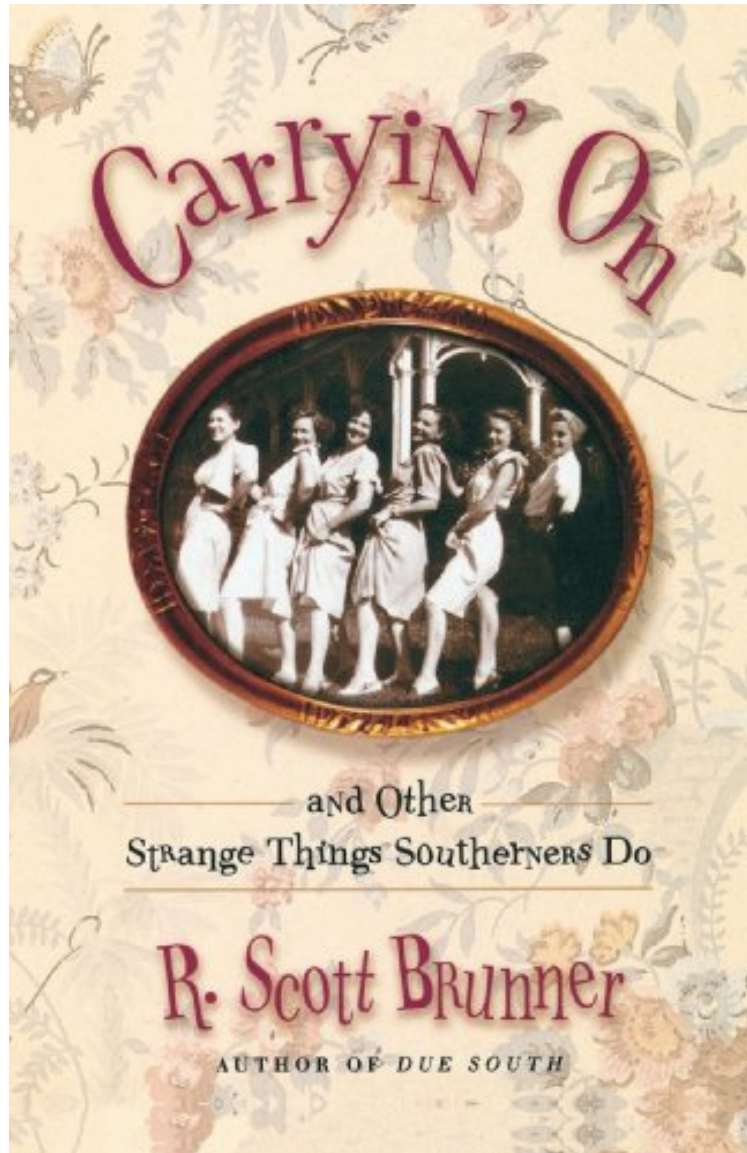


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## Carryin' On: and Other Strange Things Southerners Do

*R. Scott Brunner*

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**R. Scott Brunner : Carryin' On: and Other Strange Things Southerners Do** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Carryin' On: and Other Strange Things Southerners Do:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Yet another gem from a master of southern sketchesBy Mary G. LongorioFrom the opening phrase "Common is as common does" R.Scott Brunner once again returns his readers to the south, a land he obviously enjoys. These short stories cover many things about everyday life, with the southern bent that makes it so unique to anyone from or living in the south. Whether examining the strange (to others) bit and

pieces of language..."I swan", to "tote" someone somewhere, "to grind on one's last nerve" or to find a "slew" of something...it was like being home for a visit (and I didn't have to explain my language choices to my Utah neighbors, oh my heck!). He examines our foibles and strengths and presents them with a gentle humor. My favorite, the piece "Common Prayers" with its look at the prayer as a form of problem solving. It is true, I was raised to be ready to pray at the drop of a hat! Many write about the south, but few seem to enjoy their life there or resonate such a love as Brunner. Another charmer of a book.

Pat Conroy said that R. Scott Brunner's *Due South* delivers the goods and delivers them Southern fried; Rick Bragg said that Brunner writes like people down here talk, with beauty. *Carryin On* more than delivers on the promise of its predecessor, with more of the disarming and hilarious insights that made *Due South* an instant classic. Here are the essays like *Common Is as Common Does* (what kind of behavior is just plain tacky, and what isn't), *Tastes Like Summer* (a beautiful meditation on bean poles), *Real Southern Places* (a wry look at Steve Wynn's attempt to create a southern resort), *Paschals* (a paean to a haven of classic southern culinary comfort in the middle of the Atlanta airport), and *The Last Time I Saw Parrish* (a fond ode to his grandparents' Alabama hometown). *Carryin On* celebrates culture, the food, the eccentricities, the habits, the language, the spirit, the talk the overall carryin on that makes the American South a magical place. From the Hardcover edition.