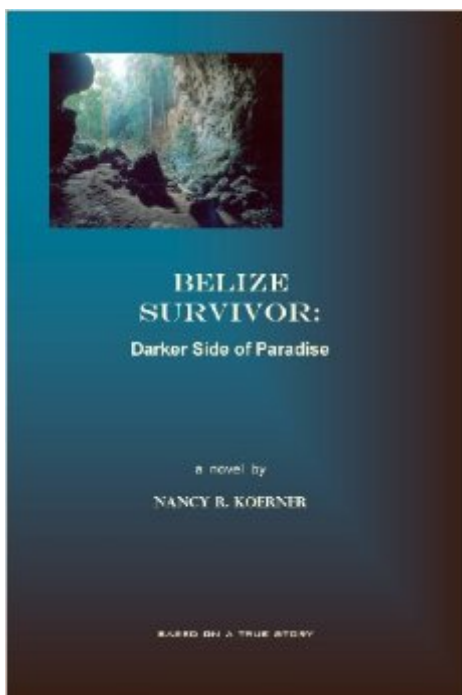


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BELIZE SURVIVOR: Darker Side Of Paradise



Synopsis

In the early seventies, the anti-establishment counterculture evolved into a new movement of health and agricultural purists. Rebelling against the politics and pollution of the U.S., these young people sought to create their own natural paradise outside its borders. This is the story of one such expatriated American, a starry-eyed wild child who searches for a fantasy lifestyle and gets more than she bargains for. The storyline, a colorful tapestry of romantic adventure set in the jungles of Belize, Central America, is flavored with vivid imagery, picturesque characters, wild animals, and Mayan archaeological intrigue. But it is also a compelling story of a maturing young woman and her battle with the darker side of human nature, of innocence lost, deception, infidelity, and heartbreaking exile. Full of poignant moral dilemma, it is a story of one woman's survival, of exceptional courage, strength in overcoming adversity, spiritual growth, and eventual triumph.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

No slow spots in this story. The author has created a great sense of anticipation on nearly every page - what is going to happen next? She is also very talented in painting pictures with words; the characters are developed or portrayed very well. Much is said without a lot of embellishment; and the reader easily constructs the mental images that give the story texture. This book was an inspiration for me to travel to see the coral reefs of the Caribbean, and the tropical forests of Central America. I just returned from a trip to a Caribbean island to explore coral reefs. While there, I met an old man who practices bush medicine. I plan to return as soon as possible to record the plants he uses and the practices of his herbal tradition before this knowledge is lost. If I hadn't read this book I

never would have found this new mission and this new adventure.

This book is riveting, from the first page to the last. I guarantee you will not be able to put it down. It will make you laugh, cry, scream, shout and explode with emotions. The author's accurate descriptions of both the people and the landscape of Belize are so completely real you will feel as though you are there. Having experienced Belize myself, I honestly didn't feel there was anyway you could do that without being there in person. That was before I read the book. So detailed were her descriptive narratives that I actually stumbled upon her son, who is still in the country, on my recent visit. I will leave the details of that to all of you treasure seekers out there to find out for yourselves. Trust me...it will be worth the adventure. A must read for those who think they should pick up and move to Belize...this is the real truth. Belize is a beautiful country but it's not for the faint of heart or spirit. The only thing better than the book was the thought of a movie that I hope will be filmed in Belize's beautiful, lush, countryside. Bravo Nancy!!! This is an excellent book and a must have for any left over hippie generation or those of us who should have been in the hippie generation.

BELIZE SURVIVOR: Darker side of Paradise creates a physical and emotional journey that brings you from the dream of "living in paradise" to the reality of true survival. The excitement and adventure of this newly married couple personifies the cultural vision of that changing time. All the beauty and intrigue being overshadowed by the cruel and hidden abuse, that will take you from the beautiful waterfalls to the muddied trails of despair. Captivating experiences of discovery and relationships complete the excitement of this truly amazing story. Based upon a true story the author craftfully describes the trials of so many abused and battered women caught in an invisible prison of mind and fear. Through inner strength and a true survivor's will, the book will lift you to the hope of a brighter day. Looking forward to her next book.

I think I would give this book a different title. I live in Belize and I expected it to be more focused on survival there than on personal survival in an abusive marriage as did several friends of mine who picked it up for a travel read which it is not. It is a very heavy read and I am still reeling from reading her account of abuse. It seems that in choosing to weave the stories of her adopted country and her abuse together she played off the contrast of her many strengths and then the horrid abuse she suffered. It did offer me insight into what it was like in those yrs. and not much has changed, it is still a rough lawless little country which did not help her situation one bit. I have been to many of the

places , including Key West and all over Belize in the past 20 yrs. and know of many people mentioned in the book . I was somewhat stunned to hear such a negative account of The Farm as i have a friend who had a very positive experience w/ childbirth there at that same time. I guess we all have very different experiences and i wonder how much the abusive relationship overshadowed such experiences. I honor Nancys story and her work , i was astounded at how anyone so intelligent and strong in so many ways could tolerate such abuse for so long . I just want to grab her & her children out of the story and say ENOUGH , YOU ARE STRONG ! But i also know that abuse happens to women of all walks of life and she gives an important account of this for anyone suffering abuse. My husband and i read the book because of our Belize experiences and appreciate her story but we both had to skip over much of the abuse as it was just so horribly brutal. Thank you Nancy for sharing this and for all that you do now to help abused women.

I was very moved by this book. I was born and raised in Belize and I feel so sorry that this had to happen to her. So many people would have come to her rescue if she hadn't been so isolated (but that is exactly what abusers tend to do, isolate). Belize is still a beautiful country, and thankfully, many of those archaic laws have changed and there are many who are fighting domestic violence on the legal front. I recognized many of the characters in the book even though the names were changed. It is truly accurate in its portrayal of the food, language, people and events. I objected to just one line in her book- she called Belize a "silly little country". It is little, but maybe not so silly, people who had the vision saw the potential in her and left their mark, as she did. There are not too many countries in the world where it is still possible to do this. Culturally, Belize is still being shaped and formed by precisley those who venture to call her home, no matter where they came from.

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