



#### QUESTIONS & ANSWERS WITH JAIME JO WRIGHT

### 1. What first inspired this story?

The first thing that inspired it was the random thought of how creepy it'd be if a killer submitted their victim's obituary before they committed the crime. And then when I drifted from those dark thoughts, I started wondering about the impact of a town that hid their sins instead of seeking grace, and how that might affect generations to come.

## 2. What will you remember most about writing this novel?

I'll remember most how I stumbled upon one of the main thrusts of the story in a Sunday school class led by my associate pastor. He'd done research on our local history and a pair of twin evangelists who came to town around the turn of the century and really raised havoc here. Needless to say, as I was inspired to include elements of this into the novel, my pastor was already thinking, *Jaime's gotta write this into a book*. Coincidence? Doubtful. I think it was a God thing to revive an old story that needed to be retold but in a fictional way.

# 3. What did you as the author take away from writing *The Reckoning at Gossamer Pond*?

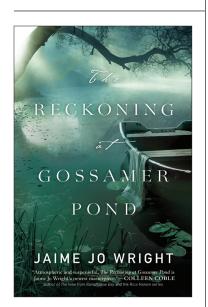
My grandpa used to sing an old hymn: "Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within. . . ." *The Reckoning at Gossamer Pond* is all about grace. Because we can dissect our past choices into little bits and find nothing but the need for grace. How freeing is it when we can bring those secrets into the light and be washed clean?

# 4. Which character do you most identify with?

Probably Libby. I will tend to dwell and be eaten up by guilt over past choices, but not necessarily take the time to address them and seek out the grace to continue forward regardless of them. Although, I will say Libby is not as strong-willed/minded as I can be.

## 5. Did you always intend Jacobus to be the reigning hero of the historical story?

No. Not at all. Jacobus came out of nowhere and surprised me completely. At first I wasn't even sure if I liked him—he is so theological and somewhat dry. But then he started revealing some of his inner fire, and that became extremely intriguing to me—and obviously to Libby as well.



The Reckoning at Gossamer Pond

by Jaime Jo Wright Trade Paper ISBN: 978-0-7642-3029-5 \$14.99; 352 pp. Ebook ISBN: 978-1-4934-1473-4 Release Date: July 2018

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