

Alumna Writes Children's Book Series



Lori Jordan-Rice ('92) recently published the first two volumes in a children's book series designed to teach American history in a fun and engaging manner to children ages 6 - 12. The books are entitled *Miss Trimble's Trap Door* and *Miss Trimble's Trapdoor: the Perseverance of Christopher Columbus*. Lori is currently working on a third entitled *Miss Trimble's Trap Door: the Courage of the Pilgrims*.

The series follows a young boy named Tyler who takes trips to the past via a mysterious basement beneath his classroom. He is guided by a talking dog named Barnabus Bailey who guards the books that fill the basement. This furry new companion takes Tyler through history while teaching life lessons along the way.

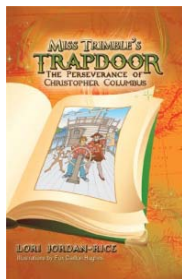
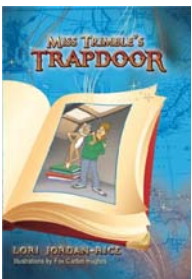
Lori's goal in writing these books is for students to "learn from the past so they can have a bright future." She's hoping to illustrate and inspire different virtues for each book:

- *Confidence* for book one
- *Perseverance* for book two
- *Courage* for book three

The books are illustrated by Dayton, Nevada artist Fox Carlton Hughes, who has illustrated books for many authors, including over a dozen for the Walt Disney Classic Tales series. The dog character was based on one of Lori's four rescued dogs, and the main character, Tyler, was based on Lori's oldest son.

The idea to become an author appeared to Lori while attending a continuing education class at UNT about the writing process and publishing. Many years later, after a decade of teaching grades K – 6, Lori decided to take the plunge and pursue writing, her first love since childhood.

When asked about her biggest challenge in writing her first book Lori confessed that it was "finding the right idea to pop...the kicker...and then after that, the story came together quickly."



Another challenge for Lori has been promoting the book. "By nature, I'm a shy, reserved person. Being in front of the public at book signings and interviews has been a bit hard. It's been scary, but also great to be forced out of my comfort zone to promote something I'm passionate about. It's been a happy accident!"

If you would like more information about Lori and her books, please watch this interview by WFAA's "The Not So Perfect Parent" Paige McCoy Smith by [clicking here](#). If you would like to visit the *Miss Trimble's Trap Door* website, please [click here](#).