***She Doesn't Have a Clue* by Jenny Elder Moke**

What happens when a mystery author tries her own hand at solving a real mystery? In the case of *She Doesn't Have a Clue*, a huge mess. This book is a combination of genres – cozy mystery and romantic comedy – so it can be enjoyable on two different levels.

The main character is mystery author Kate Valentine (yes that is her last name, not a pseudonym). She is invited to her ex-fiancé's (and of course he is her book editor too) wedding on a remote island in the Pacific Northwest hosted by a wealthy (and ruthless) aunt of the bride. Kate is going to ignore the invite because the ex-fiancé had dumped her and quickly proposed to the current bride-to-be. Kate has avoided him (and much of life) ever since, but the invite contained an intriguing personal invite from the ruthless aunt – so she cannot resist attending. Once she arrives at the island, there is an eccentric cast of characters including relatives of the bride and groom, a friend from college, other authors, and her former love interest and travel book co-author Jake the "Hostralian."

The book bumbles along from hilarious and cringe-worthy interactions, the bride being poisoned (in a way eerily similar to Kate's own books which makes her the likely suspect), and Kate and Jake reconnecting while haphazardly trying to solve the mystery. Throw in some severe storms, someone sabotaging the electricity and the house, a dead body, rumors and secrets galore, and you've got a messy but intriguing story. Oh – I forgot – something in the woods shredded a stuffed deer too.

Nancy Drew, Kate is not. Nor is she the heroine of her mystery series. Along the way, Kate comes to terms with her life choices and discovers her true self and what she wants in the process. Although that process is quite messy and nonsensical at times, you can't help but root for her.