

## Connie Chastain -- Author Biography

Connie Chastain, a resident of Pensacola, Florida, is the author of two novels classified as contemporary romantic fiction and a mainstream young adult novel. Her stories are set in the Deep South and feature characters who must deal with the sudden appearance of adverse circumstances in their lives.

Chastain published her first novel, *Southern Man*, in 2009 under her own imprint, Brasstown Books. The protagonist, a corporate executive, is falsely accused of sexual harassment at his workplace, with harrowing consequences for himself and his family.

*Southern Man* is Book One of the Legacy of Fortitude Series. Book Two, *Sweet Southern Boys*, was published in 2012. A coming-of-age tale, it features three boys growing up best friends in small-town Georgia in the late 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

*Storm Surge*, a single title romantic suspense novel, was published in 2011 by Desert Breeze Publishing, Inc., of Castaic, California, in e-book and paperback formats.

Set in Pensacola, Mobile, Alabama and Biloxi, Mississippi, *Storm Surge* tells the story a consumer watchdog agent sent undercover to bring to justice an independent adjuster suspected of insurance fraud, and culminates with the landfall of a category five hurricane in west Florida.

The novel draws on Chastain's thirty years as a resident of the Gulf Coast, and her ten years of work experience in homeowner insurance claims, including 2004, the year Hurricane Ivan struck the coast near Pensacola.

"I saw the disaster response up close," Chastain says. "I was in the middle of it, so I know what my characters are faced with."

Her novels are classified as inspirational because they are written from a Christian worldview. "But they're too edgy to be described as Christian romance," she notes.

Chastain's writing experience includes a stint as a staff writer with former Congressman Joe Scarborough's weekly news magazine, *The Florida Sun*, which was published in the early 2000s.

"I wrote the 'B' story -- the second lead story -- which was usually about off-the-wall subjects like Bigfoot hunters in the South, Mobile Bay's jubilees, and photos of Area 51 snapped by Soviet spy satellites," Chastain says.



In addition to writing, Chastain owns and operates Word Slinger Boutique, an online author services website with products ranging from book typesetting, cover design and promotional items.

She has three novels in progress and several other writing projects in the planning stage.

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