

*Under a Gilded Moon* by Joy Jordan-Lake  
Lake Union Publishing  
December 1, 2020  
Historical Fiction; Hardcover  
Author residence current: Nashville, TN  
Past: Asheville, NC; Boston, MA; Charlotte, NC; Chattanooga, TN; Greenville, SC;  
Louisville, KY; Waco, TX; Washington, D.C.  
Novel location: Asheville, NC

“*Crawdads* meets the *Crawleys* in Jordan-Lake’s latest, where she offers up a powerful location in the Biltmore House of Asheville, North Carolina. Pitting rugged locals against Gilded Age interlopers and threaded throughout with a meticulously researched, well-crafted mystery, this is historical fiction at its best.”

—**Fiona Davis, national bestselling author of *The Lions of Fifth Avenue***

Dear Reader,

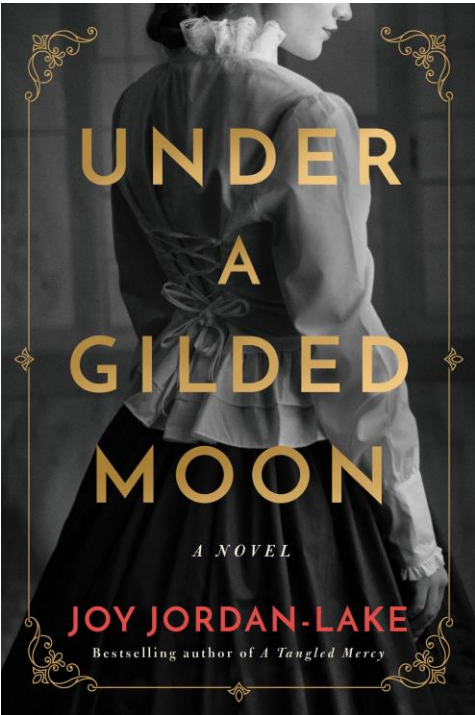
It’s the age-old question: *what am I willing to surrender to gain what I most desire?*

It’s historical fiction at its finest—and deadliest—in bestselling author [Joy Jordan-Lake’s \*Under a Gilded Moon\*](#) (Lake Union Publishing: December 1, 2020; 9781542019415; hardcover) out this holiday season. Depicting the clash of classes and cultures around the famed Vanderbilt-owned Biltmore House in Asheville, North Carolina, *Under a Gilded Moon* highlights the aspirations that drive not only those with power and wealth, but also the people who live in the shadow of the privileged.

**Her future or her family?  
For Kerry MacGregor, the answer is simple although  
far from easy.**

For Kerry MacGregor, the telegram was more than just a call to return home to the Blue Ridge Mountains in North Carolina where her father lay dying. It also spelled the end of the dream that she had worked so long and hard to attain: a life in New York City far from the hardscrabble past she had endured. Now she has to make a new future for herself back home in Asheville, where the landscape is changing both geographically and socially as the nineteenth century draws to a close.

No money, only land—that’s all Kerry and her family possess, and it’s the ownership of that land that brings her in conflict with the rich and powerful Vanderbilts. Her family’s land is what they need to complete the construction of their palatial Biltmore House, but





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Kerry is not willing to surrender what had been earned with so much struggle and hardship.

As it turns out, money is not the only force to be reckoned with. Conflicts arise as various players arrive on the scene: a Sicilian fugitive, an investigative reporter, a debutante with a past scandal to hide and a eugenicist who eagerly fans the flames of resentment among locals over the ways their world is changing. Caught in a war between wealth and poverty, innocence and corruption, Kerry must navigate not only her own pride and desperation to survive but also the temptations of fortune and the men who control it.

“Elegantly written and expertly crafted, *Under a Gilded Moon* soars as high as any piece of literature can reach. You’re transported to a time and place in history that begs [to be] read late into the night.”—**Robert Dugoni, international bestselling author of *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell* and the Tracy Crosswhite series**

Joy is the author of eight books, including *A Tangled Mercy*, a #1 Amazon bestseller and also an Editors’ Choice recipient from the Historical Novel Society; *Blue Hole Back Home*, which won the Christy Award for First Novel; and the children’s book *A Crazy-Much Love*. Raised in the foothills of the Appalachians, she spent several summers in and around Asheville, North Carolina, where the Biltmore Estate is located. She continues to love the Blue Ridge Mountains and drags friends and family there with her whenever possible. Joy holds two master’s degrees and a PhD in English and has taught literature and writing at several universities. Now living outside Nashville, she and her husband have two daughters, a son, and a ferocious ten-pound rescue pup. To learn more about the author and her work, visit [joyjordanlake.com](http://joyjordanlake.com).

For more information or to book an interview with Joy, reach me at [am@getredpr.com](mailto:am@getredpr.com) or 914.461.4360.

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### **Praise for *Under a Gilded Moon***

“I was swept away by this dazzling, masterfully written tale of the clash of classes and cultures around the Biltmore in North Carolina. Joy Jordan-Lake brings the past alive with impeccable details, raw emotion, and parallels to our present world. A triumph.”—

**Emily Carpenter, bestselling author of *Burying the Honeysuckle Girls***

“This is historical fiction at its finest. With pitch-perfect dialogue and details so rich and so right, Joy Jordan-Lake sets us squarely—lock, stock, and barrel—in 1895 Asheville, NC, in not just one but two distinctive worlds. The grand Vanderbilts and their luxurious Biltmore fascinated me, and the mountain people with their human struggles pulled at my heart.”—

**Bren McClain, author of *One Good Mama Bone*, winner of the 2017 Willie Morris Award for Southern Fiction and the 2019 Patricia Winn Award for Southern Literature**

“Dr. Joy Jordan-Lake has mastered the art of navigating story-telling risks. She sets *Under a Gilded Moon* in an era and place where stereotypes could dominate every aspect of her exquisite novel. Not so in the hands of this gifted author! Joy respects her characters too much to allow shallowness to creep in, and she respects her readers too much to serve up anything short of originality, depth, and excellence—in the loveliest page-turner I’ve read in years.”—

**Carolyn Curtis, author of *Women and C.S. Lewis***

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