

'A dramatic and moving exploration of the gulf between faith and fanaticism.'

Gillian Cross, author of the Demon Headmaster series



'How different our fortunes might have been if neighbour had not gone to war against neighbour, brother against brother.'



PRESS PACK

Hill of the Angels



To request review copies, or to schedule an interview, contact the SPCK publicity team.

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One war. Two sides. King against parliament.

A country divided.

CAN FAMILIES AND FRIENDSHIPS SURVIVE?

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AN ENTHRALLING STORY ABOUT LOYALTY, WAR AND THE
REDEPTIVE POWER OF LOVE

HILL OF THE ANGELS

By Sue Mayfield



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978 0 281 07641 3

SUE MAYFIELD is an award-winning author of novels for young adults. She has been nominated for the Carnegie Medal three times and her books have won the North East Book Award, the Heartland Award (USA) and the Prix Polar de Jeunesse (France). *Hill of the Angels* is her ninth novel and the first with a historical setting.

'Meet me at the Hill of the Angels,' I said suddenly but Grace shook her head. 'There are no angels,' she said coldly . . . and in this new world you and I cannot be friends.'



1640. In the Pennine wool town of Middleholme, childhood friends Abigail Booth and Grace Fowler are united by a shared love of wild hills, beautiful things and the mysterious angels of their secret place.

But tension is rising and bitter lines are being drawn across the land. Who is for the King? Who is for Parliament? And which side will God favour?

When the Civil War erupts, violently dividing neighbour against neighbour and brother against brother, Grace and Abigail's families are ripped apart.

Will their friendship survive and their hiding place remain safe?



HILL OF THE ANGELS

'Dancing on the wall above our heads were angels – fingers pointing and wings flickering.'

KEY INFORMATION

- A novel for readers aged 10+ about friendship, the impact of war and the redemptive power of sacrifice
- **Award-winning** author who has received recognition for her previous young adult titles
- English Civil War taught at **Key Stage Three**
- Explores themes of politics, conflict, war, religious ideology which have a **contemporary resonance**, making it suitable for study in PSHE, RE and English classes
- Will be popular with children and teens who enjoy books that explore **sacrificial and redemptive themes** such as *Harry Potter*, the Hunger Games series and similar titles

SUGGESTED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- *Hill of the Angels* is your first historical novel, set at the time of the English Civil War. What made you decide to move into this genre?
- Your previous novels for young adults have focused on social/personal issues that affect children and teens today. Without giving away too much, how do you see *Hill of the Angels* fitting into your oeuvre? Is it a total departure?
- Were there any books you read recently or growing up that inspired the novel?
- The novel is told through the eyes of Grace Fowler and Abigail Booth, two friends from different backgrounds. What or who gave you the inspiration for these characters?
- What, if any, lessons or questions would you like today's readers to take away from the book?
- The English Civil War is on national curriculum for Key Stage Three. As an author do you see fiction as a good tool for teaching history today, or is it purely entertainment?
- The book deals with popular themes in YA novels. If you were to name a few novels that would have cross-appeal, what would they be?

