



Last issue, we heard from several of the Southern writers heading to Beaufort later this month for [“Pat Conroy at 70: A Literary Festival Celebrating South Carolina’s Prince of Tides.”](#) We’d asked them each a simple question:

How has Pat Conroy influenced you?

Some of them had so much to say, we had to run the article in two parts. (You can read Part One

[here.](#)

) This is the second installment.

John Lane (*Fate Moreland’s Widow*)

When I read Pat Conroy’s *Prince of Tides* in the 1970s his narrator informed me in the first line that his wound was geography. “Wow, maybe that’s my wound too,” this budding writer thought. I’ve been salving that wound ever since with poetry and prose. I have Pat to thank for that, for teaching me see the value of honest lyrical writing about what it means to live here and now.





Eric Morris, author of *The Secret Garden*, is the first of the writers who have written about Pat Conroy. He is a native of the South and has lived in the region for many years.



Michelle Wildgen, author of *The Secret Garden*, is the second of the writers who have written about Pat Conroy. She is a native of the South and has lived in the region for many years.

Read Bad One: www.patconroyat70.com