

Joy Jordan-Lake

Joy Jordan-Lake is the author of the #1 Amazon bestselling novel *A Tangled Mercy*, a dual timeline story set in Charleston, South Carolina, and the forthcoming *Under a Gilded Moon*, a historical mystery set at the Biltmore Estate in the tumultuous 1890s. Her six earlier books include *Blue Hole Back Home*, winner of the 2009 Christy Award for Best First Novel and the Common Book selection for Baylor University, Amarillo College, Belmont University's Honors College, and other schools.

Joy has also published several works of nonfiction, including an academic text focusing on the narratives, letters and novels of enslaved women of color and white women of the mid-19th century. She is also the author of two children's picture books, *A Crazy-Much Love* and the forthcoming *Sir Drake the Brave*, which will launch in fall 2021.

Always drawn back to researching and writing historical fiction, she is hard at work revising a cozy mystery set in coastal Maine in the 1950s. Already ensconced in the small fictional town, Joy is hoping this novel will begin a series—if she can tear herself away from the current barrage of political news and remember to write.

Having earned a Ph.D. in English lit from Tufts University in Boston and two earlier masters degrees, Joy still teaches the occasional college class but now writes full time. Having twice been the Writer in Residence for the C.S. Lewis Foundation's Summer Institute in Cambridge and Oxford, U.K., she enjoys leading workshops and relishes the chance to watch other writers excel.

Joy bases her fiction on historical people and events that have often been forgotten, but that have helped change the course of history. In addition to wanting to tell a good, page-turning tale, she also feels driven to explore ongoing social issues as well as those big existential questions: the human capacity for brutality and bigotry, for example, as well as for remarkable courage and forgiveness.

She and her husband have three children and live just south of Nashville, where a 10-pound Maltipoo rules the house.