



AUTHOR INTERVIEW

By
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Stepdog

A Memoir

MIREYA NAVARRO

Book cover Photographer Monica Almeida

A JOURNALIST CONFRONTS THE DOG THAT WANTS TO DESTROY HER MARRIAGE

"Stepdog" is the memoir of respected journalist Mireya Navarro and Eddie, a very jealous dog. Eddie refuses to accept Navarro as part of the family and declares war on the intruder from day one. This is the testimony of a modern family that confronts the challenge of fusing different cultures, raising tween children from a previous marriage, and whose family life revolves around Eddie, a dog incredibly spoiled and pampered by its owner.



Photos by Clemson Smith Muñiz



Mireya Navarro has an impressive career of more than 30 years in journalism. She is a member of the team that won the Pulitzer Prize in 2001 for The New York Times series "How Race is Lived in America." She's traveled to various Latin American countries on assignment, and has held the title of Bureau Chief of The New York Times in Miami. Navarro has covered lifestyle and entertainment in Los Angeles and taught journalism at Colombia University. "A big part of learning and growing in journalism is to have the ability to reinvent yourself every 5 or 10 years. I get bored easily, therefore, I'm always looking for something new—a new challenge," says Navarro.

In her second book, the journalist presents a beautiful love story and reveals the challenges she faced while trying to find her place in an already established family with a totally different culture. "There was definitely a culture shock because in Latino households parents have total authority and that made me wonder who I was? A friend, a teacher or a stepmother with only some authority. These are things that have no answers until you actually live in a family with these circumstances," she admits.

Navarro, in her memoir, traces her career since its beginning, her strict upbringing in a Catholic home in Puerto Rico, the importance of family and the culture shock she experienced when she moved to The States to start college. This influential and powerful Latina takes us on a journey through her younger years, tales of failed relationships until she finally finds love after 40, meeting Jim Sterngold, also an author and journalist. Her life is transformed from a single and completely independent New Yorker to stepmother of tweens, homeowner in Los Angeles and stepmom to Eddie, the dog of her nightmares who was trying to destroy her marriage.

For more information on upcoming events and book purchase go to www.mireyanavarro.com.