



# Southern as a Second Language

Lisa Patton

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## READING GROUP GUIDE

### About the book:

Not only do Southerners talk slowly, but sometimes the whole language is hard to understand. No one realizes that more than Memphis belle Leelee Satterfield. Since she debuted in *Whistlin' Dixie in a Nor'easter*, Leelee has entertained tens of thousands of readers. Watching her tackle life and love in Vermont was only the tip of the iceberg when it came to antics, charades, mischief, and romance. Now that she's back in Memphis, and starting a new relationship with Peter, the Yankee chef from her New England inn, you'd think she'd sit back and enjoy her newly crafted life back home in Dixie. But that just wouldn't be as much fun.

Opening up a new restaurant with Peter isn't as easy as she had anticipated, especially when it comes to the differences between the North and the South. When Leelee's ex-husband, Baker, returns unexpectedly, everything else goes haywire. Throw her three crazy best friends into the mix; Riley, her meddlesome next-door neighbor who sells Pampered Chef for a living; and Kissie, Leelee's beloved second mother who claims Riley sits on her "last raw nerve," and you have the perfect recipe for a sassy, Southern delicacy.

Lisa Patton's *Southern as a Second Language* is an endearing and chuckle-inducing tale that keeps us guessing up to the very last page how it all works out in the end. Whether among maple trees in Vermont or magnolia-filled Memphis, Leelee's charm, heart, and laughter will delight readers in any climate.

### Discussion Questions

1. It seems all regions in the US have their own cultural differences. Some may seem quirky and others downright weird but we are always the last to see our own idiosyncrasies. What are some of the idiosyncrasies prevalent in your neck of the woods?
2. On the whole Southerners aren't fond of confrontation. Most will do anything to avoid it. Northerners, on the other hand, seem to be more direct. Which category do you fall into?



3. Leelee finds it easier to tell a little white lie to avoid hurting someone's feelings. Are you the same way?

4. Kissie is Leelee's voice of reason. Do you have someone in your life who doesn't hesitate to let you know when you might be making a big mistake?

**About the author:**

Lisa Patton spent more than twenty years in the music industry before turning to fiction and is now the bestselling author of *Whistlin' Dixie in a Nor'easter* and *Yankee Doodle Dixie*. Born and raised in Memphis, Lisa spent time as a Vermont innkeeper until three subzero winters sent her speeding back down South. The proud mother of two sons, Lisa lives in Franklin, Tennessee, with her husband and a little Havanese pooch named Rosie.

Want to learn more about Lisa Patton?

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