



The Wicked Trade

Nathan Dylan Goodwin

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When Morton Farrier is presented with a case revolving around a mysterious letter written by disreputable criminal, Ann Fothergill in 1827, he quickly finds himself delving into a shadowy Georgian underworld of smuggling and murder on the Kent and Sussex border. Morton must use his skills as a forensic genealogist to untangle Ann's association with the notorious Aldington Gang and also with the brutal killing of Quartermaster Richard Morgan. As his research continues, Morton suspects that his client's family might have more troubling and dangerous expectations of his findings.

This is the seventh book in the Morton Farrier genealogical crime mystery series, although it can be enjoyed as a stand-alone story.

For updates on Nathan Dylan Goodwin's releases:

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The Wicked Trade Details

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From Reader Review The Wicked Trade for online ebook

Suzanne says

This is the 7th of Nathan Dylan Goodwin's series and still holds the interest and intrigue of the series. The characters are more developed and more interesting because of it and the genealogy thread fascinating. Very good read!

Audrey says

As always a page turner. Highly recommend. If your into family history this book is for you.

Helen Edwards says

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. I love the way that the present is linked to the past through the medium of genealogy. As a genealogist myself, I love following the search for historic information as I do the same on a regular basis. The way the words are written, I feel I am looking over Morton's shoulder while he is working. I have always been fascinated by smuggling as it happened in my area during Prohibition. The fact that many of the events depicted in the story actually happened just adds to the enjoyment. The only downside to reading one of Goodwin's books is that I don't get any sleep once I start it as I often read the books in one sitting. I highly recommend this book to anyone who likes history, genealogy, or just a very good read.

barbara jones says

Brilliant. Once again Nathan has provided a story that keeps you enthralled. The history this story contains becomes real to the reader.

How the story unfolds let's you see that history and the present time become one. The people relate to each other. The history becomes now with the brilliance of the author that is able to bring this story to life.

David Highton says

As a Kentish Man, I enjoy these books - the character of Morton Farrier is well drawn and likeable for his weaknesses as well as his tenacity. This book does not put Morton in danger, as in some of the previous books, but the current day narrative focuses on his complicated family, having found his biological parents. The historic narrative focuses on a reasonably true depiction of smuggling on the South Kent coast in the 1820s. All in all, an enjoyable book.

judith stonier says

Great story

This is another excellent book in this series with plenty to interest anyone who likes history genealogy or just a great story

Jean says

Well done mystery, with great history presented in a very interesting, read-able way.

MRS C RICE says

10stars

Another cracker from start to finish, Only put it down after being threatened by my mutinous family to feed them or else, Roll on the next NDG forensic mystery ?

Bill Hill says

Mr Goodman just keeps getting better. The historical background adventures are engrossing and full of interesting historical details. The genealogical investigation is full of your favourite characters and a cast of modern day villains.

Can't wait for the next one.

denise craven says

Brilliant

A fantast read, that holds the reader from page one. I couldn't put it down once I started to read.

Natalie says

I love these books and can't wait for the next one

Jo-Ellen Sharpe says

Best genealogical mysteries around

I have read all of Nathan Dylan Goodwin's Forensic Genealogist series, and none of them have disappointed me. Too often, genealogical mysteries are either boring or contrived. Goodwin's works are neither, and this latest entry offers proof of that fact.

Karen says

Genealogist Morton Farrier finds himself researching the shadowy world of Georgian smugglers after a client asks him to research the life of his ancestor, Ann Fothergill. Using a letter she wrote in 1827 as his starting point, research soon points to her connection with the notorious Aldington Gang, a group from the south of England whose reputation spread far and wide. Just exactly how did Ann make her money and why is someone in the present day so interested in Morton's work?

This is the seventh book in the Morton Farrier series and, I don't know how he does it, but Nathan Dylan Goodwin keeps pulling it out of the bag! I'm a huge fan of genealogical fiction and it's fair to say that while some is better than others, I would definitely put this author up there with the best. Such is my love of Morton Farrier, as soon as I realised that another book had been published, I immediately downloaded it and, despite my mounting reading pile, started to read straight away!

Like other books in the series, The Wicked Trade is told in multiple time frames, in this case the present day and the 1820s. Both parts of the story were equally as compelling and I enjoyed finding out about Ann's life and also the research Morton took to uncover it. As a fellow genealogist, I am always interested in Morton's visits to record offices and I am always pleased with the author's attention to detail. Morton's life has changed a lot since the start of the series, and since the birth of his daughter he has other commitments in addition to his job so it was good to see how he is juggling his personal and professional life.

The story of Ann Fothergill was a fascinating one and showed how it doesn't matter the circumstances in which you were born, if there is a chance to improve your life you should take it. I found I had mixed feelings towards Ann. I admired her for her ability to turn her life around from an illiterate streetwalker to the owner of public houses but, on the other hand, her involvement with the Aldington Gang and the subsequent events left me with a nasty taste in my mouth.

I loved the historical detail in the book and it painted a great picture of how smugglers operated in the nineteenth century. The use of language that would have been spoken at the time also gave the story a more authentic feel.

There is still much to tell about Morton Farrier so I hope that another book is in the pipeline!

sheila says

Awesome addition to the series!

I love this series. Only bad thing is I read them too fast. I'm ready for the next book Mr. Goodwin!

Jane Irish Nelson says

Morton's new assignment leads him to researching smuggling — the *Wicked Trade* of the title — in Kent and Sussex in the 19th century. The story moves back and forth between Morton's research into Ann Fothergill's past, and Ann's story as she experiences it. The author seamlessly weaves his fictional characters into the actual history of the times, presently a fascinating and believable picture. The contemporary mystery is less compelling than the historical one, as the reader views it from the perpetrator's point of view, but it does add another layer to the story. The characters and their actions seem believable, the story is well-written, and hard to put down. Highly recommended.

While this can be read as a stand-alone, I recommend beginning with the first book in the series, *Hiding the Past*, as Morton's search for his own ancestry informs the entire series.
