



Die Job

Lila Dare

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After an attempted murder at a supposedly haunted plantation, the ladies of Violetta's beauty salon unravel secrets that link a high school student, a centuries-old crime, and the roots to a very dark mystery.

Die Job Details

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From Reader Review Die Job for online ebook

Moondance says

St. Elizabeth sits smack dab on the Georgia coast, so when the weather forecasters start talking about a hurricane headed our way, even if it's still way out at sea, conversation at the salon tends to center on the storm.

That first sentence was a doozy! So is this 3rd installment of the Southern Beauty Shop series. A hurricane and Halloween. How much better could it be?

Grace Terhune agrees to chaperone a group of teens (including part time shampoo girl, Rachel) to a local plantation for a little ghost hunting. Grace steps up her own investigation when a young man is injured on the same steps where Cyril Rothmore allegedly died. She also looks into what really happened to Cyril all those years ago.

It was nice to catch up with Grace, her mom, Violetta and the other ladies of the salon. I particularly like Althea. I'm not sure where the romance portion of the story is going. I will read the next book in the series to see what is resolved.

A quick afternoon read.

Janet says

The southern beauty shop mysteries are just plain fun. The characters are comfortable without being overdone. Our heroine is cute, spunky and reasonable. There are no great cultural or philosophical statements being made. It's just an easy fun read to let your brain relax at the end of a hard day.

Amanda says

There is certainly a lot going on in Grace's life. She is lucky to have so many people who love and care about her.

I wish that Hank would get a clue that he blew it and is never going to get another chance with Grace, in the beginning of the series it was amusing but it is past pathetic now. Maybe if his new partner would make her move he would finally let go of the past.

As much as I like Marty I am glad that he moved to DC, he and Grace are okay together but not great.

Agent Dillon on the other hand would be perfect for Grace they just need to make time for one another.

Glen is an interesting new addition to the town, I wonder what part he'll play in the future...

Book Concierge says

2.5**

High school senior Rachel Whitley enlists Grace Terhune, a stylist in the beauty shop where Rachel is the shampoo girl, as a chaperone for a class field trip. The students are going to investigate purported paranormal activity at a local antebellum mansion. It's said that the spirit of Cyril Rothmere haunts the staircase where he fell (or was pushed) to his death. But instead of a ghost, Rachel finds fellow student Braden McCullers at the base of the same stairs. As he clings to life in the hospital intensive care unit, Rachel asks the ladies at Violetta's salon to help her investigate what really happened.

I read cozies for the atmosphere – especially when they are set in a small Southern town – and for the quirky cast of characters. BUT, I do expect a reasonable murder mystery, and that where this particular book fell short. I liked the relationships between Grace, her mother ViIioletta (owner of the salon), Althea Jenkins (part-time aesthetician) and Stella Michaelson (manicurist); these are some strong ladies, physically, mentally and emotionally. I also thought the supporting cast of characters – students, school staff, police, etc – were suitably colorful.

But the plot? Well, there really isn't much of one. The hurricane bearing down on the community was more in evidence than the mystery investigation.

This is book three in the series, though it's the first one I've read, and perhaps the author is running out of ideas. Still, it's a fast read and I might pick up another if it's fulfills several challenges (as this one did).

Jeannie and Louis Rigod says

Our Beauty Parlor sleuth, Grace Terhune is surprised when Rachel Whitley, her part-time helper asks for Grace's help with being a chaperone for her high school outing.

Grace is even more surprised when she realizes the field-trip is going to be a ghost debunking trip at the local Rothmere Mansion. Long considered, by the youth, of St. Elizabeth's, GA, to be haunted by Cyril Rothmere who died mysteriously at the bottom of the stairs. When is this happening, why Halloween night.

Sadly, a tragedy hits the outing and Grace has no way to keep out of the mysteries.

The characters are well drawn and the mystery was good and I was surprised by the killer. I was a bit tired of Grace's relationship with her ex. I wish it would be resolved. Grace is a strong enough character on her own. I do think three men in the offing is a bit too much in my opinion.

Goose says

This third book in the Southern Beauty Shop Mystery collection is a major disappointment from pseudonymous Lila Dare. Don't know if Dare dashed this one off to complete her three book contract or if the publishers pushed her in certain directions but the whole book is a bit of a mess. Our usually reliable detective, Grace Terhune, seems to have become one of those women who thinks all men find her attractive be they ex-husbands or imported from California school teachers or everyone in between. Maybe that's a nod to "romance novels" and who the expected audience is for this type of book in the mind of the publishers, but for someone who reads a lot of different kinds of mysteries it weakens the character of Grace and makes her less interesting. The mystery itself had some potential, with Grace acting as a chaperone for high school kids, including Rachel who works at the salon after school, visiting a supposedly haunted mansion. When Rachel's former boyfriend takes a tumble we are left with a nice number of suspects including a class full of teenagers, the other chaperones, and some parents who seem to strangely be on the scene in no time. All of the investigating might have made more sense if Rachel had been the lead detective, as the back cover of the book leads one to believe. However, for Grace to keep popping up at the local high school to ask questions is a bit unrealistic. Sure Dare invents a reason for her to be there once but would a high school really look the other way while an adult, with no children of her own, keeps walking around the high school. They would think it's odd and creepy and probably ask her to leave. Oh and I haven't even mentioned the hurricane. Or the time given to reading old letters from a woman who might have been murdered in the haunted mansion. Or the foolish ripped-from-a-Scooby-Doo-episode trap they lay for the "killer". Ok Ms.Dare #1, your contract is complete. Please collect your check and go back to writing under your real name. I hope Ms.Dare #2 tries to follow in the steps of the far superior Polished Off and not this mess.

Trish says

This series seems to get a little bit better. The mystery on this one -- I did NOT figure out, and Kudos to the author for that twist at the end. I like the protagonist, the mystery, etc. Enjoyable, cozy reading but not a compelling page turner.

*** Jennifer says**

In a strange way, this book, with all it's hurricane prep made me homesick. I certainly don't miss hurricanes! But the author did a really good job describing the atmosphere in a town under threat, reminding me of my childhood and adolescence and the connection to the weather that rarely exists when you live in a big city.

I thought the plot was really well done - I never guessed the bad guy and found out when only when the author wanted me to. I have concerns that the author intends to yank the readers around with love triangles, but I'm willing to withhold judgement on that until after the next book.

Linda Wiken says

Thoroughly enjoyed this book! The characters are engaging and believable. The setting is delightful -- I can just feel that southern humidity and impending storm. Well-crafted crime and solution. I'm sticking with this

series!

Mary Z :) says

I really like Lila Dare's writing style. The setting for this particular book was intriguing. St. Elizabeth is a fictitious town less than 20 miles from my house. When the main character described the narrow windows on the Georgia crime lab, she was absolutely right. The building is right next to my library! Good dose of reality, at least as far as geography and hurricane conditions are concerned. Nice work!

Susan says

To help a friend, stylist Grace Terhune agrees to help chaperone a group of high schoolers who are spending some night hours at a supposedly haunted plantation. But there's an accident, and Grace feels guilty that she couldn't keep the victim safe. She simply has to investigate, bringing her back into contact, and conflict, with John Dillon, the handsome Georgia state investigator she's met before. They think they have the perfect plan to trap the murderer, but a looming hurricane can disrupt everything.

Jo (My House of Books) says

The third in the Southern Beauty Shop mystery series, Die Job, picks up where the second book, Polished Off, ended. In addition to the mystery Grace Terhune and the women of Violetta's seek to solve, the town of St. Elizabeth is battening down the hatches for the arrival of a hurricane. And as tensions in town rise in anticipation of the hurricane and the murder investigation, this who-done-it isn't exactly what it would appear to be.

I was surprised by the presence of the romantic triangle featuring Grace, Special Agent Dillon, and Grace's long-distance boyfriend, Marty Shears and a little bit disappointed it was left open-ended. So I do hope there will be another book in this series, simply to solve the mystery of Grace's love life.

Valerie says

Good addition to the series. Grace has a knack for figuring things out. Ask a few questions, you may get the answers you're looking for. She actually solved a 100 year old mystery also. I love southern cozies.

Tofu Fairy says

With this 3rd book in the series, I have no officially read the whole series (started with the 4th book that I won) and really hope there is a 5th book coming (anyone know?). As someone who enjoys supernatural reads, this books subject matter was fun for me while not too far-fetched for even readers who don't like supernatural genres. Again I enjoyed reading the history of the series and getting 100% up to date on all the

characters by finishing the current series and was not disappointed in the plot or storyline. As usual I laughed, cried, and groaned. There may have even been a gasp this time around. LOL If you like cozy mysteries, I def recommend this series. While each book does stand on its own, I recommend starting with book one not four to prevent spoilers.

Ali says

Hate triangles. Hate static triangles even more. Love the characters, love the mystery, love the writing, but did I mention I hate triangles (what's in D.C. should stay in D.C.).
