



Unwanted news release

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NEW MIDDLE GRADE FICTIONAL TALE THAT GIVES INSIGHT INTO HOW YOUNG READERS CAN DEVELOP CHARACTER IN AN UNWANTED SITUATION



RELEASE DATE: October 1, 2019
TRADE Paperback
PAGES: 240
PRICE: \$15.99
ISBN: 978-1-62020-998-1

For immediate release: Author Mary Sanford says *Unwanted* (Ambassador International, October 1, 2019, \$15.99) is not her life story, but depicts events similar to things that happened in her own childhood.

Unwanted came from a request from her own family of seven children and seventeen and a half grandchildren when two of her daughters kept asking her to capture her childhood for their own children's benefit. Sanford says today most kids have very little understanding of the past. Knowing some history about other kids might help them to appreciate their own lives.

In *Unwanted*, Debbie just wants to belong even though she lives at an orphanage but isn't an orphan. More than anything she yearns for a new family. But when the infamous fire at the Our Lady of the Angels parochial school affects her friends she does all she can to help. When a fire is carelessly started at her own school, she bravely puts it out with her precious new coat and grows into the caring person she always wanted to be.

About the Book

Debbie Spencer is a lot like most twelve year olds.

She loves her friends, loves to laugh, and she's not afraid to pray. Debbie is an average seventh grader . . . except she lives at an orphanage . . . even though she's not an orphan. Convinced her family is damaged beyond repair, Debbie longs for a new one. And she's going to find one.

When a fire breaks out at Our Lady of the Angels parochial school in Chicago on December 1, 1958, almost one hundred children die tragically. Debbie's roommate, Noreen, loses several friends in the deadly fire, and Debbie must put aside her own desires to help her friend. Debbie learns how to protect others, stand up for what's right, and even figures out how to befriend bullies.

Inspired by true events, *Unwanted* proves while things aren't always what they seem, forgiveness is always the best choice.

About the Author

Mary E. Sandford has published more than fifty stories in Sunday School papers, numerous magazines, and two CHICKEN SOUP books. Some of her work has earned SCBWI awards. She has served on the board of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators in Illinois. She attends workshops and conferences in Illinois, Iowa, Tennessee, California and now where she lives in North Texas. Mary also has been a speaker and story teller for AWANA and other programs for children. For five years Mary directed a puppet ministry which included writing puppet performances and public speaking. In Illinois she was President of Word Weavers West Suburbs in the Chicago area and is currently starting a new Word Weavers group in Texas. Mary's goal as a writer is to live and work for Jesus Christ so more children will know Him and want to serve Him with their lives.

To connect with the author or request a review copy of *Unwanted*, please contact publicity director Liz Burgdorf at media@emeraldhouse.com.

ABOUT THE PUBLISHER: Ambassador International was founded in 1980 in Belfast, Northern Ireland and expanded to Greenville, South Carolina in 1995. Ambassador International's books and materials have been distributed in dozens of countries and are sold worldwide. For more information visit www.ambassador-international.com. You can also follow @AmbassadorIntl on Twitter or check out Facebook.com/AmbassadorIntl.

Suggested Interview Questions for the Author:

1. When did you start writing?
2. How did you choose to write for kids?
3. Where did you get the idea for this book?
4. Did you live in Chicago in 1958?
5. Did you live in an orphanage?
6. Growing up in that time frame how do you think shaped your character?
7. How does having a bigger family affect your choices in your writing?
8. Why did you want to write about this place and time?
9. What do you hope to influence your readers in this story?
10. Do you have any future projects that you are working on currently?



author bio

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MARY E. SANFORD *Author of "Unwanted"*



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Connect with the Author

 www.mesandford.wordpress.com

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