

***The Cat Who Saved Books* by Sosuke Natsukawa**

The title of this novel combines two things I love, cats and books, so I expected to be charmed – and I was! A reclusive teen is about to close down the secondhand bookshop he inherited from his beloved grandfather, but a mysterious cat intervenes with a strange request. From there, the cat and the quiet teen are off on adventure after adventure, all in the cause of books and reading.

Author Sosuke Natsukawa is a bestselling writer in Japan, and this heartwarming story is a great example of why. I enjoyed the successive labyrinths as well as the underlying message about the role of reading in our contemporary world. I also enjoyed the book being rather short and the pace of the book being quick. Recommended, whether you love cats or not!