



The Cat, the Lady and the Liar

Leann Sweeney

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Cat quilter Jillian Hart finds a gorgeous stray cat belonging to the fabulously wealthy Ritaestelle Longworth, who believes she's being drugged. Before Jillian can get to those charges, a body turns up in the lake-and her cat Chablis finds Ritaestelle nearby. Can Jillian's cats aid her in solving a mystery with decades old roots?

The Cat, the Lady and the Liar Details

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From Reader Review The Cat, the Lady and the Liar for online ebook

Nicole says

Jillian finds a stray cat belonging to a very wealthy woman, Ritaestelle Longworth, and is charged with returning the cat to her owner. Things seem a little suspicious at the Longworth residence and when a dead body turns up in Jillian's backyard, it's up to Jillian to figure out what's really going on.

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One of the best cozy mysteries I've read. I never found myself bored with the storyline, and it kept me guessing who was the culprit. I loved how much the cats played into the story and the fact that they were named after different types of wine, endeared me to the story even more! If you're a fan of cozy mysteries and are also a cat lover, then I definitely recommend you try this series out. This is the third book in the series and I haven't read the first two, but I had no problem following along with the storyline.

Jeannie and Louis Rigid says

Leann Sweeney's "The Cat, The Lady, and the Liar" was suspenseful from sentence one, "I try not to lie." I was hooked. I mean held in my excited palms is a wonderful book filled with all sorts of possibilities and so I quickly read the next sentence, "Honestly."...

If this doesn't intrigue you, how about Cats with personalities, abilities to sleuth, and comfort? Not to mention their intriguing names: Merlot, Syrah, and Chablis? What does a Black Cat have to do with a murder?

Jillian Hart, pet quilt maker and sleuth will find out but not until you go through many breath-catching moments.

This book is due out on shelves April 5th, 2011 per Amazon.Com. I was given the gift of an advanced copy by the truly gifted Author.

Nora-adrienne says

The Cat, the Lady, and the Liar
By Leann Sweeney
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When cat quilter Jillian tracks down the owner of a gorgeous stray cat, the trail leads her to none other than fabulously wealthy, undeniably quirky Ritaestelle Longworth. The gossips in town are questioning Ritaestelle's sanity, and the high-society grande dame isn't helping matters with her wild accusations that someone is drugging her to keep her away from her beloved cat.

Before Jillian can get to the bottom of Ritaestelle's charges, a body turns up in the lake behind her house, and her cat Chablis discovers Ritaestelle standing nearby. Can Jillian's three wise cats aid her in solving a

mystery with roots that are decades old? Jillian knows from experience that to find the purr-petrator, she'll have to prick up her ears and follow the paw prints straight to a killer....

Jillian is a bit of a soft touch when it comes to animals, especially cats. So when her friend Shawn asks for her help with a lovely long haired black cat names Isis she tells him she would take her in till Shawn can arrange her return to her owner. Isis was saved from near certain death when she was found along a busy highway. Unfortunately Isis does not get along with the other cats in the shelter Shawn runs (which is why she ended up with Jillian).

Jillian is going to find herself dragged into all the dirt and hidden feelings of Ritaestelle Longworth's family. She is will become deeply involved and have to deal with a murder and keep Ritaestelle out of trouble, proving to the town that she is not crazy or involved in the murders.

As the third book in Leann Sweeney's "Cats in Trouble" series continues to thrill and entertain me. I find that her main character Jillian is becoming more 3-D with each outing. I can just picture her in my mind as I enjoy the book.

Leann Sweeney is also the author of the Yellow Rose Mysteries and she can be found hanging out at www.leannsweeney.com

FTC Full Disclosure: I received this book as a gift from a friend and decided to share my thoughts on it.

Bethj says

I have really tried to like this series. It has the cozy atmosphere, cats and quilts. But now that I have read this third installment, I have to concede that there is just something missing. My main problem with the books are the plots. The reasonings for the crimes are a little far fetched and really don't meld at all. This latest installment is the worst of it. You just can't believe the ending. It is not developed enough as plausible, and the cliched characters do not help in the matter. I don't think I will try again with this series.

Ashley says

To be honest, I read about halfway and put it down. I just couldn't get past some of the problems I had with book #1 - I felt they had gotten worse. I felt that the explanations of why the main character did what she did were weak at best, and I couldn't get behind her.

Nancy Bradford says

This is the third book in a series about Jillian Hart and her cats. Ms Sweeney has introduced what I hope to be a recurring character in the form of Ms Ritaestella Longworth, she is a charmer. The characters that have been in the previous books have expanded so that we are learning more about them and yet I'm sure there is more to learn.

Anyone who loves Cozies should love this one.

Lindig says

Barely okay. Silly plot. Silly heroine. Terrible proofreading, as in "The cop waived their car through" (I'm assuming this is not the author's fault). However, the dialogue is the author's fault and I can't tolerate "if only they would have . . ." especially twice in one paragraph.

Ellery Adams says

I love the Cats in Trouble series. From the small-town South Carolina setting, to the cast of interesting characters, to the memorable animals, reading these books are like going out for coffee with old friends. In this third installment, a cat with a diamond collar is in trouble and behind the closed doors of her antebellum mansion, all is not as polished and genteel as it appears. Jillian sets out to aid the abandoned animal and, in her gentle manner, uncovers an even more serious crime. The perfect read for a lazy spring or summer afternoon!

LORI CASWELL says

Jillian Hart is back with her three wonderful frisky felines, Chablis, Syrah and Merlot, for another Cat In Trouble Mystery. This time they are joined by yet another feline who was found near the highway. This rescued kitty's high brow attitude has proved to be too much for shelter rescue owner Shawn Cuddahee. He has begged Jillian to take the royal Isis and help him determine if she should be returned to her rightful owner, who has not returned any of his calls, or be put up for adoption for someone that truly wants her.

This leads Jillian to a huge mansion in nearby Woodcrest, the home of Ritaestelle Longworth, the registered owner of the lovely long haired, green eyed, black cat with diamond studded collar. Unfortunately the meeting doesn't go as planned and Jillian ends up making a hasty exit from the grand estate.

Jillian soon learns the town gossips are questioning the incredibly wealthy Longworth's sanity due to some unusual behavior and when Ritaestelle shows up at Jillian's door clad in a bathrobe, wearing slippers claiming she is being drugged and is in fear for her life Jillian starts to believe the gossip.

But before Jillian can even start to can get to the bottom of Ritaestelle's claims a body is found in the lake behind Jillian's home and the eccentric Longworth is standing at the end of the pier holding Chablis, and both she and the cat are covered in blood. Ritaestelle begs Jillian to help her and she can't say no. So with the help of her intuitive feline companions she begins her quest to claw and paw out the clues to solve yet another murder mystery.

The last book in this series was my favorite cozy of 2010, so you already know I love this series, but Leann Sweeney has outdone herself with yet another purrfect paws down marvelous mystery.

The new characters added from Woodcrest to the already beloved characters from Mercy are well defined and cleverly written. You can envision them popping right off the page, from the eccentric Ritaestelle and each of her quirky relatives, down to the gossiping Dolly at a local coffee shop. Have to say I loved Dolly, reminded me of someone, just can't put my finger on who :)

The plot is strong, smart, intriguing, and will keep those pages turning one right after another until the very end. The cat's antics will have you chuckling throughout. Why are cats whiskers a certain length? The answer can be found within the pages of the truly wonderful story.

If you are already a fan of this series you are going to absolutely love this next edition. If this series is new to you and you love a fun mystery that will engage you immediately and/or love cats, pick up the first two novels so you are ready when this one is released in April. I promise you will love each and every word!!

Thank you Leann for allowing me to read an advance edition and not making me wait until April to enjoy this awesome cozy, kitty treat.

Disclosure of Material Connection: I received this book free from the author. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255 : "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising."

Nancy Ellis says

Needed a mental rest following my previous book, and this was perfect. This is an adorable series!

Laura Lee says

Isis is one privileged cat. She is the pet of the richest woman in the county and she gets kicked out of her house. What happened? Jillian, the famous cat quilter, takes Isis in until the mystery can be solved. These books have a pretty good mystery and I really enjoy the antics of Jillian's three cats. This one was especially cute. Have enjoyed the series.

Yvonne says

I love this series and have been looking forward to catching up with it for awhile. I finally had the chance. It was well worth the wait.

Jillian Hart, once again, finds herself in the middle of a murder mystery. Not only are her cats involved, but so is the stray that she found. She tries to return the cat to her human, Ritaestelle, but she's not sure she's fit to be taking care of a cat. She can't even take care of herself, plus there are a ton of rumors surrounding Ritaestelle and they aren't good rumors. Until Jillian can get to the truth, she's not releasing the cat.

When a dead body turns up and her cats are threatened, Jillian is even more determined to uncover what's going on with Ritaestelle. Thanks to the help of her cats and a couple of friends, Jillian's investigative work is a bit easier.

Jillian has grown quite a bit since the first book. I adore her. The relationship she has with a local private investigator is slowly moving forward. It's going at a wonderful pace since she's only been widowed for a couple of years. It's a growing realistic relationship.

The storyline moves at a steady pace. I didn't figure out whodunit, but I did have my suspicions. The regular characters in this series have become old friend who I enjoy re-visiting now and then. I'll definitely be continuing with this series.

Narilka says

Jillian Hart is at it again! There is a cat in trouble and she must help out. A gorgeous stray cat has been found by the local animal shelter and Jillian has agreed to help track down the owner, who happens to be none other than Ritaestelle Longworth, the fabulously wealthy owner of a large estate in a neighboring town. Rumor has it that there is something wrong with Ritaestelle and her family claims she's been stealing from stores around town. Ritaestelle claims someone has been drugging her and spreading lies. Before Jillian can get to the bottom of things a body turns up in the lake behind Jillian's house with none other than Ritaestelle standing nearby.

The Cat, the Lady and the Liar is the third in Leann Sweeney's *Cat's in Trouble* series. I am absolutely loving these cozy mysteries. The characters have grown on me to the point I feel like I'm visiting old friends. Jillian is back along with her best friend Deputy Candice Carson, step daughter Kara and new boyfriend/PI Tom Stewart. We are also introduced to the Longworth family and in the next town over. What a group of characters! It is unfortunate and completely believable that a group of people would behave so badly to towards their benefactor. Leann Sweeney knows her cats! Jillian's cats contributed greatly to the story, helping to provide clues without being overly obvious.

The mystery is well done, lots of clues and small town gossip, with nice little twists and a misdirection that kept me guessing almost to the end. It was a satisfying read.

Sabra says

One of the characters is named Ritaestelle, which is fine except they call her that over, and over, and over again. No shortening to Rita. Ritaestelle this, and Ritaestelle that. After a while I just skipped over the word entirely. Yes, it was bad enough to make my book review go down a star!

Ian says

After Isis is found abandoned on the side of the highway, Jillian is enlisted to investigate her food woman

and find out if she is fit to own a cat.

When she first arrives at Jillian's home, she isn't too happy, hissing and arching her back at Jillian's three cats, Merlot, Syrah and Chablis. But Jillian's cats won't take any stick from the spoiled Isis and before long she knows her place in the pecking order.

When Isis's food woman turns up on Jillian's doorstep one night, she couldn't know that her very future hangs in the balance. Her food woman is suspected of murder and needs the help Jillian and her cats to clear her name.

The Cat, the Lady and the Liar very much follows the same formula as all the books in this series. There's nothing ground-breaking about it but it's an entertaining cozy murder mystery and well worth the effort.
