

Arte et marte By skill and valor

Consilio et animis
By wisdom and courage

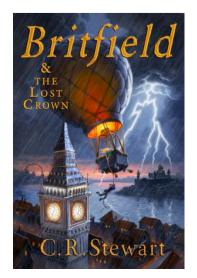
Fide et Amore
By faith and love

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## Creativity Expert C.R. Stewart's New Novel, Britfield & the Lost Crown, Fills Educational Void in the Middle-Grade/Young-Adult Book Market

Britfield & the Lost Crown engages, stimulates, and inspires young readers to explore and discover their own creativity in a realistic world of adventure and intrigue.



February 22, 2019 (Nashville, TN) – Studies show that creativity peaks in early elementary school, sharply declines through middle and high school, and then nosedives in adulthood. However, studies also show that creativity is one of the top three skills needed in leaders and professionals today. Somewhere along the way, creativity and critical thinking are sidelined by an educational "cookie-cutter mentality" that rewards the common rather than encouraging the ingenuity needed to succeed and thrive in the modern world.

Creativity expert and educator C. R. Stewart has twenty years of experience in writing fiction, nonfiction, and movie screenplays and has witnessed this discouraging decline firsthand: "Instead of nurturing future leaders, our educational system is fostering mindless complacency," Stewart declares, "[...leaving] an enormous gap, that children have filled with graphic novels

and senseless fiction. Meanwhile, parents are in search of cultural enrichment and educational opportunities for their children: something engaging, enlightening, and inspirational."

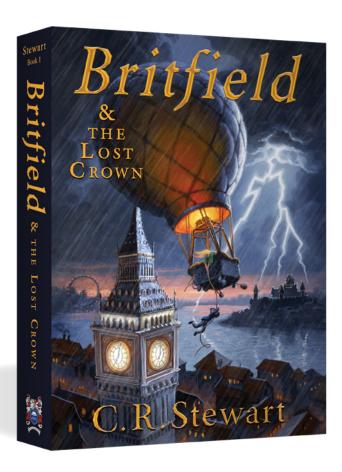
Britfield & the Lost Crown (Devonfield Publishing, 08/01/2019), the first in a thrilling five-part series written by Stewart, was created to fill that gap for middle school and young adult readers. As such, it is more than just a book – Britfield & the Lost Crown begins an innovative educational movement that will inspire readers to engage both their creativity and their critical-thinking skills with fast-paced, action-packed chapters filled with actual places, authentic characters, and exciting but realistic events. At just under 400 compact pages, Britfield & the Lost Crown consistently builds intensity and intrigue, sacrifice and revelations, until it reaches its exciting conclusion.

Based on family, friendship, loyalty, and courage, *Britfield & the Lost Crown* and its hero, Tom, take readers on an epic adventure across England — from the smoldering crags of Yorkshire to the heart of London and, finally, to the magnificent shores of Dover. With help from his best friend, Sarah, and a hot-air balloon, Tom flees Yorkshire, escaping from Weatherly Orphanage and the clutches of a relentless detective, in pursuit of the truth about himself and his heritage: Are his parents still alive? Is he the true heir to the British throne? As Tom and a memorable cast of both heroic and dastardly characters unravel a royal mystery that could change the course of history, readers are taken on a breathless journey to a surprise ending that will leave them clamoring for more.

Built on more than seven years of extensive research and development, the Britfield series integrates historical and cultural landscapes with stimulating language and active writing that engages the reader from the first pages.

"Britfield & the Lost Crown offers a world of creativity and adventure. There are no hidden agendas, undermining principles, or offensive content," Stewart says. "This fresh approach not only entertains children but educates them with references to geography, culture, architecture, and history woven throughout the exciting story [...that] will inspire children to think actively and creatively."

To learn more about Britfield & the Lost Crown, visit Britfield.com.



Title: Britfield & the Lost Crown

Author: C.R. Stewart

Publisher: Devonfield Publishing Release Date: August 1, 2019

Language: English

Softcover ISBN: 978-1-7329612-1-0

Softcover MSRP: \$16.99 Softcover Pages: 394 pages

Hardcover ISBN: 978-1-7329612-0-3

Hardcover MSRP: \$24.99 Hardcover Pages: 394 pages

Audio ISBN: 978-1-7329612-3-4

Audio MSRP: \$19.99

Ebook ISBN: 978-1-7329612-2-7

Ebook MSRP: \$9.99

Study Guide ISBN: 978-1-7329612-4-1

Study Guide MSRP: \$24.99

Study Guide Pages: 83 pages / 8 weeks



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Born in Newport Beach, Calif., C.R. Stewart is a prolific writer, highly respected producer, creativity specialist, international consultant, and prominent speaker. Founder of the prestigious Devonfield L.L.C., a comprehensive company dedicated to the highest quality in film production, publishing, and education, Stewart's areas of expertise are writing film and media production, global strategy, and international marketing.

Stewart received a Bachelor of Arts in British Literature and European History from Brown University; did post-graduate work at Harvard University; earned an MBA from Boston College; and is pursuing a

Master of Science in Advanced Management and a Ph.D. in Strategy at Peter F. Drucker and Masatoshi Ito Graduate School of Management, Claremont Graduate University.

Now based in San Diego, Stewart is a strong supporter of education and the arts and sits on the Board of Horizon University; is an Adjunct Professor at Fermanian School of Business, Point Loma Nazarene University; and is a past president of the Board of Directors of the San Diego Ballet. Stewart enjoys writing, world travel, reading, riding, swimming, sailing, tennis, and the arts.



# Awards, Reviews & Reader's Praise for:

# Britfield & the Lost Crown

Britfield & the Lost Crown delivers as a detailed and intriguing first-in-series read that is sure to capture the attention of the middle grade and young adult crowd and those who love the Y/A action and adventure genre. Readers journey through the English cities and countryside beautifully rendered in the narrative. The book also includes maps and intelligent background information about the setting and history with access to online illustrations and commentaries on castles, villages, and towns where our heroes visit. Overall, Britfield weaves plot, texture, storytelling, and fascinating characters into a winning combination and enriching experience for adventure fans.

- Chanticleer Book Review - 5 Stars!







































- Gold Metals: Parents' Choice Awards, Book & Audiobook
- Gold Medal: Cildren's Literary Classics International Book Awards, Middle Grade Chapter Book
- Gold Medal: Mom's Choice Awards, Best in Family Friendly Media
- First Place: Purple Dragonfly Book Award, Middle Grade Fiction
- First Place: CIPA EVVY Awards, Juvenile Fiction
- Winner: Book Excellence Awards, Pre-Teen Fiction
- Winner: American Fiction Awards, Best Cover Design
- IndieB.R.A.G Medallion: Award-Winning Middle Grade Books
- Silver Medal: Moonbeam Children's Book Awards, Preteen Fiction
- Silver Medal: Global Ebook Awards, Children's Literary Fiction
- Second Place: Reader Views Readers Choice Awards, Teens
- Bronze Medal: The Wishing Shelf Book Awards UK, Fiction Ages 9-12
- Award-Winning Finalist: International Book Awards, Children's Fiction
- Award-Winning Finalist: American Fiction Awards, Pre-Teen Fiction
- Award-Winning Finalist: Best Book Awards, Children's Fiction
- Award-Winning Semi-Finalist: CIBA Gertrude Warner Book Award, Middle Grade Fiction
- Award-Winning Long List: Shelf Unbound Magazine, Best Indie Book
- Blue Ribbons: Old Schoolhouse Magazine, Favorite MG & YA Book and Teen's Choice Award

"Such a thrilling book filled with so much awesome history about England, crazy mysteries, and truly amazing characters. It had me hooked every second of reading it!! I can't wait for the sequel."

- Hannah, Age 13, Kids' Book Buzz - 5 Stars!

"A perfect mixture of fast-paced excitement, heart-stopping surprises, fascinating history, and endearing characters with historical references scattered along the way. Tom and Sarah's devotion to each other provides an excellent backdrop to the many mishaps and dangers in which they find themselves. I could see this book being used in a classroom setting both as a literature piece and as a geographical and historical resource. Stewart's clever narrative draws you in and doesn't let you go till the end!

- Dawn Weaver, Reader's Favorite Book Reviews - 5 Stars!

"In this series opener, Stewart offers nearly nonstop action, with escapades both perilous and amusing, and exhilarating hairsbreadth escapes. The conspiracy is bold and compelling while the plot folds in intriguing facts about British culture, history, and famous sites."

- Kirkus Reviews

"Along with its relentless action and suspense, Stewart's novel provides young readers with a wealth of information about British culture (with frequent references to literary classics) and the history of the Monarchy and the Anglican Church. Highly recommended, *Britfield and the Lost Crown* will appeal to both young readers and their parents."

- Parents' Choice Awards - Gold Medal Award

"The story was everything the cover promised. I felt like I was in a kid's version of Mission Impossible. I was on the edge of my seat with narrow escapes, daring plans and unexpected adversaries. After finishing the story, I liked looking back and remembering how far Tom and Sarah had come, the shocking truths they had learned and the new friends they made. *Britfield and The Lost Crown*, by C.R. Stewart is an amazing adventure that holds all kinds of surprises, and well worth reading."

- Autumn, Age 14, Reader Views Kids

"Author C.R. Stewart's *Britfield & The Lost Crown* is a thrilling tale with loads of adventure and unexpected twists that will captivate youth audiences. Recommended for home and school libraries, this book earns the Literary Classics Seal of Approval."

- Children's Literary Classics - Gold Medal Award

"A joy to read to the very last page, *Britfield & The Lost Crown* is a high-spirited saga, enthusiastically recommended for personal and public library young adult fiction collections."

- Midwest Book Review

"Capable and charismatic young characters escape the confines of an inhumane orphanage on a quest to uncover the truth about the protagonist's parents. This is a far-flung adventure story that will readily interest the target audience. Stewart writes in clear, descriptive prose and integrates alluring and novel details that at times harkens back to an earlier era, an effect that offers an element of timelessness to the storytelling."

- The Booklife Prize

"As a middle school English teacher of 28 years and a multiple bestselling author for middle grade books, I can honestly say *Britfield and the Lost Crown* has all the right stuff. Intriguing characters, foreshadowing, and suspense will draw readers in deep and have them gasping for breath for the next chapter and the next."

- Wayne Thomas Batson, bestselling author of The Door Within Trilogy

"Britfield & the Lost Crown is a truly wild ride for young readers—a blistering romp through London with two plucky orphans named Sarah and Tom who are being chased by nasty orphanage proprietors, a Scotland Yard detective, half the British police force and even members of the royal household. If you want your kids to learn some fascinating English history through an exciting adventure, this is the book for you. C.R. Stewart has done his homework (and it helps that he has a BA in British Literature and European History from Brown), fashioning a Dan Brown-esque adventure for middle-grade readers that includes a clever twist reminiscent of the works of Charles Dickens. In short, Britfield is tons of fun. Without giving away the ending, I was pleased to discover that the adventure will continue."

- Gina Detwiler, co-author, *The Prince Warriors* series Author of the *Forlorn* series

"Narrator Ian Russell carries listeners along for a thrilling, fast-paced adventure about two kids, Tom and Sarah, who run away from a bleak Yorkshire orphanage. Pursued by a determined police detective, they face even more danger when Tom discovers a clue about his ancestry that may link him to the royal family and a plot to eliminate his bloodline—including him. With varied accents and voices, Russell transports listeners to England and brings each character to life. As hot-air balloon crashes, several narrow escapes, and a white-knuckle chase through London ensue, Russell ramps up the pace of his narration, making the danger all the more palpable."

- Audiofile Magazine

# The World of Britfield



#### BRITFIELD NATIONAL BOOK TOUR

Author C.R. Stewart aligned the release of *Britfield & the Lost Crown* with a National School Tour. His interactive presentation to students explains the importance of creative thinking, storytelling, and innovation with an emphasis on solving what he describes as the "Artificial Intelligence Crisis."

Research shows automation will replace an alarming number of jobs in corporate America within the next 10 years. Because of this, the vast majority of hiring executives will look for skills such as innovation, creativity, and brainstorming in candidates for industry positions; these skills cannot be replaced by artificial intelligence or technology. Mr. Stewart considers it vital to the future of this nation to cultivate and encourage creativity in students, teachers, classrooms, and schools, and the Britfield School Tour achieves this.

Through the National Britfield School Tour, Mr. Stewart traveled 9,000 miles, through 18 states and presented at over 150 schools to more than 30,000 students — impacting and changing lives. Presently, Mr. Stewart's Virtual Author Visit Webinar Event is engaging readers of all ages as they interact online with an award-winning author. This exciting webinar includes: taking ideas and turning them into something of value, the essential elements of writing an engaging story, the importance of creativity, and the future of *Britfield* – the series and the movies.

Visit Britfield.com to review articles and watch video interviews of Mr. Stewart talking about the importance of creativity and innovation in the education of young people today.



#### BRITFIELD INSTITUTE

Nos tibi viam inveniam aut faciam We Will Find a Way or Make One

Most children are highly gifted if they are given the proper opportunities and support. From their imaginations come a wealth of original ideas and pioneering innovations, abilities that open doors to creative ingenuity and visionary leadership. Yet most of our educational organizations are designed to discourage creative thinking and undermine the very attributes that foster individualism and original thought.

Current research shows creativity will be the most important leadership competency in future generations. However, conformity has become the most important aspect of education, and the current hierarchy of academia sees creative thought and innovation as unimportant compared to core competency, large-group restraint, conventionality, test results, and the avoidance of failure at all costs.

The Britfield Institute, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to encouraging young people to value learning, provides interactive programs to help students learn to innovate, brainstorm, imagine, problem-solve, and create — skills that will prepare them for the future. The Institute also inspires and resources educators to build safe spaces for students to practice these skills and see failure not as a source of fear but as a guardrail on the path to success.

The Britfield Institute already provides an exclusive Creativity Kit to educators at no cost to them. This kit includes a how-to list of ideas to make any classroom more creative, inspiring imagery for their classroom space, informative white papers on the creativity crisis in America, fun games and exercises to encourage innovation and creative thought, and sample chapters of *Britfield & the Lost Crown* including a curriculum guide, eBook, and Audiobook.

#### THE FUTURE OF BRITFIELD

The second book in the five-book series, *Britfield & the Rise of the Lion*, is now complete with a planned release of 2021. Each book will inspire a major motion-picture.

Going forward, the world of Britfield greatly values the continual development of resources for students and teachers in the areas of creativity, innovation, imagination, teambuilding, and leadership. Along with additional School Tours planned, Britfield offers a Classroom Creativity Experience. This interactive opportunity provides our Creativity Kit, a copy of *Britfield & the Lost Crown* and our complete 80-page Study Guide, discounted copies of the novel, signed posters, gifts for students, and a free 30- to 45-minute video chat for students with author C.R. Stewart. The Institute is also making plans to donate free copies of the novel and the full curriculum guide to under-resourced classrooms.



#### ABOUT DEVONFIELD PUBLISHING

Libertate per Scientiam
Freedom Through Knowledge

Devonfield Publishing has brought together some of the most talented writers, editors, and agents in the industry — experts who understand finely crafted narratives and great storytelling. Our goal is to entertain and educate our readers while providing them with life-changing experiences.

Devonfield is always searching for compelling stories that offer strong character-driven plots and uncompromising values. Our published works are distributed through all traditional and emerging channels, including independent bookstores, major retailers, universities, national organizations, eBooks, and many other global outlets. In addition to managing all aspects of publication, Devonfield explores film and television adaptation possibilities.

Whether we are working with critically acclaimed, award-winning authors or talented newcomers, our mission is to publish fiction and nonfiction by some of the world's finest writers. Contact the Publishing Division of DevonfieldLLC.com to learn more.

Devonfield, L.L.C. Attn: Britfield P.O. Box 5005 #178 Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067

## SUGGESTED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. What is the central theme of Britfield & the Lost Crown?
- 2. Studies show that creativity among children has drastically declined since 1990. Did this decline have any bearing on your decision to write *Britfield & the Lost Crown*? If so, how does this book address this problem?
- 3. This book is written for the middle-grade/young-adult reader. Why focus on this age-range and not an older reader?
- 4. What inspired you to write realistic fiction for children rather than fantasy?
- 5. *Britfield* is filled with references to and accurate descriptions of geography, history, art, and architecture. How is this significant?
- 6. You spent several years researching and writing this book. Why was this amount of time necessary?
- 7. Tell us about your time living in England and how it inspired you to pen Britfield & the Lost Crown.
- 8. The book deals with a fictional family dynasty that has a possible claim to the British throne, specifically the Britfield dynasty. Is this family dynasty based on any historical family? What inspired the idea of a modern-day threat to the British throne?
- 9. Toward the end of the book, Tom says to the Archbishop of Canterbury: "We may be young, but after what we've gone through, we're also wise. We know what's important." How did Tom and Sarah grow in wisdom through their experiences? What important life lessons did they learn?
- 10. What sets your book apart from others on the market? Or, stated another way, what does your book offer young readers that other popular books don't?
- 11. What's the most surprising thing you learned as you were writing *Britfield*?
- 12. Britfield & the Lost Crown is the first book in a series of five. When will the next book in the series be available?
- 13. Can you tell us anything about the next book in the series?
- 14. Can the books in the series stand alone, or do they need to be read in order?

## **MEDIA CONTACTS**

Additional press releases and commentaries by C.R. Stewart are available. Topics include creativity and the threat of artificial intelligence. He is also available for media interviews.

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Institute: BritfieldInstitute.org

Book Trailer: bit.ly/BritfieldTrailer

Amazon: amazon.com/author/CRStewart GoodReads: goodreads.com/CRStewart

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/BritfieldWorld

Britfield and the Lost Crown