



About the Book

Please consider *Heroes Don't Always Wear Capes* by corporate America executive-turned schoolteacher Stefania Shaffer. In her book, Ms. Shaffer fondly recalls a few influential teachers who shaped the adult she became and brings to light the importance of having teachers as role models in our nation's schools. The other fictional characters grew from her observations and imagination and represent the thirteen types of teachers we meet in every classroom, on any school campus, in any city.

Heroes Don't Always Wear Capes is a coming-of-age story about Vandra Zandinski, whose sense of panache gets her through the tumultuous traumas of childhood. The story opens with Vandra, now an

adult, flashing back to the teachers who became her heroes and the many life lessons they taught her.

Not since the classics—*Up the Down Staircase*, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*, *Goodbye, Mr. Chips*, *To Sir With Love* and *The Blackboard Jungle*—has there been such an engaging story targeting the importance of the student-teacher bond. The focus has always been on the classroom from the point of the view of the teacher. Finally, *Heroes* brings to light what the student in the back row sees.

Two generations have passed since teachers were celebrated in books and films. The author hopes to refocus the nation's priorities on the importance of education and reignite a passion for educators to willingly serve in the daunting capacity as mentor and role model. "I may not live off of big commission checks anymore," Stefania notes, "but the rewards of making a difference in my community and seeing my students achieve what they never thought possible are priceless."



About the Author

After a long, successful career in television advertising, Stefania Shaffer gave up her six-figure commission checks in order to give something back to her community. Ms. Shaffer earned her Teaching Credential from San Francisco State University and is now teaching English Language Arts to seventh-graders.

A writer for most of her adult life, with credits in writing courses from Stanford, Stefania is also the author of two plays, and a non-fiction narrative slated

for release in June 2013 on the daunting role of being the adult child coming home to care for an elderly parent until the very end. She currently resides in northern California.

The key selling points of the book include:

- The book fondly captures the author's own experiences of teachers who had a profound influence in her life used as a baseline; other teacher characters represent the thirteen styles of teachers we meet in every classroom across the country;
- Promotes the importance of teachers as strong role models for students;
- Identifies teachers as the heroes they really are and why there is a need for more;
- The importance of strong role models for students in public schools;
- Enables parents and students to share their own student/teacher relationships;
- Helps students understand that teachers are as individual as they are.

(*Heroes Don't Always Wear Capes* by Stefania Shaffer; ISBN: 0-9772325; \$14.95; soft cover: 5.5 x 8.5; 160-pages, with Discussion Questions; PRESSMAN BOOKS; Available through [Amazon](#), [Kindle](#), [Nook](#) and author-direct at stefaniashaffer.com)