



Moss Hysteria

Kate Collins

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Abby and Marco's new neighborhood isn't as rosy as it seems in the latest Flower Shop Mystery from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Florist Grump* and *A Root Awakening*.

Flower shop owner Abby Knight and her husband, Marco, are ecstatic to finally be moving into their new home, despite the prospect of unpacking a seemingly infinite number of boxes. After all, Brandywine—their new subdivision—seems like an oasis with its welcoming neighbors and beautifully manicured lawns.

But their idyllic community is suddenly uprooted when a body is found floating in a nearby pond. The police think Abby and Marco's helpful next door neighbor is the culprit, but the newlyweds aren't convinced.

Meanwhile, Marco distrusts his mother's slick new boyfriend, and Abby's cousin Jillian has agreed to decorate their new home, resulting in comic chaos. Even worse, as Abby and Marco dig through Brandywine's secrets in search of a killer, they discover that some flowers come from very bad seeds...and danger stalks even the sunniest small-town streets.

Moss Hysteria Details

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Author : Kate Collins

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From Reader Review Moss Hysteria for online ebook

Stacie Amelotte says

This is one of my all time favorite series. Abby and Marco have evolved so much over 18 books. I never get tired of reading about them. I was happy to see them settling into their new house and married life. Of course murder and mayhem are never far behind. The author did a wonderful job of introducing a whole new cast of characters as well as further developing the cast we all read know and love. As always there are a lot of laugh out loud moments. I also enjoyed reading the details of a few of the designs Abby came up with. It made me want to run out and get some fresh flowers. Not to mention, I want Jillian to decorate my house. Fast paced, action packed, and an all around brilliant mystery.

Gillian Kevern says

I will admit, I read this one purely for the title.

Kimberly says

Abby and Marco are excited to be moving into their new house. They are in a beautiful neighborhood called Brandywine and it seems like it's straight out of a movie set. Everyone's yards are perfectly groomed and neighbors are often dropping by with casseroles, baked goods and multiple book club invitations. Things almost seem too good to be true until their next door neighbor takes them on a tour of the subdivision and they happen to stumble upon a dead body in the nearby pond. Abby and Marco quickly start their own investigation and slowly start to uncover lots of secrets surrounding their new area.

I always look forward to catching up with this series. It was kind of refreshing to step outside of the flower shop and have the majority of the story take place in Marco and Abby's new neighborhood. We got to meet their new neighbors right along with them which perfectly set up the mystery because there were plenty of characters to develop. It was fun watching them settle in together and determine their joined styles. I actually loved Jillian in this book!!! I also love the addition of Seedy's new best friend. We still had several scenes take place at Bloomers which I always enjoy look forward to. I love watching Abby go through the process of creating her arrangements and listening to her describe the different flowers. The storyline with Alfie and Francesca was great. I hope he sticks around and we can learn a bit more about him.

I only have a couple complaints. I surprisingly really missed Abby's mom and her crazy creations. She made an appearance, but the comic relief of her additions to the shop were not included. Hope they returns in the next book. I also got annoyed with Abby a few times. Her jealousy or self doubt was a tad too much throughout the book. I'm use to Abby being really confident so to see her struggle was out of character. I thought she had already resolved her issues with Rosa so it was strange to see her deal with those emotions all over again. Other than that, the book was really good. Great setting and the mystery was engaging and kept me guessing. I'll be anxious to read the next book.

Fred says

Moss Hysteria is the eighteenth book in the A Flower Shop Mystery series.

I love this series, it's still as fun and as enjoyable as in book 1.

Finally, Abby and Marco's dream house is complete and they are busy unpacking when their neighbor Theda asks if they want to walk around the neighborhood. As they are approaching the pond behind their houses, Theda is telling Abby of the problem with moss and how the developer doesn't seem to do anything about it. As she kicks at some of the moss she sees a body floating close by. The body is identified as Dirk Singletary, and it is soon learned that Theda might have been the last one to have seen him alive. Abby and Marco can't help but to investigate what happened, literally in their backyard.

They soon find that Dirk and his foreman, Rye Bishop, have their disagreements in the past. Dirk has also been accused of stealing valuables from the homeowner while he was in their homes doing warranty work. Plus it is rumored that he has been romantically involved with more than one of the women in the development. Also, Theda had been a suspect in the death of her husband years before.

For Abby at Bloomers, she is still a little unsure if the hiring of Rosa was a good thing, or is it jealousy that she has fit in so well. Rosa and Lottie are working on a floral display to enter in the contest that Abby had won the previous year. But Grace is around with her quotes to keep everything running smoothly.

For things on the lighter side. Marco's mother seems to have a new boyfriend that Marco is happy about. He doesn't seem to want to provide much about his past and they think that she is dating a gigolo. And with everything that is going on, Abby doesn't have time to really furnish their home, so she asks her cousin, Jillian to select furniture and furnishings. Jillian is in her element and provided me with a lot chuckles.

Will be watching for the next book in the series.

Lisa Morin says

Abby and Marcos are finally moving in to their new home, located in the beautiful subdivision known as Brandywine. Even though the house is sparsely furnished and their are boxes to be unpacked, Abby is quite content to settle into her role as Mrs. Salvare.

The other residents of Brandywine are quite unique and a simple walk around the new subdivision leads Abby, Marcos and their new neighbor Theda into the direct path of a dead body. As usual, Abby is all set to investigate, but Marcos has other things on his mind, including his mother's new beau.

Join Abby and the gang for another new adventure in this fun series.

I received an ARC of this book via NetGalley in exchange for my fair and honest review.

Sabina Kelly says

I liked it. At first I thought it was getting predictable, but nope, a good read to the end

Sarah Adamson says

18th in the series.

Hysteria is right - Abby comes across as a Whiny disorganized jealous brat at times in this book which really irritated me as I liked her in the other books I have read in the series.

Saying that, it's a good mystery story with nice plot twists and turns and a usual dramatic interesting ending.

OpenBookSociety.com says

<http://openbooksociety.com/article/mo...>

Moss Hysteria

A Flower Shop Mystery, #18

By Kate Collins

ISBN13: 9780451473448

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Brought to you by OBS reviewer Kayt

Synopsis:

Abby and Marco's new neighborhood isn't as rosy as it seems in the latest Flower Shop Mystery from the New York Times best-selling author of Florist Grump and A Root Awakening.

Flower shop owner Abby Knight and her husband, Marco, are ecstatic to finally be moving into their new home, despite the prospect of unpacking a seemingly infinite number of boxes. After all, Brandywine—their new subdivision—seems like an oasis with its welcoming neighbors and beautifully manicured lawns.

But their idyllic community is suddenly uprooted when a body is found floating in a nearby pond. The police think Abby and Marco's helpful next door neighbor is the culprit, but the newlyweds aren't convinced.

Meanwhile, Marco distrusts his mother's slick new boyfriend, and Abby's cousin Jillian has agreed to decorate their new home, resulting in comic chaos. Even worse, as Abby and Marco dig through Brandywine's secrets in search of a killer, they discover that some flowers come from very bad seeds...and danger stalks even the sunniest small-town streets.

Review:

I always love visiting Abby Knight and her husband Marco. In Moss Hysteria the newly married couple is finally moving into their own home. Their new home is located in the subdivision of Brandywine. It seems idyllic with manicured lawns, beautiful homes and wonderful neighbors. Or so they think. The unpacking is

overwhelming and they need new furniture. With no time to decorate themselves, Abby is taking a big chance and letting her cousin Jillian handle the tough job. Jillian is always a hoot to read about and this book is no different. Among all the craziness, Marco's mother has a new boyfriend and he is not up to her protective son's standards. As if the regular crazy world of Abby and Marco was not enough and the adding hectic schedule with the new move, a body is found floating in a pond that happens to be next to their favorite new neighbor's yard. Now the police think she has the motive and the opportunity to do the deed. Of course Abby and Marco have to investigate.

Although Abby really likes her neighbor Theda, she soon finds out she was a suspect in the death of her husband years ago. And she may have been the last one to see the dead man Dirk Singletary. Then they find out that Dirk and his foreman, Rye Bishop, did not like each other very much and had been having disagreements. Abby is forced to go to two different book clubs with two very different attitudes. She thinks a few of the ladies could also be suspects. With several people on their list of possible murders, not only are they busy trying to find the murderer, but they are not sure their new subdivision is as wonderful as they first thought. And let's not forget that Marco's mother is going away with her new boyfriend that may not be what he seems to be. Also, Abby is not happy with how well her new employee Rosa is fitting in with everyone, including her own mother. Her mother is not even dropping off her "artwork" at the shop.

"The Flower Shop Mystery" series is a wonderful and long-lived one. The first two books have even been made into movies. That is a testament to how well loved this series is. The characters are well-developed and enjoyable. The storylines are always entertaining. Author Kate Collins is amazing and her writing style is a pleasure to read. Moss Hysteria is the 18th installment in this fabulous series and there is no slowing down with these characters. The marriage of Abby and Marco and their relationship has only gotten better and better. The fact that they work together as private investigators makes everything seem more plausible. Yes, they still find trouble and get in predicaments, but they are not over the top. The mystery and body appear early in the book and the pace never lets up.

Moss Hysteria may be the 18th in this wonderful series, but it still delivers the punch and action that all the others have done. The storyline is entertaining and well written. The mystery and suspects are believable and suspenseful. This installment grabs the reader and never let's go. This is a series that has real staying power. I love reading about Abby, Marco and the gang and all of their adventures. Not just the mystery part either, but also their family life. Even if you have never read one of the fabulous reads in this series you will have no trouble enjoying this one. Author Kate Collins is wonderful as always. This is a pleasure read, one that keeps the reader involved and excited to find the answers. I recommend this book to anyone that enjoys a stellar mystery, with characters that will become family. Abby has grown and I love the fact that once again the author has portrayed her as a real person with real faults and quirks. You cannot get much better than visiting the "Flower Shop Mystery" series and this 18th installment is a bouquet of fabulousness.

*OBS would like to thank the publisher for supplying a free copy of this title in exchange for an honest review *

Karen Holman says

This series has an interesting way of including characters into the current mystery. The setting is upstate

Gabi Eagon says

Oh what fun it was to read the new adventures of Abby and Marco in their new subdivision. Besides the murder and chaos of decorating her new house, Abby was on a roll. A great book. Loved it.

LORI CASWELL says

Dollycas's Thoughts

Abby and Marco Salvare are getting all moved in to their new Brandywine home. The neighbors in the subdivision show up at their door with food and invitations to join their book clubs. Their next door neighbor, Theda, has been quite helpful since they started construction. Theda is 60ish and seems to know all about the area and the neighbors. While taking Abby, Marco and of course their dog Seedy on a stroll through the neighborhood they find themselves near the pond that backs up to their lots. Seedy's sniffer is working overtime and he tugs them right over to body floating in the mossy water. Not again! At least the police and the Salvares have worked together before. The problem is the police think their helpful neighbor is the murderer, seems she has a history with the dead man. But Abby's gut is telling her they are barking up the wrong tree. She is out to dig up the real killer and learn a lot more about her new neighbors.

I love this series. A trip to Bloomers or Down the Hatch is like meeting up with old friends. Abby, Lottie, Grace and Rosa will pull together a fabulous floral arrangement all while you enjoy a cup of tea and a scone. Need something a little harder to drink and a bigger bite to eat, head down the street to Down the Hatch and Marco, Rafe and Gert will serve you up the perfect meal.

Of course, we also have to check in on Abby's parents, her mom is working on a new project. Marco's mom is giving him fits because she has a new gentleman friend and Marco just doesn't like the man. Abby even asks Jillian for help decorating their new home.

Then we meet the new characters. The residents of the Brandywine subdivision and the construction workers and land developer or as I like to call them "the suspects".

Kate Collins never disappoints. Each new story is as good or better than the last. After 18 books this series is still as fresh as a daisy and going strong. The characters are always genuine, they have flaws and strengths. Some are a little quirrier than others. They all blend together nicely to draw us in to their stories. She gave us another strong mystery to follow which leads to a very exciting ending. Even Marco was doubting Abby's gut, but she stuck to her convictions.

Awesome characters, a beautiful setting, and a fantastic and well written plot make this a must read!

Susie James says

I picked up this little paperback at the local library; reading it was a lark. Really enjoyed the change of pace,

Kate Collins -- would enjoy some more Flower Shop Mysteries, I know ... this one was "Moss Hysteria".

Anastasia says

Moss Hysteria by Kate Collins is the 18th book in the Flower Shop Mystery series. Abby and Marco move into their new house only to discover the body of the construction superintendent floating in the nearby pond. Another fun addition to the series. We get to meet the new neighbours and Abby adopts a rescue cat who is instrumental in saving her life. It is nice to meet up with all the usual characters. An enjoyable and entertaining book.

Renee says

With this book I'm fully up-to-date on this series! That would usually be a bummer but right now I'm a bit miffed at Abby Knight Salvare for not opening her mouth and saying what's on her mind -- to anyone. While Abby spoke her mind before the end of this book, this is a trait that seems to have replaced the always-doubting-her-relationship-status issues that finally resolved now that Abby's married. Honestly, I'm not sure which trait I like less.

As for this book otherwise, I very much like the setting for the latest murder for Abby to stumble upon: her new neighborhood. Through her investigations we got to know her new neighbors just as she did; I liked that. She and Marco weren't quite as in sync during their investigation as is usually the case, but in a big contrast to past books, Abby and her cousin Jillian were not only on good terms, but seemed to actually enjoy spending time together! Perhaps motherhood has mellowed Jillian? Nah, couldn't be. More likely it was because Jillian was thinking of Abby as a decorating client but only time will tell.

J.J. says

I think her books just keep getting better. A great cozy mystery for reading by a fire wrapped up in a blanket.
