



FOR RELEASE  
February 2010

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## **THE SECRET OF WILLOW RIDGE** **Gabe's Dad Finds Recovery** by Helen H. Moore

“Gabe’s story lets you know what it’s like for him to live with addiction and that you are not alone if someone in your family is addicted to alcohol or other drugs. In fact, at least one out of every five homes has someone in the family who struggles with substance abuse...But in Gabe’s family a very wonderful thing happens—his father is willing to get help. Most people who become addicted want to stop using, but it is very hard to do so alone.”

From the Foreword by Claudia Black, Ph.D.

Something’s wrong in Willow Ridge. Young Gabe and his sister Izzy are nervous all the time, wondering what their troubled father will do next. Written for children aged 8-12, *The Secret of Willow Ridge: Gabe’s Dad Finds Recovery* by Helen H. Moore, addresses the emotional and social issues children of addicts face through an engaging and contemporary story that teaches children important lessons about the disease of addiction, its widespread nature, **and its solution**. (Central Recovery Press / Trade paper \$12.95 / February 1, 2010 / Distributed to the trade by Health Communications, Inc.)

This book fills a vital need—that of the child whose parent is undergoing treatment for addiction and who is overwhelmed with the mixed emotions and uncertainties of a problem that affects millions of American families. *The Secret of Willow Ridge* offers children of addicted parents encouragement and hope. Through Gabe’s narration, children learn that addiction is a disease that affects the entire family, that their family is not strange or bad, and that they are not alone. Gabe learns that a happy life in recovery is possible for his Mom and Dad and for him and Izzy, too.

The book is peppered with Gabe’s insights and enhanced with charming and evocative illustrations by John C. Blackford. Unlike other books on the topic, *The Secret of Willow Ridge* focuses on the child’s perspective as he or she struggles to understand the challenges of living with an addicted parent.

With a foreword by renowned author and addictive disorders pioneer, Claudia Black, Ph.D., *The Secret of Willow Ridge* is written specifically for the target reader.

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### **About the author**

**Helen H. Moore** has been a teacher, a poet, a journalist, a cartoonist, a lecturer, an editor, and always, a storyteller. She is the author of more than seventeen titles, including *A Poem a Day*, *Beavers*, *The Pigs' Picnic*, *The 100 Best Brain-Boosters*, *The Multilingual Translator*, *25 Mother Goose Peek-a-Books*, *Pop-Up Parables and Other Bible Stories* and *Pyramids to Pueblos* (with Carmen R. Sorvillo, illustrator), *How to Write School Reports*, *What's a Girl to Do?*, *Wise Women Said These Things*, and more, for such publishers as Scholastic, Mondo, Concordia, Publications International, and Peter Pauper Press.

She is the mother of three and grandmother of five, and when not enjoying her family and friends, spends her time working, writing, and attending twelve-step recovery meetings. Ms. Moore lives in Las Vegas, Nevada.

### **About the illustrator**

**John Blackford** is a Reno-based illustrator with many projects to his credit, including his work as an artist, sign writer, and designer for Hollywood studios. His work has been published by "U.S. Kids" and "Humpty Dumpty" magazines, as well as by Apple Press, Walden Press, Dalmatian Press, Treasure Publishing, and The American Bible Society. He has also contributed illustration and design work to numerous successful advertising campaigns.

**Note to Media:** To arrange an interview with Helen H. Moore, contact Kae Tienstra at 610-395-6298 or email [kae@ktpublicrelations.com](mailto:kae@ktpublicrelations.com).

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By Helen H. Moore

Foreword by Claudia Black, Ph.D.

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Trade Paper / \$12.95

Age range: 8-12

124 pages

ISBN-10: 0-9818482-0-6

ISBN-13: 978-0-9818482-0-4

Distributed to the trade by Health Communications, Inc.