



The Colonists

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The untimely death of Benjamin Morgan, great-grandson of Drew Morgan, has splintered his Boston family into feuding factions. It appears that Drew's dream of a strong Christian heritage, passing from one generation of Morgans to the next, is in jeopardy.

The Colonists Details

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Author : Jack Cavanaugh

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Becky Lake says

Once again I enjoyed the fast paced fiction part of the story. I also loved learning more about that time period. He included little know facts, or those not commonly taught in school, and this just made the story more interesting.

Alesha Leveritt says

I wanted to like this book more than I actually liked it. :-/ It wasn't awful, but it wasn't a fabulous read either.

The Good: It's a good, wholesome story where good triumphs over evil. There's also the bonus of somewhat accurate historical facts thrown in.

The Eh: The characters are a little...cardboard. They are not particularly round or dynamic, which makes for a much less satisfying story. Then there were the anachronisms... The speech (the level of informality is what I mean here, not the actual linguistics) was all wrong for the time period, and the timeline of the final chapters was a little off. The years don't add up in the decade-plus that supposedly happens between Philip's departure and return to the Native Americans.

The Ugly: It. Is. Just. Too. Long. I don't shy away from long novels, but this one needed an editor to cut it down a hundred pages or so. There wasn't enough action to justify the number of pages of waffling.

If you are craving a story that traces the roots of faith through the region, read it. But prepare for soap-opera-esque qualities.

Jamie says

Great story line, intriguing characters. I learned a lot about the history of the early colonists, and even learned some very interesting facts about pirates in the 18th century. The middle part of the book alternates telling the story of three siblings, living completely separate lives in different parts of the world, but it's still easy to follow.

Megan Schemenauer says

Three storylines of three siblings

linda brimmer says

Another historical blockbuster

Who knew history could be do interesting, exciting and romantic. Someone please tell me why they did not not assign these books for at lease book reports when we were in school , maybe junior high?. Believe me I would have learned a lot more history!

Lewis Smith says

Sadly, not nearly as good as volume 1 of the "American Family Portrait" series ("The Puritans").

Sherry Ledet says

I love historical fiction that really is history. This series is very good. This is book 1. I am now on book 4 and loving them all.

Katie says

This one was really long and took me a while to get through, but it was really good. I love historical fiction and this one was true to the time period (and had lots of neat little facts inserted in the story) without reading like a history lecture. The plot was amazing and had all sorts of twists and turns I didn't see coming, and you become quite attached to all the characters just a few chapters in. Overall an excellent read and I would recommend this book to anyone (as long as you have the time to read a longer book like this one).

Barbara says

This is the second volume of the American Family Portrait series, and I found it an enjoyable Christian historical fiction book. It did surprise me that there is a considerable gap of time between volume I and volume II; I expected it to continue where the first one left off. Later, I began to realize that there had to be major lapses of time because of the length of history the series covers. Tension is often fierce, and the story is sometimes very detailed, but the reader definitely understands what life in the colonies might have been like.

Patriot says

Ok, this is another book that I think is the best in the whole world!!! And I'm not kidding--it is the BEST!!! It is packed full of adventure, action, suspense, romance, and the best thing about it is you can never predict what will happen! There is fiction in it, but at the same time there is actual facts, sayings, speeches, people and ect..ect! It didn't take me that long to read ether...it's so good you just can't put it down! And I think it's a very worth while book. It's such an amazing story!!! The author does a wonderful job at everything, and while your enjoying a thrilling novel you are also learning true things and the book really opens your eyes to

the good, sound truth. I loved it!

Jeff Danhauer says

Excellent, very enjoyable. 2nd book in the series, I'm really enjoying this telling of the history of the founding and growth of the United States by following the fictional family's history through the generations.

Sally Lindsay-briggs says

Even though I read book #3, The Patriots, first, this book was just as good, if not better. There is an evil merchant, Cole, who messes with the Morgan family, a trip to the Indians to recover a lost family Bible, pirates, even Captain Jack Devereux, who was in the thick of battles and boarding of ships. There are several love stories and a vivid picture is painted of churches in the colonial days (very heavy on punishment). Priscilla was a strong lady who tries to enhance women's spiritual health but she ends up, worse for wear. She does manage family finances in a very masterful way. Throughout the story, is a strong Christian belief that appeals and cements the saga together.

April says

As your thrown into a different generation of Morgan's, you feel a little like you have to play catch up. Your having to suddenly learn new people when you were expecting "pick up where you left off". It's disorienting a little. This one also seems to have a slower, less appealing start than the first book.

It's worth it though. Keep reading. At the end, I'm wanting book three. I just have to buy it first lol

Kharissa says

Not as captivating as the first but it keeps you wanting to read the next one... Still a great book and again the facts included really keep the reader grounded with the reality(ies) of that time! Oh, and again... I read the "Victor editions" of the series.

Margaret says

I love historical fiction and fount The Colonists to be an excellent example of the genre. However, I felt some elements of the character portrayals were lacking. It's quickly understood and portrayed that the Morgan siblings do not get a long but I didn't see that the reason for the discord was well established. Priscilla is portrayed in the begining as self centered, almost shrewish girl who nonetheless has a complete understanding and heart for the Bible. This just didn't ring true to me. Her hatred for older brother Phillip was supposedly because he was self centered and selfish yet the early insight we have into Phillip through his thought process does not show that to be completely the case. He does feel empathy for Priscilla, but his

decision making which infuriates here seems more driven by the social mores of the time about women than his own self centeredness. And despite the continued references to the siblings war, the author simply has younger brother Jared liking Priscilla and Phillip. I also didn't think the author allowed the growth and spiritual awareness he gained during his time on the reservation to really show through and impact the interaction with Priscilla and his mother when he returned. There were other character related things that had me raising an eyebrow but again, overall I enjoyed the tale enough to start the next book *The Patriots*. Imagine my horror when right away the story is about Jared's twin boys who despise each other. Seriously? After living through his own sibling wars the man would purposely name his twin sons after two Biblical twins that hated each other. Puh-leeze!!
