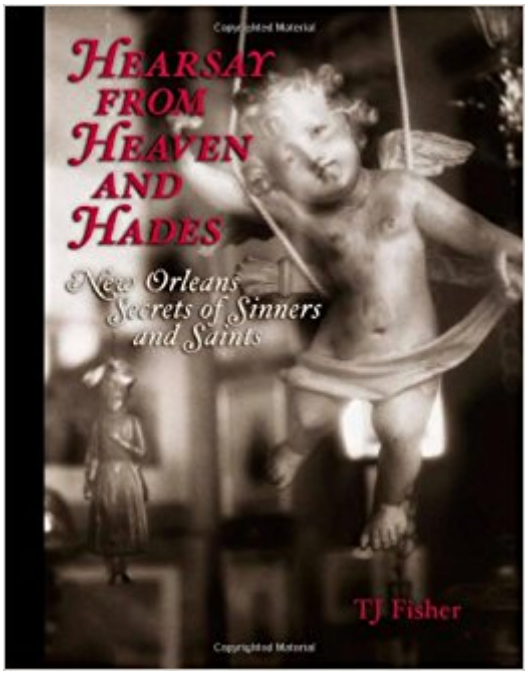
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Hearsay From Heaven And Hades: New Orleans Secrets Of Sinners And Saints



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Synopsis

This collection of dark and enchanted satire, musings, and witticisms exposes a swatch in the psyche deeper than character studies or scenarios of right or wrong, good or bad, politics or peccadilloes. Crafty, uncensored, and contentious, this irreverent commentary serves up the perfect "quipsodic" tonic for overcoming the perpetually positive, goodie-two-shoes, saintly Stepford, happy middlebrow mindset. From the hallowed halls of tycoons to the underbelly of pop culture and flawed people living in the abyss,Ã Â beyond the revelry and merrymaking, the guises and disguises, herein lies a quirky shadow dance of quips; a dark-jewel slice of life. Taking umbrage at milquetoast platitudes, with sardonic, world-weary wit, theÃ Â narrativeÃ Â delivers insolent interpretations of how Louisiana's rebellious, rollicking French Quarter saints and sinners approach life, love, lust, backstabbing, and survival on the brink.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Nominated for the 2009 Southern Independent Booksellers Association SIBA Awards in the poetry categoryWinner,Ã Â Poetry (general), National Best Books 2009 Awards"Fisher is suitably eccentric and outrageous to represent New Orleans. . . . A talented writer."Ã Â —Greg Langley, The Baton Rouge Advocate"A cogent, sparkling tour de force of wit, wisdom, and most importantly love. Her sense of what makes the French Quarter such a maddening, but endearing, magnet for creative souls is priceless."Ã Â —Christian Allman, publisher, Gris Gris Rouge magazine"Superb literary anecdotes and allusions, bristling with wisdom, surprisingly turned with wit and creativity, beam gems of thought."Ã Â —Bishop James H. Burch, The Catholic Diocese of

One Spirit"Magnus opus. . . . Thought-provoking . . . felt deep within the belly and heart. Be preparedÃ Â . . . to laugh, cry, dance, and think."Ã Â —National Librarian"Some of these aphorisms are charming, and some may even be profound."Ã Â —Andrei Codrescu,Ã Â author, Wakefield and New Orleans, Mon Amour"Thought-provoking insights for living the human drama are compelling and smack of genius. Kudos."Ã Â —Catherine Lanigan, author, Romancing the Stone and The Jewel of the Nile

TJ Fisher is a documentary filmmaker, thespian, writer, and the coauthor of OrlÃƒÂ©ans Embrace with the Secret Gardens of the Vieux CarrÃƒÂ©. She is a member of Actors Equity Association, the Academy of Television and Arts and Sciences, the Directors Guild of America, the Producers Guild of America, the Screen Actors Guild, and the Writers Guild of America. She lives in New Orleans.

This book is full of wise and funny (and sad) sayings from around the city of New Orleans. As a native, it helped me be less home sick when I was away at school. I love the concept of the book (people from different walks of life offering sayings and pieces of advice.) I like to highlight my favorites, mark the ones I don’t understand, then come back to them later. It is a great coffee table book.

What I thought would be stories about french quarter residents proved to be a book of silly aphorisms.

Entertaining like a message for the day. Open and point! Better than an Ouija board. Nice dark humor and juicy tongue-n-cheek wisdom alternated with some deep journey-of-life sentiments. Beautiful presentation. Thank you.

I’m not sure why this book was even written. I’m from New Orleans and nothing I read had anything to do with NEw Orleans. It was just a compilation of sayings that everyone, everywhere, hears.

This book of aphorisms can be characterized as "a great read" only if you also findÃ Â Bartlett’s Familiar QuotationsÃ Â "a great read." There are no anecdotes, only 500 pages of aphorisms -- statements from a poet in a ruined City where the inhabitants are picking themselves up once again from the latest of its Gothic tragedies. A sample:-- Life is a gathering of souls huddled as though in a drawing room of contrasts and the unexpected, and always at the edge of the abyss.-- Heroes are

flawed, as are villains.-- A liar lies to himself.-- Most everyone’s story is heavy, full of pain, woe and loss.-- Dreams will tear you apart. Expect it.Approached as poetry rather than narrative, the book is a warehouse of prosaic wisdom tinged with the strange insights of a City where the veil between worlds is thin.People who write their own sentiments on greeting cards and are looking for something more profound than "those who suffer are blessed" will find sentiments to use as is, as well as an impetus to plumb their own depths for original sentiments.

I received an advance review copy of this persuasive title. The accompanying note said, "Do you know what it means to live like you’re from New Orleans?" Hello. Clever question! Does this mean, "Do we know what it means to deal with the plight of being alive?" How do we tow the line between good and evil? Can we reconcile the flip side of tragedy and comedy? Can we accept that the hilarious can be devastating? And vice versa? As a longtime fan of the Crescent City, I "got it" right away. It is a unique book. A very thought-provoking crazy jumble that is excellent. Not for the faint of heart or those who are afraid to face emotions, deep connections and strange contradictions. This is real life, whether we want to admit it or not. One must accept that that bizarre often becomes the ordinary. These intense, wry, rebellious and black humor aphorisms are life’s lessons learned, fantastic and irreverent advice called "French Quarterisms." The dark/light theme shines through. I believe many people think similar thoughts but never have the nerve to voice it. In an increasingly featureless world flawed landscapes and colorful characters appeal to us. Flamboyant New Orleanians are unafraid to say and do and live their lives in an edgy way that most cannot. They live with risk, menace, catastrophe and betrayal - and yet with history, joy and celebration - all around them. Their world is slowly sinking below their feet. But they survive the struggle in interesting ways. Hearsay from Heaven and Hades is a book to love or hate with a passion. I love it! I see the fresh and yet age-old wisdom, warning and insight. I really like the book’s sketches as well; they paint and bring to life a special portrait of the city. This is a guidebook of real feelings from a controversial city that has more shocking contrasts and in-your-face citizens that most any other place. Do we really want to live in New Orleans? No. Do we wish we did? Yes. We love you New Orleans. Carry on. Kudos. Cheers. Well done.

New Orleans is one of America’s most intriguing and enigmatic cities. "Hearsay from Heaven and Hades: New Orleans Secrets of Sinners and Saints" is a guide to the countless secrets that cover the city in shadow for its entire existence of over three hundred years. New Orleans is a huge mixture of traditions- the pirates of the seas, the Christian influences, the Haitian VooDoo

influences, The Cajun Country influences, the event of Mardi Gras, and so much more. "Hearsay from Heaven and Hades: New Orleans Secrets of Sinners and Saints" is a deftly compiled guide to the many, many eccentricities of this city and is highly recommended for anyone who would learn more of New Orleans.

TJ Fisher calls Hearsay from Heaven and Hades, the follow-up to her award winning Orleans Embrace, a sardonic handbook. But Fisher, whose vocabulary matches her boundless spirit, has put as much joir de vie into Hearsay as irreverence and derision.The Belle of Bourbon Street has framed her compendium of anecdotes and aphorisms in 40 chapters, titled 40 Days and 40 Nights. As with Orleans Embrace, the author is ever busy resurrecting the spirit and soul of a great city. Neither Rome nor New Orleans was built in a day and Hearsay from Heaven and Hades is to be savored in more than one or two sittings. In these "sayings for unquiet minds," emotions take every shade, but the overarching theme is Fisher's post Katrina mantra. It resonates in such passages as "Life revolving, ebbing and flowing, outlives catastrophe" and "a rotating pendulum of holy and unholy ruin." Fisher, last year's winner of the Ben Franklin award for Best New Voice, speaks out again as the OrlÃƒÂ©ans mender of broken dreams.- Garth Puckett

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