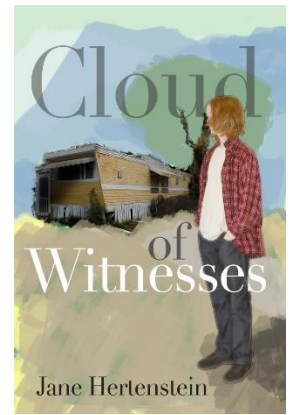


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## Press Release

### ***Misfit 8th grader comes of age amidst prejudice, bullying, and family drama in late-'70s Appalachia***

SEPTEMBER 30, 2018: Released today, *Cloud of Witnesses* middle grade novel brings a fresh, humorous approach to kids coping with the challenges of middle school life.

#### **Who cares if he's "gifted." Roland Tanner wants to escape his life.**

He's stuck in a broken-down trailer in the hills with his family, the sorriest characters he's ever met. At his new middle school, his classmates only see him as a hillbilly. He has a secret crush on Patty, but so does his friend Hassan, the new kid from Iran.

But then comes the Iranian hostage crisis of 1979. And Roland's father's health takes a turn for the worse while he's away in jail. Will Roland accept the cloud of witnesses—the saints and sinners all around him—and realize that his future can be whatever he makes it?

*"...hooks the reader with well-developed characters and snappy dialog...activities and language ring true in this slice of life tale about a region not usually featured in books. An important story about empathy and the dangers and lessons learned from painting everyone with the same brush."* —**Marlene Targ Brill, author of over 70 children's books**

*"Weaving fiction and historical events together, this book made me laugh and cry. The characters jump off the page. A great read for all middle school students."* —**Marilee Amodt, M.S.Ed., long-time Middle School Curriculum Resource Teacher**

Age range: 10-13 | Grade level: 5-8  
232 pp.  
ISBN 978-1-7320276-2-6 (paperback) \$8.99  
ISBN 978-1-7320276-3-3 (ebook) \$6.99

**Jane Hertenstein** is a prolific author of fiction and creative non-fiction for adults and children. She enjoys long-distance bike touring, waking up early to work, running along the lakefront, and working with the homeless on the streets of Chicago. Her book *Cloud of Witnesses* is based on her experiences substitute teaching in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains in southern Ohio.

For bulk orders and further information, go to <https://goldenalleypress.com/cloud-of-witnesses/> or contact Nancy Sayre, publisher: [nancy.sayre@goldenalleypress.com](mailto:nancy.sayre@goldenalleypress.com)

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