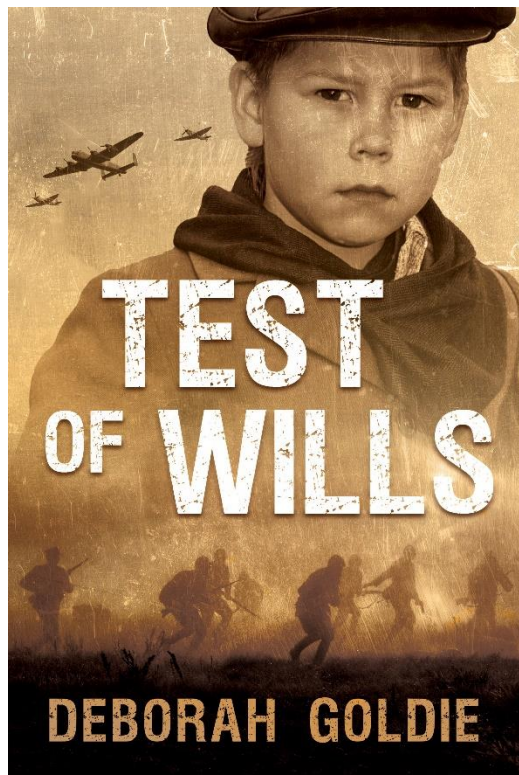


# TEST OF WILLS

## DEBORAH GOLDIE



**TIME WAS SOMETHING WILL OFTEN TOOK FOR GRANTED AS HE WOULD LAG FOR SCHOOL OR CHORES AND DAYDREAM THROUGHOUT THE DAY OF BEING A STAR AFL PLAYER...**

Until one night, as he is tucked in bed by his Mum with a hot chocolate and the doctor explained he had a virus and was to rest; he is transported back in time to 1942, finding himself marching with German boys his age in a Hitler Youth Camp.

How was this possible?

No rational answers at hand, he knew he must survive this alerting experience. Will remembers stories his grandpa would talk about being in Germany in 1929 and how he spent six of his young years living in Hitler Youth camps.

This was where he discovers his life in the youth camps very difficult. It is when Will realises why he has been transported back in time; to do what his pop had been unable to do, and a plan is hatched to escape with his newfound friends.

The night of the great escape, as they flee down a treacherous dark tunnel, the German army discover their imminent escape and storm the tunnel to kill them.

***Suddenly, they find themselves the hunted ones...***

*"An impressive first novel with well thought-out plot and engaging characters...great read..." Daly, Indie Book reviewer*

### **AUTHOR BIO**

Deborah Goldie is a writer who has worked with children for over twenty years. She is a passionate advocate for teaching children important events and time in history. Creating fictional stories with characters in which the reader forms an emotional bond is the perfect platform. *Test of Wills* is her first published novel.

In 2015, Deborah completed her Certificate 1V in Professional Writing Editing and in 2018 she completed her Diploma of Professional Writing and Editing at Federation University, Ballarat.

Apart from writing, Deborah enjoys spending time with her family, bike riding and travelling.

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Audience	General
Location	Gordon, VIC

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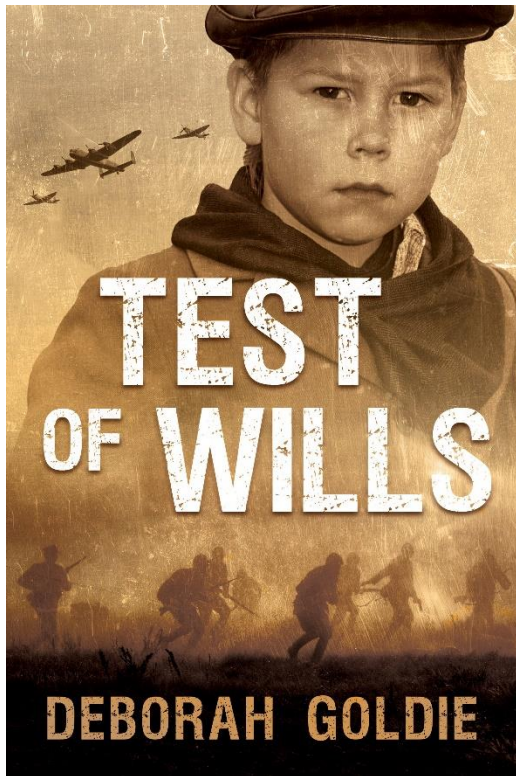
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## DEBORAH GOLDIE



### A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR

#### WHY DID YOU WRITE 'TEST OF WILLS'? WHAT WERE YOUR INSPIRATIONS?

*We used to holiday at Mulwala in a caravan park. Mum and Dad had a caravan in the same park. One rainy night myself (armed with a bottle of red wine) and my daughter Annie went to their caravan and Dad told us some stories of his life in the Hitler Youth camps. As we left that night Annie said to me, 'Why do I need to learn history at school when I can just listen to Pop.' From that moment on I was hooked.*

*I bought a tape recorder and Dad shared all his stories and memories from childhood of his life in Germany during World War Two and life post war. The more he told me, the more intrigued I became. His stories of courage and bravery astounded me. The more he told me the more I wanted to know. It was not only his stories, but I read other people's experiences from the same time. It became important for me to know as much as I could about his life so I could document it for the rest of my family, especially the grandchildren.*

*I am also a passionate believer in teaching children important events and times in history. I realised I could use his adventures to weave a fictional story full of fun and adventure with some cheeky mischief to help children understand life for young boys during World War Two.*

#### HOW DO YOU CREATE OR MODEL YOUR CHARACTERS TO FIT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE STORY AND THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE READERS?

*My story is aimed at children from the ages of ten to thirteen years of age and so I needed the characters to be cheeky, mischievous and not scared to have a sense of adventure. I really wanted them to know the difference between right and wrong. They needed to be believable as it was important for the reader to develop a relationship with the main characters, to feel their fear, vulnerability and courage.*

#### WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR YOUR FUTURE BOOKS?

*I love writing for children. I have another historical fiction story called 'Stumped' aimed at Year 3 students. It's about two boys going back in time through a virtual reality site on their computer to the gold rush era in Victoria. They are taken hostage by some bushrangers to become the decoys that will be thrown in front of a stagecoach as the coach is robbed of its gold.*

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