

***Lending a Paw (A Bookmobile Cat Mystery) by Laurie Cass***

This is the first book in a cozy mystery series about a librarian who starts a bookmobile in a small resort town in Michigan and her newly adopted cat becomes the unofficial bookmobile mascot after stowing away on the maiden voyage around the county. Minnie Hamilton is hesitant to let her cat Eddie join her on the bookmobile, but relents when the patrons repeatedly request his presence. It's Eddie that leads Minnie to a dead body, and her amateur investigating gets her planted firmly in the killer's crosshairs.

While not my favorite cozy mystery, this was a light, fun read. The mystery itself was fine, but the red herrings were blaringly obvious. I'll definitely read more in this series, because I like cozies set in and around libraries, and my hope is that the series gets better as it goes on. Eddie was probably my favorite character, since he reminds me of many cats I've known and loved in my life. I do hope that there is more character development in the later books in the series. This one does an okay job of setting up the town and the cast of characters that will likely show up in the other books in the series, but I felt like the author just barely scratched the surface.

GK