



Southern by the Grace of God

By Michael Grissom

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Southern by the Grace of God By Michael Grissom

You've heard the phrase, American by Birth-Southern by the Grace of God. And now comes a book that reminds us of the glory of being Southern! Just when you thought the liberal press had succeeded in grinding us into the ground with their barrage of derogatory patter, a glimmer of hope emerges, and Southerners are once again discovering that being Southern is a good thing after all-just like it used to be! If you are proud of your Southern heritage, you'll rejoice in Southern by the Grace of God. Many of us are proud to be Southern, but we don't know just why. Since Southern history has been purged from the textbooks that children study today, our youth have little conception of a heritage. Even some of us that are older are not well grounded in it either. The author has gathered together the elements of our heritage and gives us a short course in our splendid legacy. It could be called a "handbook for Southerners." The entire south is reflected in this work, from Oklahoma to Virginia, from Texas to Florida. There is no other book like it on the market today . SOME FEATURES YOU'LL FIND: * Biographical Sketches and Photos of Seven Confederate Heroes * A Section on Southern Folklore * 200 Old Photographs from 1853 through 1919 * A Humorous Southern Dictionary for Helping Yankees Better Understand Us * A Chapter about the War Between the States * A Genealogical Bonanza * The Real Story of Reconstruction * A Look at Why Southerners Are Special * Recommended Reading List

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Often asked how he got his start in the ``business of being Southern,íí Michael Andrew Grissom tells the story of when he was in the fifth grade and teachers were beginning to introduce the students to civics and history. He took his books home and started to wonder about the thing they called the ``Civil War.íí Finally, his mother sat him down and explained very concisely, ``Well, let me tell you how it was. Lee was the good guy, and Grant was the bad guy.íí And Grissom says ``it stuck. I remain solidly convinced to this day that my mother was right.íí Born and raised in South Central Oklahoma, Grissomís first calling was music. He received bachelorís and masterís degrees in music education as well as minors in instrumental music and social studies from the University of Oklahoma. He then taught history and music for several years in secondary schools in Norman and Wynnewood, Oklahoma. After serving as a vocalist and pianist in several musical groups ranging from barbershop quartets to jazz bands, Grissom formed ``The Rebels,íí a country music/gospel band that recorded in Nashville and traveled throughout Dixie. A die-hard Southerner, Grissomís writing career began when he realized there were no all-inclusive books about the heritage of the South; and most importantly in this age of South-bashing, there were few, if any, modern-day books that presented the South in a positive light. Since he felt that it was high time for a strong defense of the South and that no Southern literary figure would write the needed books, he decided to take on that challenge. Grissom began researching and writing at the same time and drew from his natural Southern background. He defined his goal as ``to reensure the South so that we donít give up any more of our flags, our traditions, and the celebration of our priceless legacy.íí Beginning with Southern by the Grace of God, a celebration of things Southern ; followed by The Last Rebel Yell, a call to the defense of Southern life against all those attempting to tear down Southern culture; and finally, When the South Was Southern , a reminiscence of bygone days, Grissom has compiled a comprehensive trilogy on the culture of the South that people have responded to with an enthusiastic, almost religious fervor. A former member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, he is the recipient of several awards including the 1975 Oklahoma Heritage Award and the Jefferson Davis Medal. Moving from Nashville back to Wynnewood, Oklahoma, in 1994 after the death of his father, Grissom misses his music. But he stays busy with his full-time writing career and radio talk-show interviews, which are his ``forte.íí Grissom says, ``When they start on the Southern stuff, the phones light up.íí

Users Review

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