



Knee Deep in Paradise

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The star of the popular ABC-TV series Grace Under Fire recounts her childhood in the South as the daughter of an absent, alcoholic father, her experience with domestic abuse, and her start as a comedienne.

Knee Deep in Paradise Details

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From Reader Review Knee Deep in Paradise for online ebook

Rae says

An uncommonly well-written celebrity bio from the television star and stand-up comic Brett Butler. She has battled drug and alcohol abuse, suffered through an abusive marriage, and continues to heal from her dysfunctional Southern family environment.

Hallie Huffman says

This book came at just the right time in my life. Anyone living under the tyranny of their spouse will recognize themselves in this book, and if you are a hick (like me) it just might be disturbing how much you can actually relate!

Mitch says

I liked the TV sitcom 'Grace Under Fire' so I thought I'd enjoy Brett's biography...but it's tough to use the word 'enjoy' when reading it.

First, Brett had abandonment issues big time with her father and living-with-a-depressed-mother issues compounding that. It's no wonder that she went wild with sex, early and often, and became an alcoholic/addict for 17-plus years following that. The only wonder is that she was so successful in comedy or anything, really.

Oddly, I did not really enjoy her writing style. I much preferred her spoken delivery style, even though she professes to have written for years.

Although it seems she has worked through many of her problems, according to further information she is still suffering from some of them. I have to wish better things for her in her personal life, well beyond success in her comedic career.

Etienne says

this book is really great found it hard to put down

Valissa says

"I threw my virginity out of the speeding car that was my life"

Shani says

I enjoyed this book quite a bit. She didn't say much about being part of Grace Under Fire but I guess that it doesn't really pertain to the story she was telling about her life. I only somewhat knew what her life was like before she became famous. She's come a long way and worked really hard to be who she is now.

I was fortunate enough to meet Brett about 7 years ago and she was one of the sweetest and nicest celebrities I've ever met. I met her when she was staying at the hotel I was working at and she would call me at the desk anytime she needed something and always asked so politely. She even made the time to chat with me one night for about 15 minutes. What a doll.

Em says

The gal can write!! I hope one day she tackles a work of fiction. I connected to her story right away. As I am in the process of coming to terms with my own addiction I could relate to the feelings she had about her alcoholism. And even though my father stayed with the family, I felt I understood, because though my father was physically present during my youth, he felt emotionally distant and offered a connection only on his terms which was hard for me to do. When I got to the passage she wrote of her father's 500 books and how he lived his life holed up in a back room, my first reaction was oh, no, I'm like that and is that how I will end up? My second reaction was geez why didn't I see – my father is like that. So now I prefer to hold on to this quote, 'it is the vision of my father, who waited so long for very own Godot, that makes me move forward, when it is not in my nature to do so.' Wise words indeed!

Leslie says

I enjoyed this book because I have always enjoyed Brett Butler's stand-up. I thought it was interesting that she was raised in Tuskegee, a primarily black town (but was born in Montgomery about 40 miles down the road). Now that I live about 20 miles from Tuskegee, it makes it kind of cool. I always like reading about Alabama people and comedians, so this was a win-win for me. I don't remember a whole lot about the book, other than I liked it.

Jess says

A friend just returned this book to me, which I estimate I read & loaned to him in about 1997! I'd completely forgotten about it, but when I got it back, I remember being impressed with Ms. Butler's writing style & her seemingly objective look at her own life.

Rhonda says

This was good. Not a, "I can't put this down type of book", but decent.

Theadra Chapman says

I have bought this book twice. I'd loaned it and it wasn't returned. Butler is a really great writer and I wish she'd write something again. I think this book is as good as any southern gothic novel I've read.

Diane Wachter says

Knee Deep In Paradise, Brett Butler, Audio Bk-B, @ 1996, 4/02. Autobiography, a memoir of survival, comedienne relates her life of childhood abuse, domestic abuse, addiction, and survival. Very good.

ReGina Welling says

This is one of my all time favorite memoirs. Painfully honest, sensitive but strong and deliciously flawed, Butler speaks with immense vulnerability as she tells her story.

I've never written a fan letter, but for this book, I might be tempted.

Mike says

I read this book in between two epic WW2 books that i needed a break from. i enjoyed this memoir a lot. This was a great and concisely written memoir. She didn't harbor on a single event in her life, but rather mentioned and explained the interesting bits. Knowing hardly anything about Brett I was rather impressed by how well she wrote.

Lisa James says

This autobio by Brett herself is a pretty powerful read. It's FULL of the horrors she went through, the abuse she suffered at the hands of her first husband, & it turns out her Mom was also battered, the girls just didn't SEE it, & her search for family answers about the father she never really knew well.
