



Hannah Fowler

By Janice Holt Giles

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Hannah Fowler By Janice Holt Giles

In the novel *Hannah Fowler*, Janice Holt Giles created a pioneer woman who would, in Giles's words, "endow her own physical seed with her strength and courage, and her own tenderness and love." First published in 1956, this work is the second in Giles's series of historical novels on Kentucky, which includes *The Kentuckians* and *The Believers*.

Samuel Moore and his daughter Hannah set out for the border country with a party led by George Rogers Clark but left to follow the Kentucky River to Boones' Fort. As the story opens, Hannah is nursing her father, injured when an axe slips and cuts his leg. By the time Tice Fowler, on his way to Logan's Fort, stumbles upon them alone in the wilderness, Samuel is dying from blood poisoning.

When Samuel dies, Tice takes Hannah to the fort, where women are scarce, and Hannah finds herself besieged by suitors. Only with Tice, as silent and downright as herself, does Hannah feel at ease. Finally, she turns to the bashful Tice and asks him to marry her and take her away from the crowded fort. Together, they take their claim to land, build a cabin, and start a family. They endure the harsh frontier life, the threat of hungry wolves, a killing blizzard, and Indian raids.

Hannah is an unforgettable character?tall, physically and psychologically strong, the epitome of frontier womanhood?brought to life by a woman who knew and loved the Kentucky people and setting about which she wrote.

Janice Holt Giles (1905-1979), author of nineteen books, lived and wrote near Knifley, Kentucky, for thirty-four years. Her biography is told in *Janice Holt Giles: A Writer's Life*.

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

Samuel Moore and his daughter Hannah set out for the border country with a party led by George Rogers Clark but left to follow the Kentucky River to Boone's Fort. As the story opens, Hannah is nursing her father, injured when an axe slips and cuts his leg.

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