

***On Borrowed Crime* by Kate Young**

In the first book of the Jane Doe Book Club cozy mystery series, author Kate Young offers readers a glimpse into the life of Lyla Moody of Sweet Mountain, Georgia. She's been working at her Uncle Calvin's private investigator office, and hoping to become a PI herself at some point, much to the chagrin of her mother. Lyla and her best friend Melanie are part of the Jane Doe Book Club, which generally meets to discuss true crime books and mystery novels, but they get caught up in a real life mystery when one of the members of the club is murdered, possibly tied to a local cold case.

Although I did find myself mentally yelling at Lyla for making some very bad decisions, this is a very good read. It's a bit darker than your typical cozy mystery, but I still very much enjoyed it. Unlike most series starters, this book doesn't start with Lyla's first day working for her uncle or her first day joining the book club or anything like that. She's already been working at the PI office for a bit, the book club is well established, and we only get a few hints to Lyla's past. It's an interesting approach. There are some cracks in the foundation of the Moody family's seemingly perfect life, which I hope gets explored. I look forward to reading more in this series to learn more about why Lyla's mother is so against her interest in true crime and to learn more about the strained relationship between Mrs. Moody and Uncle Calvin.

Looking at the mystery itself, it was enthralling. There are a lot of characters introduced, and you'll probably suspect most of them over the course of the book. The ending is executed very well! I will definitely be reading more from this series and from this author!

GK