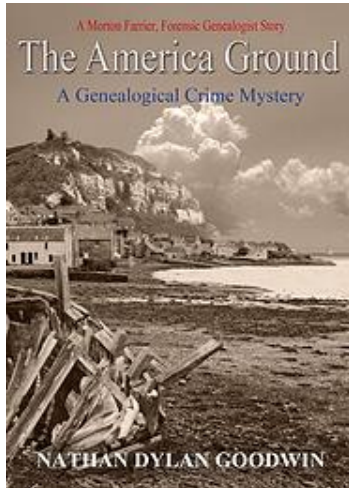


Review of *The America Ground: a genealogical crime mystery* by UK author Nathan Dylan Goodwin www.nathandyangoodwin.com - available in print or as an e-book.

This is the third book of the adventures of fictional Morton Farrier a forensic genealogist. My December 2014 review of the first two books *Hiding the Past* and *The Lost Ancestor* can be read [here](#). So I had been patiently waiting for the third book to be published.



In between we were treated to *The Orange Lilies*, a Morton Farrier novella where he starts to explore his own family origins. I read and thoroughly enjoyed the novella and was quite happy to accept Nathan's offer to review *The America Ground*. Again it is a standalone genealogical crime mystery set against Morton's own life dramas.

Morton is commissioned by a client to look into the provenance of a painting of a woman and to learn more about her. When it turns out that the woman was murdered 180 years ago, the adventures begin and there are many twists and turns before the end of the story. I did not pick up on the final twist until the very end so not an easy book to put down once you reach the last quarter of the book.

What I particularly liked about this book was that it was set against a real historical place and time which I had not previously known about. The America Ground is a piece of land outside Hastings in Sussex and the time period was the 1820s. We have ancestors who were at Battle, not far from Hastings so this made it more interesting again.

It is always hard to review thrillers as you do not want to give away the plot but anyone who enjoys crime mysteries and genealogy will love reading about Morton's genealogical investigations. All three books are standalone thrillers but my personal preference is to read them in order as this helps to understand Morton's own family situation and his long standing relationship with his girlfriend Juliette.

In my earlier review of the first two books in the series, I did mention being annoyed by a few silly typos. I am happy to say I did not pick up any in *The America Ground* so no negative things to say about what was a great read. I just wish that I now had the next book to start reading!

As an author myself, I know that books take time and Nathan Dylan Goodwin thoroughly researches his Morton Farrier books so I will just have to wait patiently for the next adventure. If you have not read any of them yet, check out Goodwin's website to order a copy. When I ordered a print copy of *The Orange Lilies* it arrived quickly but e-book options are quicker and cheaper. Or perhaps a perfect birthday gift in 2016?

I am really looking forward to the fourth adventure of Morton Farrier, forensic genealogist. I hope it is not too long a wait!

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