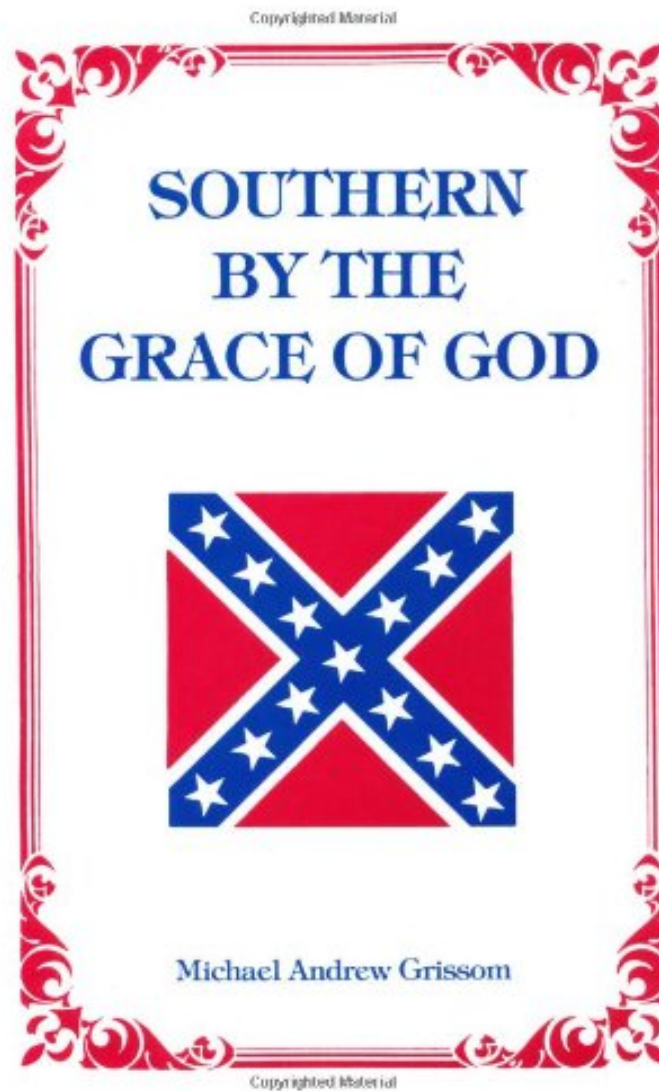


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Southern by the Grace of God

Michael Grissom

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Michael Grissom : Southern by the Grace of God before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Southern by the Grace of God:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. I went to school in the North, New York ...By summer girlI went to school in the North, New York City to be precise. My school years were less than 100 years after the Civil War and we were taught the Union perspective: (1) it was all about slavery, (2) the North won, (3) the South lost. But as with most things, it was not that simple. This book gives an in depth perspective of what the South was fighting for and what it was fighting against. The writer goes back to the basic difference between the North and South which from the

time of the first colonies on this land was the climate. The Mason-Dixon Line not only basically divided the country between Union and Confederate but it was the dividing line between two different climate areas of the original 13 colonies. That is the backstory to the two different cultures that developed. The beginning part of the book defines who a Southerner is and their different way of life. These are things we never learned in the history classes in the North. It tells the reader about the people. The middle and latter part of the book informs the reader about the battles of the war, the Reconstruction and about the Southern leaders and Army Generals on the Confederacy. Yes, much of it is history but it is also about the people of the South. It is a truism that the victor in a war writes the history of the war. That is unfortunate because only half the story is told. Many people from the North are moving South because of work and many more are moving South as retirees. It is worth it to them to read this book in order to understand the culture they are moving into. It is worth the read for people in the North because, once again, the research the writer did shows the Federal Government tells people only what the Federal Government wants people to know. That research now brings to light some issues about the real reason President Lincoln did not take the time nor make the effort to preserve the peace. Each reader can come to their own conclusion. The book helps the reader to realize how the cultures make up the fabric of our country.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Southern History 101 By Scarlet
This book is a must read for anyone in our country to understand what it means to be Southern. It is a refresher course that helps one appreciate the unique culture of the South so distinct from the North. In addition it helps the Southerner to regain a fresh appreciation of what it means to be born in the South, to renew the Southern spirit of our ancestors who understood the Declaration of Independence as the declaration that our rights come from Almighty God and the Constitution of the U.S., the body of law to insure those rights. The book also helps one appreciate the sacrifices of those who suffered, not only the soldiers, who gave all, but also the women and children who were left after the Northern invasion, pillaging and plundering of their country. It's a refresher course, easy to read, about our Southern heroes, so honorable in war, in victory as well as defeat. It is also a reminder of those issues, Independence for the South and Empire for the North, that led to the "War Between the States" as well as the understanding of "reconstruction" which followed in the 11 years after the war ended. I have said many times that unless one understands the issues surrounding the years 1861 to 1865 one cannot understand the issues of our day. President Davis said, "The principle for which we contend is bound to reassert itself, though it may be at another time and in another form". This book is fun, exciting, humorous, easy reading for any who desire to understand their remarkable heritage by God's grace.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Shout Hallelujah and Amen. By David C. Rumbaugh
Though no one can guess my origin, I 'uz borned in Georgia and so By the Grace of God, am Southern. I grew up thinking that Damn Yankee was one word. then we moved first to Maryland then to Pennsylvania. And I learned that Yankee was a term used by Europeans to describe all of us Colonials. May not sound it, but am still Southern by the Grace of God.

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

About the Author Often asked how he got his start in the "business of being Southern, 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. 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. And Grissom says "it stuck. I remain solidly convinced to this day that my mother was right. Born and raised in South Central Oklahoma, Grissom's first calling was music. He received bachelors and masters 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, a country music/gospel band that recorded in Nashville and traveled throughout Dixie. A die-hard Southerner, Grissom's 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 reinsure the South so that we dont give up any more of our flags, our traditions, and the celebration of our priceless legacy. 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. Grissom says, ``When they start on the Southern stuff, the phones light up.