

Jane Kirkpatrick, Biography

Short Version:

Reviewers and readers alike acclaim Jane's work as unique in a world of storytellers. "Kirkpatrick's books enfold the reader. They whisper "let me tell you about a woman who.... They find a secret place in each of us and bring it gently to the surface." The Statesman Journal, Salem Oregon. Moving from being a mental health professional to rancher, writer and rattlesnake fighter to full time writer Jane has produced 31 books bestselling and award-winning books. She has 26 novels and five non-fiction titles to her credit. Her works have sold over a million copies, been translated into foreign languages, won literary awards such as the Wrangler, WILLA Literary and Carol and USABestbooks.com. "I like helping people from the distant past step from their generation into our own to teach us and touch us with their lives." Jane lives with her husband Jerry and two dogs near Bend in Central Oregon. Enjoy receiving her *Story Sparks* newsletter by signing up at jkbooks.com.

Long Version:

Jane Kirkpatrick is a New York Times best-selling and award-winning author of 26 historical novels, five non-fiction books and numerous essays for over 50 publications such as The Oregonian, Private Pilot and Daily Guideposts. Her works have sold over one million copies. Jane is a Wisconsin native and graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Communications and Public Address and holds a master's degree from the UW-Milwaukee in Clinical Social Work. She began her writing life after working in mental health for 10 years including as the director of the Deschutes County Mental Health Program in Bend, Or.

Jane's first novel, ***A Sweetness to the Soul***, was named to Oregon's Literary One Hundred:1800-2000 as one of the one hundred titles best representing Oregon published in the past 200 years. It also won the Wrangler Award from the Western Heritage Center. Her novel, ***The Memory Weaver***, won the 2016 Will Rogers Gold Medallion Award for best inspirational novel of the west. She has also won the WILLA Literary Award three times, the Carol Award for Christian Fiction and the USABESTBOOKS.com award for general fiction. Her works have been short-listed for National Reader's Choice for Best Inspirational Novel; twice for the Ken Kesey Award for the Novel through the Oregon Book Awards; Spur awards (three times) for Best Novel of the West from Western Writers of America. The Literary Guild, Doubleday, Crossings and Book of the Month book club have featured her titles. Several of her novels have been translated into foreign languages. Her memoir, ***Homestead***, tells the story of her journey to move with her husband to "rattlesnake and rock ranch" to begin a new life. The story has inspired thousands to follow their hearts and trust that they are not alone on their journeys. Jane is a former mental health director, therapist and administrator. For seventeen years, she worked with Native American families on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation in Central Oregon as a mental health and early childhood specialist. Her speaking and teaching also reflect stories of inspiration and courage believing that our lives are the stories other people read first. Her many historical novels, most based on the lives of actual people, speak of timeless themes of hardiness, faith, commitment, hope and love. She speaks internationally on the writing and the power of stories. Jane was named by the largest writer's group in the Northwest as the Distinguished Northwest Writer of 2005. For 27 years Jane and her husband Jerry ranched along the lower John Day River in rural Oregon. They now live on small acreage between Bend and Redmond in Central Oregon with their two dogs. Look for her next novel -- ***All She Left Behind*** -- in the fall of 2017. Her *Story Sparks* newsletter is available monthly at jkbooks.com

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