

“A beautifully crafted novel with insight and compassion packed into every page. Unforgettable!”

~ Susan D, Writer

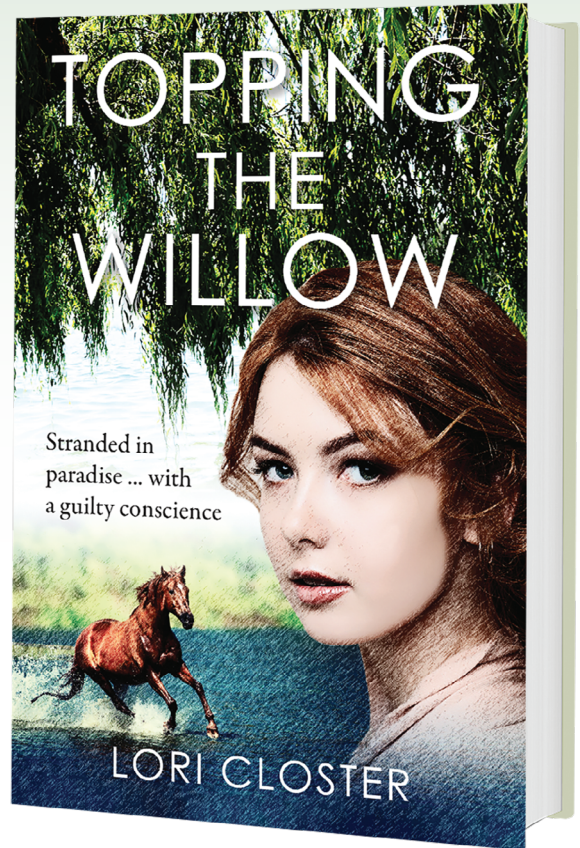
Stranded in paradise ... with a guilty conscience

One million things about fifteen-year-old Brittany Warner infuriate her mother—and vice versa. Britt wants to bask in the Hawaiian sun this summer as planned, not build her Ivy League resume at a lake cottage in Vermont. But her case against her power attorney mother doesn't stand a chance. She's sentenced to an ordeal that will set the course for the rest of her life—apparently.

Until she rebels, and her mother ends up in a coma.

Through a chance encounter with a waitress, Britt is sent to a Vermont horse farm where she is stranded in paradise with her guilty conscience and Will, an intriguing seventeen-year-old reformed by grace. Things go from bad to worse when she discovers secrets about her mother's past that threaten her own identity. As Britt's anger escalates, her risky decisions create a dangerous spiral that threatens to take her down, and Will with her. But a greater love is at work, giving her hope ...

Discussion guide included.



“At its best, storytelling will reach into your chest with both hands and grab your heart. *Topping the Willow* does that. This story is raw, real, and hard to put down.”

— Bethany C, Screenwriter



Lori Cluster is a wife, mom, grammy, and lifelong writer who is fulfilling her dream of giving people hope and faith through stories. A native New Yorker with degrees from Cornell (BA) and Temple Universities (MA), she served as writer/assistant producer on various projects, including an educational film series for National Geographic. Her short stories have been published in several places and her unpublished collection, *Riding the Elephant*, was a contest semi-finalist. *Topping the Willow* has also been multiply recognized both as a YA novel and feature screenplay, including **ACFW Genesis semi-finalist and Kairos Prize finalist**. Lori and her retired pastor husband now live in coastal North Carolina.



To find out more, visit Lori at
LoriCluster.com

