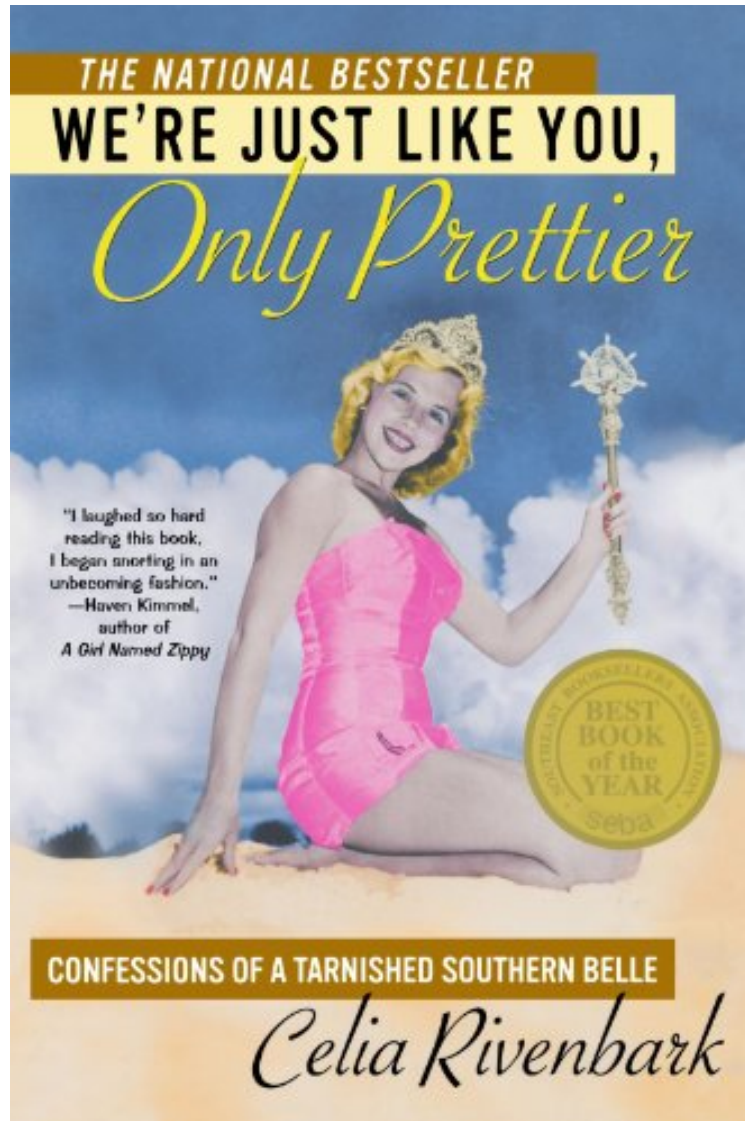


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## We're Just Like You, Only Prettier: Confessions of a Tarnished Southern Belle

*Celia Rivenbark*

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**Celia Rivenbark : We're Just Like You, Only Prettier: Confessions of a Tarnished Southern Belle** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised We're Just Like You, Only Prettier: Confessions of a Tarnished Southern Belle:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. I love this authorBy *laura j bertrand*I loved this book, i laughed so hard during the chapter about the doll she got her daughter for Christmas I actually cried, then read it to my husband

who almost cried. Rivenbark is the kind of woman I would love to take out for a beer and share stories with. If you are from the South it'll feel like coming home. If you aren't, think of her books as tourist directory before you come down to visit. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. from mother to daughter By pat mennenger I've only read two chapters, and I've already laughed out loud. I've stopped reading long enough to order this book for my daughter. She's the mother of two preschool age little girls and wife to a big burly boy from Memphis. Recently she was diagnosed with breast cancer. I think this book is just the medicine she needs. Thanks for the laughs Celia Rivenbark. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Don't buy unless you want to have your face hurt from smiling and your abs sore from laughing. Totally hilarious. A+ as always. By 2poor2payretail Another amazing knee-slapping book from Celia Rivenbark- my favorite Southern author of all times.

Why couldn't the Sopranos survive living down South? Simple. You can't shoot a guy full of holes after eating chicken and pastry, spoon bread, okra, and tomatoes. What does a Southern woman consider grounds for divorce? When daddy takes the kids out in public dressed in their pajama tops and Tweety Bird swim socks. Again. What is the Southern woman's opinion of a new "fat virus" theory? Bring it on! We've got a lot of skinny friends we need to sneeze on. In this wickedly funny follow-up to her bestselling novel *Bless Your Heart, Tramp*, Celia Rivenbark welcomes you, once again, to the South she loves, the land of "Mama and them," "precious and dahlin'," and mommies who mow. Y'all come back now, you hear?

From Publishers Weekly After winning Southern women's hearts with her SEBA bestseller *Bless Your Heart, Tramp* in 2000, Rivenbark has penned a new-and equally sidesplitting-collection of essays, offering Northern and Southern sisters alike a woman's "take on those irksome little yuks in daily life." Although she warns certain readers (Yankees, namely) that they may need a Southern lexicon to decipher her folksy, down-home prose style, Rivenbark's focus on familiar topics like family, relationships and child rearing should appeal to most females, regardless of geography or age. Marked by a feisty, sarcastic tone and tempered with plenty of cries of "yoo hoo" and "Well, shit," even chapter titles (e.g., "Stop Watching Your Plasma TV and Start Selling Your Plasma: How to Become Honest-to-Jesus White Trash" and "Here Comes the Bride: Let's Just Get 'Em Hitched Sometime Before We See the Head") don't escape the author's wry humor. The most mundane situations become laugh-out-loud scenarios. When, for example, Rivenbark is confronted by the "Pre-School Nazis" and intimidating "granola moms" at her four-year-old's school, she admits asking her daughter to lie about what she had for breakfast (a foil-wrapped breakfast bar instead of the required "scrambled eggs, a bowl of real oatmeal-the kind you have to cook on top of the, uh, you know, stove-two slices of whole wheat toast and a glass of soy milk"). Rivenbark is a hoot, and her book will be best enjoyed while listening to the Allman Brothers Band and eating "a plate of, what else? collards and cornbread." Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. "The most mundane situations become laugh-out-loud scenarios ... Rivenbark is a hoot." ?Publishers Weekly "I loved Celia's book; it made me want to get myself a doublewide, head on down to Mama and them's, and start mowing my own lawn. I never knew that Southern folk had time set aside from cooking the best food in the world to grow such marvelous senses of humor. For a Yankee like me, Southern life has always been fascinating, but who knew it was so pants-wetting funny (like watching a hillbilly bang his head repeatedly on the door of the outhouse, because I've seen that, you know)? And there's also the mention of 'making doody,' which is always a shoo-in for me. Celia's book rocks; everyone is going to love it. P.S.: How much prettier is she than me?" ?Laurie Notaro, author of *The Idiot Girls' Action Adventure Club* "When the aliens come to study us, I hope they find Celia Rivenbark's work prominently displayed. She is one of our greatest domestic anthropologists, digging up and airing all those things we like to think others don't know. In other words, the truth. She knows the South and she knows women, but that's just the tip of it all. I think she might very well know everything. I don't know when I have laughed so loud and so long. I am forever a devoted fan." ?Jill McCorkle, author of *Creatures of Habit* "Celia Rivenbark's collection of essays, *We're Just Like You, Only Prettier*, is a must-read for anybody who wants a funny, no-holds-barred look at today's South, from white trash in all its glorious permutations, to Yuppiedom." ?Haywood Smith, author of *The Red Hat Club* "I laughed so hard reading this book, I began snorting in an unbecoming fashion. I loved it nonetheless. I'll be sending copies to everyone, especially my baby's daddy." ?Haven Kimmel, author of *A Girl Named Zippy* "I thought I was Southern until I read Celia Rivenbark's book. . . . What a funny, smart, and irreverent writer she is!" ?Lee Smith, author of *The Last Girls From the Back Cover* "I thought I was Southern until I read Celia Rivenbark's book...what a funny, smart, and irreverent writer she is!" - Lee Smith, author of *The Last Girls* "Laugh-out-loud funny." - Cleveland Plain Dealer "Even die-hard Yankees will appreciate this wickedly funny collection...an amusing and refreshingly honest look at family life on this side of the Mason-Dixon line." - Dallas Morning News