K.P. Gresham

Professional Character Assassin



Author Quote: I'm just a preacher's kid who writes stories, kills people and loves baseball.

What's my style? Think Sandra Brown meets Tom Clancy

Author Bio

K.P. Gresham, professional character assassin and author of the Pastor Matt Hayden Mystery series and Three Days at Wrigley Field, moved to Texas as quick as she could. Born a Chicagoan, K.P. and her husband moved to Houston, fell in love with not shoveling snow and are 30+ year Lone Star State residents. She finds that her dual country citizenship, the Midwest and Texas, provides deep fodder for her award-winning novels. Her varied careers as a media librarian and technical director, middle school literature teacher and theatre playwright and director add humor and truth to her stories. A graduate of Houston's Rice University Novels Writing Colloquium, K.P. now resides in Austin, Texas, where life with her tolerant but supportive husband and narcissistic Chihuahua is acceptably weird.

K.P.'s Membership & Associations

Sisters in Crime International; Vice President of SinC Heart of Texas Local Chapter; Writer's League of Texas; Mystery Writers of America; Romance Writers of America; Austin Mystery Writers

Social Media Links:

Email: kpgresham@yahoo.com

Website: www.kpgresham.com

Facebook: K.P. Gresham Face Book Page

Twitter: @kpgresham.com

Pinterest: K.P. Gresham Boards

Author Pages:

amazon.com/author/kpgresham

K.P. Gresham at Goodreads

Blogs:

Ink Stained Wretches

Austin Mystery Writers

Author Comps:

Sandra Brown—New York Times Bestseller, *Tail Spin* (2018), *Outfox* (2019) Jeff Carson—Author of the David Wolf Series William Kent Krueger—Author of the Cork O'Connor Series and *Ordinary Grace*

Q & A with the Author

<u>Q</u>: Do you want each book to stand on its own, or are you trying to build a body of work with connections between each book?

Yes and Yes. Even though my Pastor Matt Hayden Mystery Series builds connections within the series story arc, I can't assume that the reader will always start at book one. Its important to make each book in the series deliver a fully developed and fully satisfying experience for each reader.

Having said that, I also enjoy writing stand-alones—specifically when there is something in our culture that calls me to talk about a specific situation. In Three Days at Wrigley Field, I needed to respond to my eight-year-old daughter's question, "Why can't girls play professional baseball?"

Q: What do you owe the real upon whom you base your characters?

For some of the folks I write about, their characters are my thank you to the incredible impression they left on me, whether it be their humor, their grace, their strength, their faith.

For other folks, yes, they left an impression on me as well. Unfortunately for them, their characters get based on their egos, their rude behaviors, and their judgmental loathing of those who are different than they are. And thank God, there are people different than they are.

Q: How do you deal with writer's block?

Writer's block would be a problem for me IF I didn't have two stories going at the same time. Here's how that works for me. I write on Book A until I hit a wall. (I find I hit a wall when I've written something "not right". It's like my subconscious says, "No way, honey. This is the wrong path.) Then I write on Book B. It's like a breath of fresh air--I'm excited to be with these characters again, back in this plot again, etc. Eventually I will hit a wall in story B, and I go back to Book A. When writing on the other story my brain usually figures out what's needed with Book A. It's so much easier to see the forest through the trees when I've been away from the story for a little while.

Q: If you could tell your younger writing self anything, what would it be?

Hey, kid. You know you love writing. You know you're good at it. Believe in yourself. Now learn your craft.

Additional snippets:

1. Author Central asked for an author's message about the Pastor Matt Hayden Mystery Series

From the Author Edit

The Pastor Matt Hayden Mystery Series is my fun way of looking at topics that are very important to me. First and foremost is that people have created their own story to explain how and why they live. This includes murderers, victims and regular folk (if there is such a human). When these paths cross, what happens? Why does it happen? I wanted to explore that in my writing. I grew up a preacher's kid (I prefer the term, "theological offspring" but that never caught on) and I observed the good and the sad side of church-going folk. I have something to say about what I experienced.

I've always love a good whodunnit. I devoured the books by Agatha Christie and Dorothy Sayers, then moved on to Tom Clancy and James Patterson and my now favorite, J.D. Robb. I wanted to do what these authors do. Create characters, conflict, crime, action, and justice on the page at such a pace you can't put the book down.

I hope you enjoy *Murder on the Third Try*. It is the third book in the Pastor Matt Hayden Mystery Series. Previous books include *The Preacher's First Murder* and *Murder in the Second Pew*.

2. Author Central asked for Front Flap Info

Also by K.P.Gresham

The Preacher's First Murder

"The Preacher's First Murder offers dynamic plot development. Gresham enhances a classic murder mystery with dimension and character complexity."

--Publisher's Weekly Booklife Prize Review

Murder in the Second Pew

"One of the best new mystery series on the market. K.P. Gresham injects powerful descriptive language into her

characters, dialog and setting. The story offers

many satisfying twists right up to the conclusion, which paves the way for more."

--D. Donovan, Senior Reviewer, Midwest Book Review

Three Days at Wrigley Field

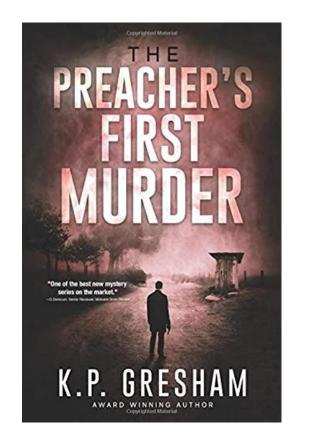
"A fast-paced story that is a love letter to baseball and a powerful page-turner. The author does a fantastic job keeping readers on the edge of their seats, including those who may not be baseball fans."

--Publisher's Weekly Booklife Prize Review

The Preacher's First Murder

Book #1 in the Pastor Matt Hayden Mystery Series

Amazon Page for The Preacher's First Murder



Ebook	Print
Ebook Link	<u>Print Link</u>
 File Size: 2182 KB Print Length: 181 pages Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited Publisher: Epiphany's Flame L.L.C. (March 18, 2019) Publication Date: March 18, 2019 Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC Language: English ASIN: B07PV6CKWR Text-to-Speech: Enabled X-Ray: Not Enabled Word Wise: Enabled Lending: EnabledScreen Reader: Supported 	 Series: A Pastor Matt Hayden Mystery (Book 1) Paperback: 251 pages Language: English ISBN-10: 099670020X ISBN-13: 978- 0996700207 Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 8.5 inches Shipping Weight: 13.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: <u>4.7 out of 5 stars</u> 15 customer reviews

Brief Synopsis

The Preacher's First Murder. He was a good cop until he ran into a bad one. Then, to save what was left of his family and his sanity, Michael Hogan, Jr., entered the Fed's Witness Protection Program and became Pastor Matthew Hayden.

Just out of seminary, Matt takes a church in rural Texas, expecting peace, quiet and a good dose of humility. What he finds is a town ruled by the past and an old woman murdered. To make matters worse, the dead woman's daughter, Angie O'Day, runs the town's Ice House and is truly an angel by day and a devil by night.

Matt might be a man of God now, but he is still a man.

When the second body is discovered and accusations are levied at the innocent Angie, Matt puts on an old hat--his cop's hat--and discovers the buried secrets of Wilks, Texas.

Review:

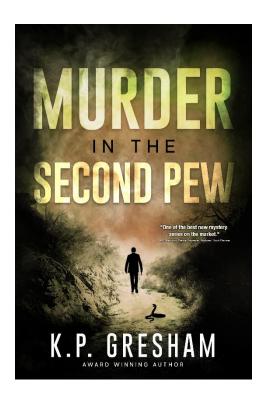
"The Preacher's First Murder offers dynamic plot development. Gresham enhances a classic murder mystery with dimension and character complexity."

-Publisher's Weekly Booklife Prize Review

Murder in the Second Pew

Book #2 in the Pastor Matt Hayden Mystery Series

Amazon.com: Murder in the Second Pew



Ebook	Print
Ebook Link	Paperback Link
 File Size: 3303 KB Print Length: 332 pages Publication Date: October 12, 2017 Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC Language: English ASIN: B076FKH3DX Text-to-Speech: Enabled X-Ray: Not Enabled Word Wise: Enabled Lending: Enabled Screen Reader: Supported Penhanced Typesetting: Enabled 	 Series: The Pastor Matt Hayden Mystery Series (Book 1) Paperback: 330 pages Publisher: Epiphany's Flame Language: English ISBN-10: 0996700269 ISBN-13: 978- 0996700269 Product Dim: 5.5 x 0.8 x 8.5 inches Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds)

Brief Synopsis:

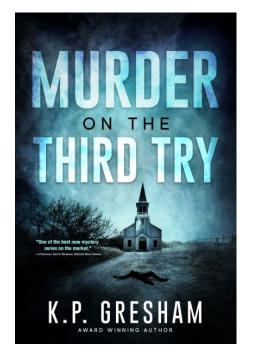
He was a good cop until he ran into a bad one. Then, to save what was left of his family and his sanity, Michael Hogan, Jr., entered the Fed's Witness Protection Program and became Pastor Matthew Hayden. Wilks, Texas, is not the peaceful, small town that Pastor Matt Hayden had envisioned as the perfect place for him to hide from those who wants to kill him. A former cop who holds incriminating evidence against his former Chief of Police, Matt has chosen a path of peace and meditation to quiet the rage that lives inside of him. When the remains of a beautiful barrel racer missing for years are discovered next to his church, the town is in shock, but Matt feels nothing other than the desire to bring comfort to his grieving congregation. Then a church member, with the same build and coloring as Matt, is shot in the church's sanctuary. Matt begins to suspect that his cover has been compromised—and that his former boss's thugs have killed the wrong man. Although he is a man of God now, he is still a man. And it looks like someone wants this man dead.

Reviews:

MURDER IN THE SECOND PEW's ability to attract newcomers and prior fans of Pastor Matt Hayden alike, with its unique blend of religious, psychological, and investigative perspectives makes it one of the best new mystery series on the market. --D. Donovan, Senior Reviewer, Midwest Book Review Link to Full Review

Murder on the Third Try

Book #3 in the Pastor Matt Hayden Mystery Series



Ebook	Print
Ebook Link	Print Link
 Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited Publisher: Epiphany's Flame (June 28, 2019) Publication Date: June 28, 2019 Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC Language: English ASIN: B07RGRKBHW Text-to-Speech: Enabled ♥ Lending: Enabled 	 Series: A Pastor Matt Hayden Mystery (Book 3) Paperback: 408 pages Publisher: Epiphany's Flame, L.L.C. (June 15, 2019) Language: English ISBN-10: 0996700285 ISBN-13: 978- 0996700283 Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1 x 8.5 inches Shipping
	Weight: 1.3 lbs.

Brief Synopsis:

Mike Hogan, former Miami undercover cop, wakes in an Austin, Texas ICU after being shot in the head. Not only is he missing part of his skull, he is missing four years of memories. In those four years he learns he's entered the Fed's Witness Protection Program, become a pastor, taken a church in rural Texas, and fallen in love with the beguiling, forbidden owner of the town's local bar.

At least he remembers why he's on the run. Howard Rutledge, former Miami Chief of Police, killed Mike's father and brother, and wants Mike dead too. Mike's testimony could put Rutledge in jail for racketeering, human trafficking, and murder. When Mike wakes up in that ICU, he can only assume that Rutledge has found him.

Mike is helpless with a broken body and an unsettled mind. Who are his friends and who are his foes? Can he trust the kindly sheriff who's in charge of Mike's security? Can he trust the woman whom his soul remembers but his brain does not? Who in this unfamiliar world is his assassin?

Mike must stay alive to put Rutledge away, and the hole in his head and his piecemeal memory are not going to stop him.

REVIEWS:

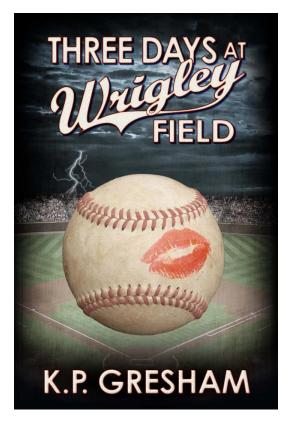
A.R. Ashworth *5.0 out of 5 stars* <u>A dang good read!</u> June 22, 2019Gresham is a master story-teller with a clear voice, a light touch, an unerring eye for human frailty, and a seriously wicked sense of humor. She crafts intricate plot lines, creates compelling characters, wrings out a few good twists, and leads us down a bluebonnet-lined path to a stunning and completely unexpected ending.

John Elenberger 5.0 out of 5 stars Great thriller, kept me on the edge of my seat! July 12, 2019

5.0 out of 5 stars Series Winners July 7, 2019 Partly quirky cozy & partly bloody police murder mystery

Three Days at Wrigley Field

Amazon Link to Three Days at Wrigley Field



Ebook	Print
<u>Ebook Link</u>	<u>Paperback Link</u>
 File Size: 1053 KB Print Length: 326 pages Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0996700226 Publisher: Epiphany's Flame, LLC; 1 edition (June 22, 2011) Publication Date: June 22, 2011 Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC Language: English ASIN: B0057R507Y Text-to-Speech: Enabled ✓ X-Ray: Not Enabled Word Wise: Enabled Lending: Enabled Screen Reader: Supported ✓ Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled ✓ 	 Paperback: 324 pages Publisher: Epiphany's Flame; First Print ed. edition (May 19, 2016) Language: English ISBN-10: 0996700226 ISBN-13: 978- 0996700221 Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.8 x 8.5 inches Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds Average Customer Review: <u>4.8 out of</u> <u>5 stars 20 customer</u> reviews

Reviews

"A fast-paced story that is a love letter to baseball and a powerful page-turner. The author does a fantastic job keeping readers on the edge of their seats, including those who may not be baseball fans."

--Publisher's Weekly Booklife Prize Review

See Full Review

"A well-rounded story filled with delightful twists. The element of surprise crafts a more detailed story line than anticipated from a baseball romance/thriller.

--D. Donovan, Senior Reviewer, Midwest Book Review

See Full Review

Synopsis:

"Any team can have a bad century." (Jack Brickhouse, Chicago Cubs TV Announcer, 1948-81)

Which is more important, tradition or victory? Rachel Caravetti, a star athlete with gaps in her past, pushes professional baseball to answer that question. She has the pitch to win.

Does baseball have the guts to hire her?

The owner of the Chicago Cubs is dying of cancer. He is desperate for his team to make it into the World Series, but the team's relief pitching is hurting. Kevin Boswell, the slumping ace pitcher, stands to lose his job if Rachel succeeds; he is also the only man Rachel has ever loved. To what lengths will the devious manager of the Cubs, the commissioner of baseball and Mike's scheming granddaughter go to keep Rachel out of professional baseball?

The beloved "Friendly Confines" cradles the last dreams of a dying man and the struggling romance between two people who love baseball as much as they love each other. On its pitcher's mound, Rachel faces her deepest fear and learns that her biggest challenge has nothing to do with baseball.