



The Sooner I Go

by Heather Cumiskey



Romance - Suspense

376 Pages

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Book Review

Reviewed by Romuald Dzemo for Readers' Favorite

The Sooner I Go by Heather Cumiskey is the story of Brynn Gallardo, a recent high school graduate who is still devastated by the simultaneous deaths of her boyfriend Cody and her musician parents in separate car accidents on the same night seven months ago. She is financially ruined and feels isolated when she takes a job as an intern at the prestigious Kershaw McKenzie advertising agency. It is here that she meets and starts a romance with Micah Kershaw, the young associate creative director, who secretly struggles with hallucinations and schizophrenia, which he calls the "Shadow People." All Brynn wants is to rebuild her life in a cramped West Village "coffin," but the past starts to catch up with her as disturbing revelations about the two accidents surface. Could she have been involved in the accidents, and how? A girl from the past might unravel Brynn's secret and even take away the one person that matters most to her.

Heather Cumiskey delivered a story that kept me guessing. I never knew where the plot would take us, and the author never dropped any hints. Character development was stellar, with Brynn depicted as an unreliable narrator. On the surface, she is crushed by grief, but beneath that veneer, there is far more to unpack, including manipulation and complicity. Micah was an element of mystery and suspense for me, a character I suspected from the moment I knew him and discovered his mental illness, but whom I found irresistible. The Sooner I Go is suspenseful, the kind of novel that is filled with mystery, skillfully examining the stigma of mental health, economic struggles, and false identity. The dialogue is delivered with wit, and the writing shines with terrific descriptions, making this story a breezy read.