



**This page turner will not disappoint!** June 26, 2011  
by [Edwina Ann Doyle](#)

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

Belize Survivor is the powerful, compelling story of a woman's courageous efforts to survive the emotional and physical violence of her malevolent husband. Descriptions of Alexis's pain and humiliation are heartbreaking and haunting, but her resilience and resourcefulness are inspiring. This page-turner is impossible to put down. The author paints such detailed descriptions of the magnificent beauty of the Belizean jungles that readers are transported there and hold their breaths amid shark attacks, floods, fires, and hurricanes.

With such an authentic voice, I fully believe that Belize Survivor is more than a book 'based on a true story.' I think it is actually a roman à clef -- the author's real life story disguised as fiction. It makes sense that she would need to protect herself from backlash, either from her ex-husband or from a legal standpoint. And telling it in the third person was probably the only way she could deal with such an intimate story. I'm going to guess that the most fictional part of this book is the disclaimer in the beginning. The author not only endures but transcends her abusive life and gives the reader hope that we all can overcome the most hellish heartache. Even though I am a bibliophile, I seldom read the same book twice. Belize Survivor is an exception.

Edwina Ann Doyle, author of *Midlife Monkeylala: Escape to and from a Tropical Paradise*