



Engaging and insightful May 13, 2009
by **Phyllis Grover** (Naples, FL)

This review is from: BELIZE SURVIVOR: Darker Side of Paradise (Paperback)

Based on actual events in the author's life, Belize Survivor: Darker Side of Paradise, pulls you in from page one with its beautiful descriptions of the wild part of the world in which she and her abusive husband lived. The parallels between the uncivilized area in which they chose to live and the uncivilized nature of their marriage do not go unnoticed.

Children of the 1960s will be the target audience, as Ms. Koerner is clearly a product of those times of prioritizing freedom - of life, love, and thought. She drops out of college to "follow her dream" of freedom and ends up adventuring through Key West, and eventually Belize, in the jungles where they live off the land. She describes this as the "lifestyle of a lifetime." It turned into the horror of a lifetime.

It's a story all teen girls and coming of age adult women should read to help raise their consciousness of personal self-esteem, signals of controlling boyfriends, and the personal determination and fortitude it takes to do what the heart knows it must do.

It was engaging and yet insightful in conveying an important message. If I were still a high school English teacher, I would surely assign it to my students - especially the females of the species.