

# *Storykeeper*

by

Daniel A. Smith

## Reviews:

Mr. Smith has written a fantastic tale from the Native American point of view about the conquest of the New World by Hernando DeSoto. He has done impeccable research . . . made that period in our history come alive for me. I learned much more about the conquest of the New World and life around the Mississippi River that now makes me want to read even more.

Kindle Book Review - Dawn Edwards -[Click](#) to read the full review.  
<http://www.goodreads.com/review/show/452882281>

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I love this story, and I applaud Daniel A. Smith on his diligent research. Smith writes some strong characters in this gripping story. Every human emotion is engaged, and at times I felt like I was right there with Manaha and the tribes who fought against DeSoto. Superbly done. I'm sure I will be reading this book again.

The Jelly Bomb Review – SK -[Click](#) to read the full review.  
<http://jellybombreview.com/storykeeper-by-daniel-a-smith/>

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Smith has created a wealth of history and culture that will make you weep. Creating words and phrases with a poetic sense, building a feel for Native American culture that feels so genuine and, yet, is eminently readable.

Books, Movies, Reviews! Oh my! - Kathy Davie -[Click](#) to read the full review.  
<http://writethoughts.blogspot.com/2012/08/storykeeper-daniel-smith.html>

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Interview  
by David Njoku

## **Tell us about *Storykeeper*.**

*Storykeeper* is about a first encounter between two completely different cultures and the tragic results that followed. It unfolds through fireside stories told to and by three young protagonists, each a generation apart. In June of 1541, the Spanish conqueror Hernando de Soto and his army of three-hundred conquistadors arrived in the Native American nation of Casqui, forty miles west of present day Memphis, TN. Within a few years, it is estimated that 90% of that native population had died from diseases carried by the Europeans, famines, drought, and wars.

Below the surface, the novel is really about storytelling. I think it is one of humanity's most basic and defining characteristics, the unique ability and driving desire to tell stories. All stories from ancient cave painting to the most structured novel contribute to the enduring nature of mankind and are crucial for the survival of any culture.

A tip for new writers, don't tell an agent that you are writing a novel about story "telling" even if you are.

## **Why's that?**

It comes from a bruising pitch session when an agent admitted that no one was going to give a novel about telling stories a look because it breaks the first rule of fiction writing; show don't tell. Silly, I know. I spent the next two years and many query letters trying to down-play the storytelling element of my novel. I finally saw the light. I stopped writing queries became an Indie author and embraced my storytelling.

Indie Author Land - David Njoku - [Click](#) to read the full interview.  
<http://www.indieauthorland.com/archives/2443>

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