

Reviewed by: Lucinda E Clarke
Review Rating: 5 Stars

Jinx (Valerie) Curry is the star of Tracey Lampley's book *All Money Ain't Good Money*. She is a single mum and works as a private investigator for Capricorn Hayes - they are also having an affair. The problem, as far as Tracey is concerned, is that she is only ever given tame assignments such as stalking cheating husbands and wives. She longs for a big case and her chance comes when she is tasked with finding the missing daughter of a congressman. She has no idea of the danger she will face as she interviews a prominent rapper who is surrounded by bodyguards; the politician himself with more than a few shady connections; and a black Corvette that attempts more than once to run her over. Altogether, Jinx is not having a good life.

All Money Ain't Good Money is the first book in the Jinx Curry Mysteries by Tracey Lampley. It is an easy read, and the plot is straightforward. Jinx has just about everything thrown at her. There are several attempted assassinations, thugs threatening her with guns, a mother with a gambling problem whose debts she needs to pay, and an impatient loan shark who is doubling the interest every day. Set in the Stone Mountain area near Atlanta, the majority of the characters are of African American descent and the dialogue reflects this. It is essentially a very American book, where the characters carry guns, and indulge in a healthy interest in the bedroom. The reader bonds with the characters. The relationship between Jinx and her daughter Arielle is horrific. I wanted to give the daughter a good shake and admired Jinx's patience with her. The book has a good storyline and a satisfactory ending.--
--Reviewed by Lucinda E Clarke for *Readers' Favorite*

"All Money Ain't Good Money by Tracey Lampley is a detective story that will keep readers captivated from start to finish. [The novel]is a modern-day investigative novel with many twists. Readers will be kept guessing who the main suspect is and whether Elena is alive."
Readers' Favorite 4-Star Review By Bryone Peters

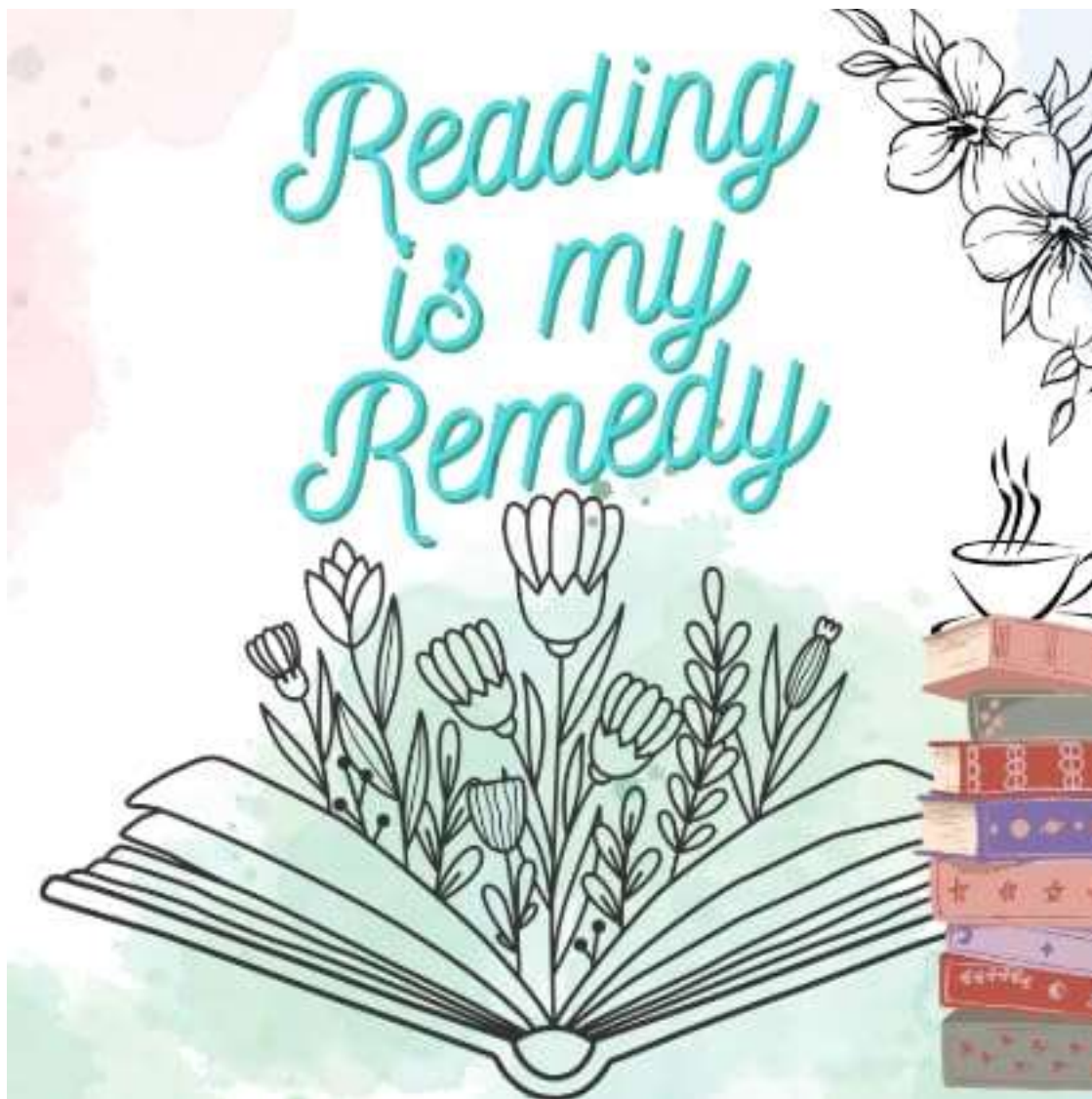
"All Money Ain't Good Money is an action crime thriller that will keep the reader riveted from start to finish. This skilled narrative from Tracey Lampley is engaging and positively invigorating. Readers who love crime and detective novels will find this book exhilarating and gripping."
Readers' Favorite 5-Star Review By Angelique Papayannopoulos

Tracey Lampley is a wonderful author who has kicked off an electrifying series that promises to captivate and enthrall! With Jinx Curry stepping into her most daring case yet, brace yourself for a rollercoaster of suspense, intrigue, and unforeseen twists. This is just the beginning of a series that will keep you on the edge of your seat.-----Suzie Housley's Bookshelf of Midwest Book Review

If you like Stephanie Plum, you'll love private investigator Jinx Curry. She's a gutsy, resourceful woman with a personality as spicy as her last name. Wanting more of a challenge than catching cheating partners for her firm's clients, she's given a missing person case that challenges her to the max. Handling a teenage daughter with growing

pains and navigating a complicated relationship with her boss add layers of complexity to the plot of an intricate tale with some surprising outcomes.

Tracey Lampley's *All Money Ain't Good Money* is an engaging read delivered in a fluid, streamlined prose style with natural dialogue and just the right amount of detail to picture each scene. Lampley conveys Jinx's feelings—both emotional and physical—with unique wording. Instead of the usual chapter endings that detective and mystery novels tend to employ, Lampley caps hers off with a slam that makes you want to read on more than a contrived "cliff hanger" does. It is the first book in what promises to be a thrilling series featuring a protagonist you can get behind.-----Diana Royer, Professor Emerita of English, Miami University



[Chelsie S.](#)

[4.0 out of 5 stars Jinx will take you on a wild ride trying to find a missing girl.](#)

Reviewed in the United States on September 8, 2024

This title really fits the story for Jinx and what she gets herself into with this missing person case. Getting sick of sneaking photos of cheating spouses, she wants to do more and asks her boss Capricorn to give her a real case. A case that has meaning and will give her credit and show her real skills. She has no idea what she is in for when he decides to give her the case of the congressman's missing granddaughter. The congressman also sweetens the pot with a bonus of his own if Jinx can find her, but she also only has so many days and the clock is ticking. As she starts digging into this case, she realizes it won't be as easy as she thought and it seems that someone is out to stop her with every clue and piece of information she gains. Dealing with family and financial issues, she knows she has to stay focused and find this girl. That bonus would mean everything in getting her out of debt and on the other side of red for once with bills. As she gets closer to finding her, she realizes that all money ain't good money and often money or the lack there of, has the trail that may just lead to the answers. This was a wild ride with Jinx, her personal life and the life of her crazy family members. Thank you to the author for the complementary ebook and to Wow! Women on Writing for the tour invite. This review is of my own opinion and accord.



[Karen Siddall](#)

5.0 out of 5 stars Get ready for this gritty, determined new female PI!

Reviewed in the United States on September 7, 2024

"All Money Ain't Good Money" is the first book in author Tracey Lampley's exciting and gritty new PI series featuring the smart, sexy, and savvy Jinx Curry. Set in a sweltering Atlanta in July, Jinx is determined to solve the case of a congressman's missing granddaughter and claim the large bonus fee that would go a long way to solving some of her own problems.

Valerie "Jinx" Curry is a 33-year-old divorced mother of a teenage daughter, working matrimonial cases for Capricorn Hayes and Associates, a well-established private investigations firm in Atlanta, Georgia. Jinx is straightforward and direct in dealing with

people, her career goals, and her personal needs and desires. There is palpable sexual tension between her and her boss every time they are in the same room. She has a “ride or die” BFF in her friend, Shalonda, and a first-cousin frenemy, Pookie, who lend their advice and strong shoulders to lean on when needed. After breaking open a particularly high-profile case involving a cheating husband, Jinx feels ready to take on more substantial assignments, and Capricorn relents. However, her first case is an absolute doozy.

Her new client is the arrogant and controlling Congressman Nate Calloway, who wants her to locate his missing granddaughter, whom no one has seen or heard from in six months. As she interviews the granddaughter’s friends and family, Jinx quickly realizes that locating Elena may not be in the young woman’s best interests, and she struggles with her conscience and her need to earn the very generous bonus. Meanwhile, Jinx’s personal life is in turmoil as she deals with her rebellious teenage daughter and her mother, who has run up considerable gambling debts that need immediate attention.

The plot is well-paced as Jinx closes in on the surprising truth of Elena’s disappearance with loads of action and twists all along the way. Her investigation pits her against some interesting, uncooperative, and dangerous individuals, but she holds her own in face-to-face confrontations. Jinx may be one of my favorite new characters of the year, and I am definitely looking forward to her next appearance.

I recommend ALL MONEY AIN’T GOOD MONEY to mystery readers, especially those who like strong Black female protagonists or an Atlanta or Georgia setting.

I voluntarily reviewed this after receiving an Advanced Review Copy through "WOW! Women On Writing Book Tours."

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4.0 out of 5 stars Adventure in Atlanta

Reviewed in the United States on September 2, 2024

What would you do to get yourself out of financial debt? Would you go against principles or hold fast to who you are?

Jinx is one of those characters who has a lot of grit but is infallible, like everyone around her. She has found herself in a few predicaments, but luckily, she has a sound support system to help keep her out of too much trouble. I wasn't sure if I would like her, but as I came to know her character, I discovered a complex woman doing her best in her situation.

This novel covers various issues, including race, money, deceit, and family, all wrapped in a world of potential danger. Jinx is stalked and attacked, but she gives almost as good as she gets.

The mystery is finding Elena at her grandfather's behest. But is that the best thing for Elena? I found the grandfather to be a little suspicious and heavy-handed. I wondered why he was in such a panic about locating her. Was she really missing? Or hiding from someone? The truth was interesting and disturbing at the same time.

The story moved quickly and kept me engaged until the wee hours of the morning as I finished reading this book. There are many pieces to put together for the mystery and Jinx's life. I don't want to reveal any storyline spoilers, but it had a few twists I didn't expect. It also reminded me that life with a teenager can be trying, even more so for Jinx!

I hope this will be a series. I can see many future adventures for Jinx as a private investigator. There are also her personal relationships with her boss and her ex-husband to suss out.

We give this book 4 paws up.

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[Anthony Avina](#)

5.0 out of 5 stars Thrilling and Engaging Mystery...A Must-Read!

Reviewed in the United States on September 8, 2024

A rich and mesmerizing mystery, the author perfectly balances the dynamic character developments with the unfolding mystery of this young woman's disappearance. The protagonist is a strong yet vulnerable heroine who evolves and grows over time during this story in a way that feels real and honest about the situation. The action and intrigue that go into this narrative allow the mystery to unfold at a great pace, never revealing too much too soon.

The author was able to incorporate so many different themes into this story. From racism and corruption to family dynamics and vengeance, the story managed to not only bring readers into the investigation but also mirror the main story with Jinx's personal growth and the threats she faced in her own life. The tension that built over time and the empathy that the protagonist brought to the investigations made her instantly engaging to readers.