

***Homicide in Hardcover* by Kate Carlisle**

The first book in the *Bibliophile Mystery* series is a fantastic opening installment for an incredible cozy mystery series. Brooklyn Wainwright is highly skilled in book restoration and while attending a Gala at the prestigious Covington Library in San Francisco, her mentor Abraham is murdered. Brooklyn is then tasked with restoring the seemingly cursed copy of Goethe's *Faust* that he had been working on at the time of his death.

Like all amateur sleuths in cozy mysteries, Brooklyn gets into some trouble trying to investigate who would want to kill her mentor and why. It's a very exciting ride with lots of twists! The additional characters in Brooklyn's life are interesting and very well-developed. Thankfully we get to know most of them better in subsequent books in the series.

Another aspect of this series that I really enjoyed was learning more about bookbinding and book restoration. It's a fascinating process, and author Kate Carlisle was clearly very diligent in her research. (This is also the case with her *Fixer-Upper Mystery* series with all of the incredible details that she adds to the home restoration process.)

I first read this book in 2012 and eventually worked my way through the next 11 books. The series is now up to 17 books, so I recently listened to it on audio as a refresher before working my way through the rest of the series. While I absolutely loved the book when I read it in print, I have to say that it loses something on audio. The narrator was great for the most part, but some of the choices she makes for the voices of the male characters didn't quite work. I would definitely recommend reading a print copy or the eBook. It's a bit of a darker cozy series, but I find those to be perfect for chilly fall days!

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