

This Lane Ends

John Gillerlain

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Last week, Phillip Forsythe was named the executor of his Gran's will. Phillip is a Traffic Coordinator. His job is to improve the state's accident statistics by driving 30 miles under the speed limit during the busiest commuter hours. He quiets the abuse from the commuters he's "protecting" with Irish coffees during his shifts. His employer won't pay for his recent on-the-job collision. Cancelling Gran's car insurance is the only thing he's done as executor. If he can't pay for the other driver's car, he won't be able to sleep with her. If he can't pay for Gran's car, he'll go to jail for mismanaging the estate. Phillip is considering amending the estate's inventory, removing the necklaces and rings and bracelets he doesn't remember Gran ever wearing. It would be easier for him to decide what to sell if Gran would shut up. This Lane Ends is about Inheritance, Lies, Alcohol, Hallucinations, and - most importantly - Traffic.

This Lane Ends Details

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From Reader Review This Lane Ends for online ebook

Miguel Sanchez says

Despite the deplorable nature of the main character, I couldn't help but laugh at least once a page.

The novel is a strange balance between desired redemption and the cynical ways that goal can be achieved, all while making light of terrible circumstances. I kept rooting for the main character, knowing he was more of a villain protagonist than a traditional one.

The satire is obvious from the first chapter and it's a nice second layer to the narrative. I'm not certain what the author was targeting specifically, but the message about government programs not being effective was clear.

It's funny, it's endearing, it's a bit thought provoking, and I didn't expect to enjoy it nearly as much as I did.

Leo Buijs says

Collection of very different shorts. Liked the first section best.