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Tattler's Branch



Synopsis

Lilly Corbett Still has grown to love her life as the small-town doctor of Skip Rock, a tiny coal community in the Kentucky mountains. Though her husband, Tern, is away for a few months at a mining job, Lilly has her hands full with her patients and her younger sister visiting for the summer. Lilly turns to her good friend and neighbor, Armina, to help keep things in order—until a mysterious chain of events leaves Armina bedridden and an abandoned baby on her doorstep. Lilly works to uncover the truth, unaware of what a mess she's found herself in until a break-in at her clinic puts her on high alert. As she struggles between what is right and what is safe, Lilly must discover the strength of her resilient country neighbors, her God, and herself.

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Customer Reviews

As describes the book: Lilly Corbett Still has grown to love her life as the small-town doctor of Skip Rock, a tiny coal community in the Kentucky mountains. Though her husband, Tern, is away for a few months at a mining job, Lilly has her hands full with her patients and her younger sister visiting for the summer. Lilly turns to her good friend and neighbor, Armina, to help keep things in order--until a mysterious chain of events leaves Armina bedridden and an abandoned baby on her doorstep. Lilly works to uncover the truth, unaware of what a mess she's found herself in until a break-in at her clinic puts her on high alert. I didn't realize that it was part of a series. If I had know that, it was unlikely I would have selected it. Many times an author does a good job in allowing you, as the reader, to catch up if you missed the first book. This book however, I felt lost and I could never catch

up and understand what was going on. The characters didn't fully develop for me, and I couldn't understand for the life of me as to why her husband never made an appearance. I just felt lost. It was a book that I quickly breezed through, just to get to the end. Despite the disconnect, I did sense a good story beneath the layers of the book. But my suggestion is to read the first, so you can perhaps fall in love with the characters. I did like the cover art, because that and the synopsis on the back of the book is what prompted me to select it. I received a free copy of this book from Tyndale Publishers through the Tyndale Blog Network in exchange for my honest review. I received no compensation for this review and was only required to give my honest opinion which I have done. All opinions stated are my own.

3.5 Stars Tattler's Branch was the first Jan Watson book I have read. I was disappointed when I started reading it and realized that there was a series before this book that had more back story to the characters. While I was still able to follow the story pretty well, I still would have liked to have that extra information about the characters. Lilly is the town doctor in a small town in Kentucky. With her husband away on mining business, Lilly finds herself keeping busy with her visiting sister, several patients, and her good friend Armina. When Armina witnesses a strange event, she finds herself bedridden and then can't remember what she saw. All anyone knows is that a baby showed up with Armina. Other events point to some fishy business and Lilly finds herself trying to do what she can to stay safe and keep trusting in God for the strength she needs. I found this book easy to read and I breezed through it pretty quickly. Like I mentioned, this wasn't the first book about some of these characters but I still thought the author did a good job of introducing them to new readers like me. Because I enjoyed this book, I will probably go back and read the other books about these characters. I received a free copy of this book from Tyndale Publishers through the Tyndale Blog Network in exchange for my honest review. I received no compensation for this review and was only required to give my honest opinion which I have done. All opinions stated are my own. Leah B. Must Love Books mustlovereading.wordpress.com

Age Appropriate For: 15 and up for reading level, murder, mild romance, and mildly scary scenes
Best for Ages: 18 and up
Last year, a friend was kind enough to lend me Skip Rock Shallows and I really enjoyed that story. When I saw that Tattler's Branch was more of Lilly's story, I jumped at the chance to review it. This book was a real page turner. Although it was over 300 pages, I finished it in two days because I was so eager to see what happened. It combined personal struggles and medical as well as murder mystery. Yes, this book kept me turning pages. I have to

admit, though, I really found myself liking Lilly less in this book. She has secrets, and her husband was far from home. I could say more about it, but I don't want to give away any of the book. However, the secrets and the absence of Tern detracted from the book in my opinion. The setting of the book still has the same, strong historical backdrop. It captures both the harshness and the beauty of life in the Kentucky mountains. For those who enjoyed both Christy, and/or Skip Rock Shallows, you will enjoy this book. Jan Watson has an amazing style. She really knows how to tell a story. Which is why, even though I didn't like some of what she did to the characters, I am giving this book four stars. I recommend this book to those who enjoyed Christy, what to find out what happened after Skip Rock Shallows, or just want a book that keeps you turning pages. I received this book from Tyndale in exchange for my honest review. I was under no obligation to write a positive review. The opinions in this review are entirely my own.

While I enjoyed this book, I did not enjoy it as much as the first of the series, Skip Rock Shallows. This book takes place a couple of years after the first and can be read independent of the first (there is enough background). The main character is still Dr. Lily Corbitt in a small coal mining town in Kentucky. The suspense centers around a baby that Lily's friend, Armina, has brought home and a possible crime that her friend witnesses but does not remember what she saw or the baby. There is also a man that is spying on the doctor as well. There is more suspense in this book but the whole book is at a much slower pace and I found myself not being as engaged. (The first book, I did not want to put down most of the time.) I also felt that I wanted more detail. I still enjoyed the setting and the overall premise but it just didn't deliver as smoothly as the first.

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