



MEET YOUR INSTRUCTOR

Kristi Collier Thompson

FICTION:

Throwing Stones, Henry Holt

Jericho Walls, Henry Holt

NONFICTION:

The Girls' Guide to Dreams, Sterling Publishing

MAGAZINES AND OTHER:

Stories and articles for *Calliope*, *Girls' Life*, *Brio*, *Pockets*, *Faithgirlz* and more

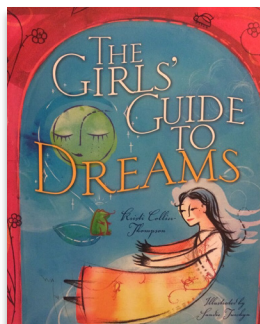
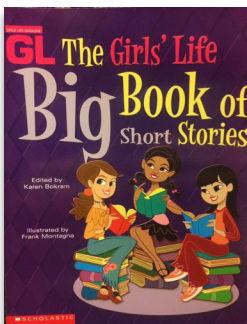
Multi-media elementary guidance school curriculum that includes stories, powerpoint presentations and SMARTboard applications such as "Safe Touch," "Empathy Builders" and "Bully-Free Zones" that are used by ACSI-accredited schools.

Called " an involving novel with a full, varied cast of convincing characters" by Booklist and " a gentle, lyrical book . . . perfect for male reluctant readers" by VOYA, Ms. Collier's second middle-grade novel, *Throwing Stones* (Henry Holt, 2006), is historical fiction at its best. The novel, which draws upon Collier's Indiana roots, is set in the limestone belt of her home state in 1923 during the rise of prohibition, flappers, and the Ku Klux Klan. Its intriguing story line and memorable characters made *Throwing Stones* a Junior Library Guild Selection in 2006.

Ms. Collier's first novel, *Jericho Walls* (Henry Holt, 2002), was called " a promising debut" by Kirkus Reviews. Set in South Carolina in 1957, *Jericho Walls* highlights the personal struggles faced at the onset of the civil rights movement. " This is an involving portrait of a complicated family," said the Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books." Collier creates a convincing portrait of the kinds of local and personal battles that eventually culminated in the larger fight for civil rights."

Ms. Collier did intensive onsite research for the book, which ultimately paid off: It was chosen as a Junior Library Guild Selection and voted one of Smithsonian Magazine's Best Books of 2002. It was also a winner of the 2002 Josette Frank Award for Children's Fiction.

Among Ms. Collier's other writing credits are a nonfiction book, *The Girls' Guide to Dreams* (Sterling Publishing, 2003), as well as numerous stories and articles published in a variety of children's magazines, including *Girls' Life*, *Pockets*, *Brio*, *Calliope*, and more. She is currently working on several articles for *Faithgirlz*, a collaborative venture between *Girls' Life* and *Zondervan*, as well as multi-media elementary guidance school curriculum that includes stories, powerpoint presentations and SMARTboard applications such as " Safe Touch," " Empathy Builders" and " Bully-Free Zones" that are used by ACSI-accredited schools.



"Writing isn't a nine-to-five job. You can write wherever you are, whenever you are. Writing is your opportunity to give your dreams a voice. Everyone has a story to tell."

KRISTI COLLIER THOMPSON



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Ms. Collier has a bachelor's degree in journalism and psychology and a master's degree in counseling. She is a licensed mental health counselor currently working as an elementary school guidance counselor in addition to her freelance writing and editing. Counseling allows her to use narrative therapy to help people craft their stories. "Everyone has a story to tell."

Because she works another job in addition to writing and teaching, Ms. Collier understands the time pressures faced by beginning writers. In 1995 she started a successful children's writer critique group in Indianapolis with the goal of teaching and supporting beginning writers. All of the writers of that original group have now been published.

