

***Grounds for Murder* by Tara Lush**

Journalist Lana Lewis is laid off by her Miami newspaper, and moves back to her hometown in the Florida Keys to run her family's coffee shop, Perkatory. The shop was her late mother's dream, and Lana wants to do everything she can to keep it thriving. When her popular barista, Fabrizio, is found dead outside the coffee shop, Lana is a suspect. Without Fab, business at Perkatory slows down, so Lana turns to her journalism skills to clear her own name and save her business.

Grounds for Murder is the first book in Tara Lush's Coffee Lover's Mystery series, and it's a really fun read. The only real complaint I have is that there weren't recipes at the end, like there are with nearly all of the other cozy mysteries I've read. With some of the treats mentioned in the book sounding quite tasty, it just would have been a nice inclusion. The characters are wonderful, and the mystery will really keep you guessing. Lush's descriptions of the setting are also fantastic. It makes you feel like you're in the warm, sunny Florida Keys right alongside Lana. Which right now, with the cold Illinois not-quite-winter weather, would be a welcome change! My recommendation would be to read this all cozied up with your favorite blanket and your warm beverage of choice!

GK