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A Spell Of Trouble (Silver Hollow Paranormal Cozy Mystery Series Book 1)



Synopsis

When town trouble maker, Louella Drummond, drops dead in front of Isolde Quinn's pet store just minutes after threatening both Issy and her cousin Graeme, the police in the small lakeside town of Silver Hollow assume it's from natural causes.... Until it's discovered that Louella was murdered. Not just any murder, though. Murder by paranormal means. Dark magic that could only have been performed by a powerful witch. And every law-abiding paranormal knows that dark magic is forbidden and carries strict punishment at the hands of "the committee" - the mysterious entity that provides law and order within the paranormal community. Being witches, Issy and her three cousins fear they are at the top of the suspect list. To make matters worse, a secret division of the FBI has gotten wind of the happenings in Silver Hollow and sent two agents to ferret out paranormal activity. Even worse than that, Issy is annoyingly attracted to one of them! Armed with their unconventional posse of familiars, Issy and her cousins dodge the efforts of the 'real' police and the special FBI agents while following a twisty path of clues that lead to a shocking betrayal.

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Customer Reviews

I wasn't sure about this book at first. I've read all of the Mystic Notch, and the Lexy Baker series, so I'm a fan of Leighann Dobbs' light-hearted cozy mysteries. But with this book, with all the magical aspects, I was uncertain if I would enjoy it or not. But as it turns out, I was pleasantly surprised! I enjoyed the Quin cousins, and all of the magical elements - especially the animals as familiars (and not just the usual cat, dog familiars, but even birds and pigs!). The mystery kept me guessing and wondering who the culprit was, and at the end, Silver Hollow is not just a place to read about, but a place I'd like to live in! All in all, a very good cozy mystery.

When I heard that Leighann Dobbs was doing a new series, I was excited. I have enjoyed every book that she has written. This new series was very enjoyable and a fun read. I look forward to many books in this storyline.

I usually love this author's books, so when this one appeared - for a limited time - as a Nook book, I bought it. I am sorry I did. I got to page 11 and couldn't continue. The idea of a town full of "paranormals" reminds me of many, many shows on Syfy Channel or the like. It's been done, and usually not very well. This book unfortunately doesn't do it well, either. Yes, I know it's a work of fiction but some of her readers are Pagan, and this plot is so silly and so...what's the word? Ridiculous, I think. Mixing small-town "realism" (for lack of a better word) with citizens who are witches (and werewolves, apparently) is hard to pull off successfully without offending Pagans who might read this book. Either make it realistic, or make it so fantastical that the characters don't reinforce the worst stereotypes about Pagans and try to pass it off by "it's just fiction". Like it or not, there are actual witches who live in real life, in real communities, who do not act like the wicked witch in the Wizard of Oz, or like the girls in "Charmed". And who are quite frankly sick of books that trot out all the old tropes and characterizations that have been done time and time again. A good example of good writing and plot would be the Good Witch tv movies. The protagonist at least acts like a human being! There is no humanity in these characters in this book. I was surprised and disappointed, as I have read nearly all the Lexi books (the one who owns a bakery) and have enjoyed them a lot. This book falls way short of the standard set in those books. If you know nothing about Paganism, or have no friends who are Pagans, or even who think that Pagans act the way these folks do in this book, you will probably love it - as it won't challenge your prejudices at all. If you are Pagan and looking for a fun bit of fantasy full of complex characters, pass this one up.

A fun new series from cozy mystery writer, Leighann Dobbs. Silver Hollow is a magical town with

several families of witches and other paranormals. It's a bit confusing keeping up with the rules of the various law enforcement agencies. Almost too much to absorb. Solving the murder mystery became secondary to sorting out the use of dark magic. Recommend this series for fans of Leighann Dobbs. Enjoyable read but not my favorite from Ms Dobbs.

Isolde Quinn, owner of Enchanted Pet Store known to her relatives as Issy always has trouble with Louella Drummond, the town trouble maker and for some reason just doesn't like Issy. So it's no surprise when Louella enters her store early one morning with Lottie Owens from the board of health. Louella insists that Issy has a solstice toad in her shop and determined to shut Issy down. A little monochrome charm never hurt anyone and she was sure the town of Silver Hollow wouldn't mind her using it so that Louella wouldn't be able to see the toad. Totally frustrated Louella, Lottie and Issy walk outside the store and Louella drops dead. Totally unsure of what happened. Bring in the local Chief of Police Owen Gleason, who feels Louella died from natural causes until the FBPI enters the case (Federal Bureau of Paranormal Investigation) and declares it murder. Issy is worried that someone in town is performing Black Magic and begins her own search of looking for who this could be. Issy and her three cousins, Gray who owns the beauty shop, Raine the landscaper and Ember owner of a candy store are interesting, and the animals are their "familiar" are Bella, Mortimore, Cosmo, Bellatrix and Endora and Brimstone who belongs to no one but always seems to be one step ahead of all. I love that Issy has named her old truck, "Brown Betty," and the way Dex Nolan, FBI always appears like he might have a GPS on Issy. Leighann Dobbs teaming up with Traci Douglass have captured a good story line, with paranormal individuals living in a New England town. I can't wait for book 2 in this series. If you haven't read the Mystic Notch, and the Lexy Baker series I suggest you do. The other series just out that is really great is Leighann Dobbs and Harmony Williams, Scandals and Spies.

Silver Hollow is a quaint little New England town that just happens to be a haven for paranormals. Issy and her cousins help to keep the town safe from evil. But when a person dies outside Issy's pet store, she and her cousin Gray are implicated as their personal items keep turning up during the investigation. Can they catch the real murderer before the Paranormal Council or the FBPI (FBI's secret Paranormal division) does? If you like Leighann's other cozy Mystery series, you're going to love this one!

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