

ON THE CLIFFS OF FOXGLOVE MANOR

**Book Club
Kit**

JAIME JO WRIGHT

Christy Award-Winning Author

LETTER FROM THE AUTHOR



Hello, readers and book clubs!

I'm so grateful you chose *On the Cliffs of Foxglove Manor* for your book club read! I will admit, this novel has a special place in my heart because it is set at one of my most favorite of all places. (It was either Lake Superior or Rome . . . lol!)

I used to spend many hours wandering the beaches of Lake Superior looking for fossils and artifacts. I imagined shipwrecks and pirates, and imagine my glee when I discovered that pirates really did sail on the Great Lakes and bring their own mayhem and havoc. Though perhaps not as dramatically as Blackbeard. If you want some extra piratey info from the area, check out Dan Seavey. He is a legend of the Lakes and for sure you'll want to add some real-life history to your bookish chats. (<https://www.headstuff.org/culture/history/dan-seavey-american-pirate>)

Also, one of my special "spots" that I hiked to often, makes a cameo in this story. The Lake of the Clouds, in the Porcupine Mountains, is where Axel and Kailey go to have it out. But, in my personal story, it is the spot where my then-boyfriend popped that most romantic question ever: "Do you want some coffee?"

... not really. It was actually the question you were expecting. "Will you marry me?" Of course, I said "yes" and we proceeded to take the first big step into life together right there, overlooking the lake in the clouds below us.

So you can see, this area has both my heart, my imagination, and my historical love. I hope, through your own visit to Foxglove Manor, you can capture just a small glimpse of this magical place.

In His Grip,

Jaime Jo

AUTHOR INTERVIEW



Tell us how you concocted the plot for the story of Foxglove Manor?

Actually, it was my then 9-year-old daughter who turned me on to the Civil War history riddled throughout the Great Lakes. She was an avid watcher of “The Curse of Civil War Gold” on the HISTORY channel, and after she watched about espionage, smuggling, and lost treasure, she begged me to write a novel around such topics. Who knew what I would uncover when researching the history of the Lakes! I truly feel that Foxglove Manor has only scratched the surface of the Civil War history in that area.

We didn’t know that the plant/flower, foxglove, was poisonous. How did you find out and come to incorporate it into this novel?

Here’s the funny thing. I needed a name for the manor, so I looked up native plants in the area and fell for the name of “foxglove”. It sounded Regency, vintage, mysterious, and Foxglove Manor just worked for me. Later, when I needed to explain away the ghostly sightings, I turned back to the poison idea to find out what plants cause medical issues and hallucinations. On a whim, I typed in “foxglove” and was surprised that foxglove was indeed poisonous. Primarily, if consumed over time, foxglove causes a lot of heart issues, dizziness, weakness, and . . . believe it or not . . . in some cases it can cause hallucinations!

What was the hardest part of writing this book?

Truthfully, it was writing a story about a suicidal heroine and an alcoholic hero that challenged me. I wanted to show the despair that journeys with those struggles while also not wallowing in too much darkness, or writing too many triggers into a novel, that it might affect readers negatively. I also didn’t want to be unrealistic and have the heroine suddenly love life and find a fairy tale ending, nor did I want the hero to recover from his alcoholism with ease and swiftness. All in all, it was a balancing act, and I only pray I’ve achieved my goals of showing the glimmers of hope that can pierce the shadows.

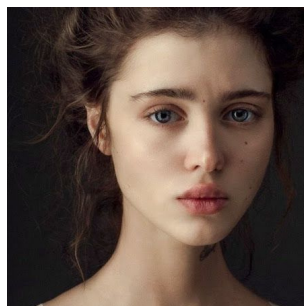
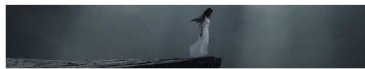
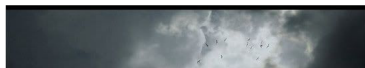
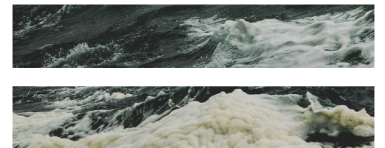
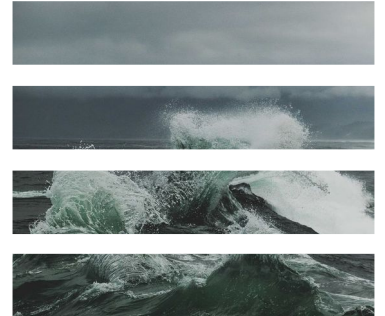
Do you hide any secrets in your books that only some people will find?

Of course! Easter eggs are fun to hide. Have fun finding them!

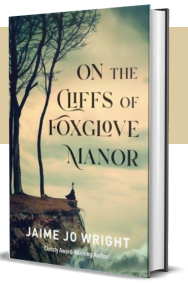
PINTEREST INSPIRATION



I love putting together boards of inspiration on Pinterest for each novel I write. Below you'll see some of the inspirational images for *On the Cliffs of Foxglove Manor*. Please visit the Pinterest board for all the inspiration for this novel.



FOXGLOVE PLAYLIST



Looking for music to play during your book club meeting? Below you'll find the perfect playlist. Check out this mix of songs! All are chosen specifically by the author, Jaime Jo Wright!

Someone You Loved - Lewis Capaldi

I'll Be - Edwin McCain

Never Stop - SafetySuit

Tired - Gavin James

Without You - for King & Country

Start Over - FLAME, NF

Hope in Front of Me - Danny Gokey

Maybe It's Ok - We Are Messengers

I'll Find You - Lecrae

Glory - The Score

White Flag - Bishop Briggs

Broken - Lifehouse

Why God - Austin French

Say Love - James TW

You are the Reason - Calum Scott, Leona Lewis

Anchor - Skillet

Letting Go - Verses

The World We Made - Ruelle

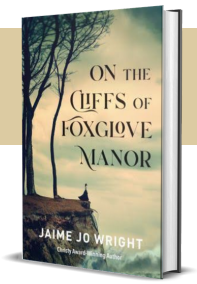
Great You Are - Jordan Smith

DISCUSSION GUIDE



1. Do you believe Kailey's motives in arriving at Foxglove Manor were purely to help Jude? Do you agree with her motives and the actions they led to?
2. Do you find Mrs. St. John's response to Adria's tentative emotional state understandable? What other responses might she have chosen?
3. The primary characters in this story struggle to cope with the trauma in their lives—that is, with the exception of Axel. What do you see in Axel's response to life that provided him with better coping skills?
4. Why do you think Adria's arrival inspired Mr. Crayne to begin the journey to heal from his alcoholism and to right the wrongs he was wallowing in?
5. What historical information did you learn about the Civil War as a result of reading this novel?
6. Once the treasure of Foxglove Manor was discovered, what message did it leave behind for Mr. Crayne and Adria, as well as for future generations?
7. What skills and abilities did Jude display that others didn't possess? What does that say to you about people with autism?
8. What faith takeaways did you find in this story, and how might they affect your outlook on trials in your own life journey?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Jaime Jo Wright

Jaime Jo Wright is the author of six novels, including Christy Award winner *The House on Foster Hill* and Carol Award winner *The Reckoning at Gossamer Pond*. She's also the Publishers Weekly and ECPA bestselling author of two novellas. Jaime lives in Wisconsin with her cat named Foo; her husband, Cap'n Hook; and their littles, Peter Pan and CoCo.



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