

Welcome to
HAPPY TRAILS
CAMPGROUND

OFFICIAL BOOK CLUB KIT

*Forests, Fishing,
& Forgery*

A CAMPER AND CRIMINALS COZY MYSTERY

→ BOOK 3 ←

GOOD FRIENDS

CAMPFIRE STORIES

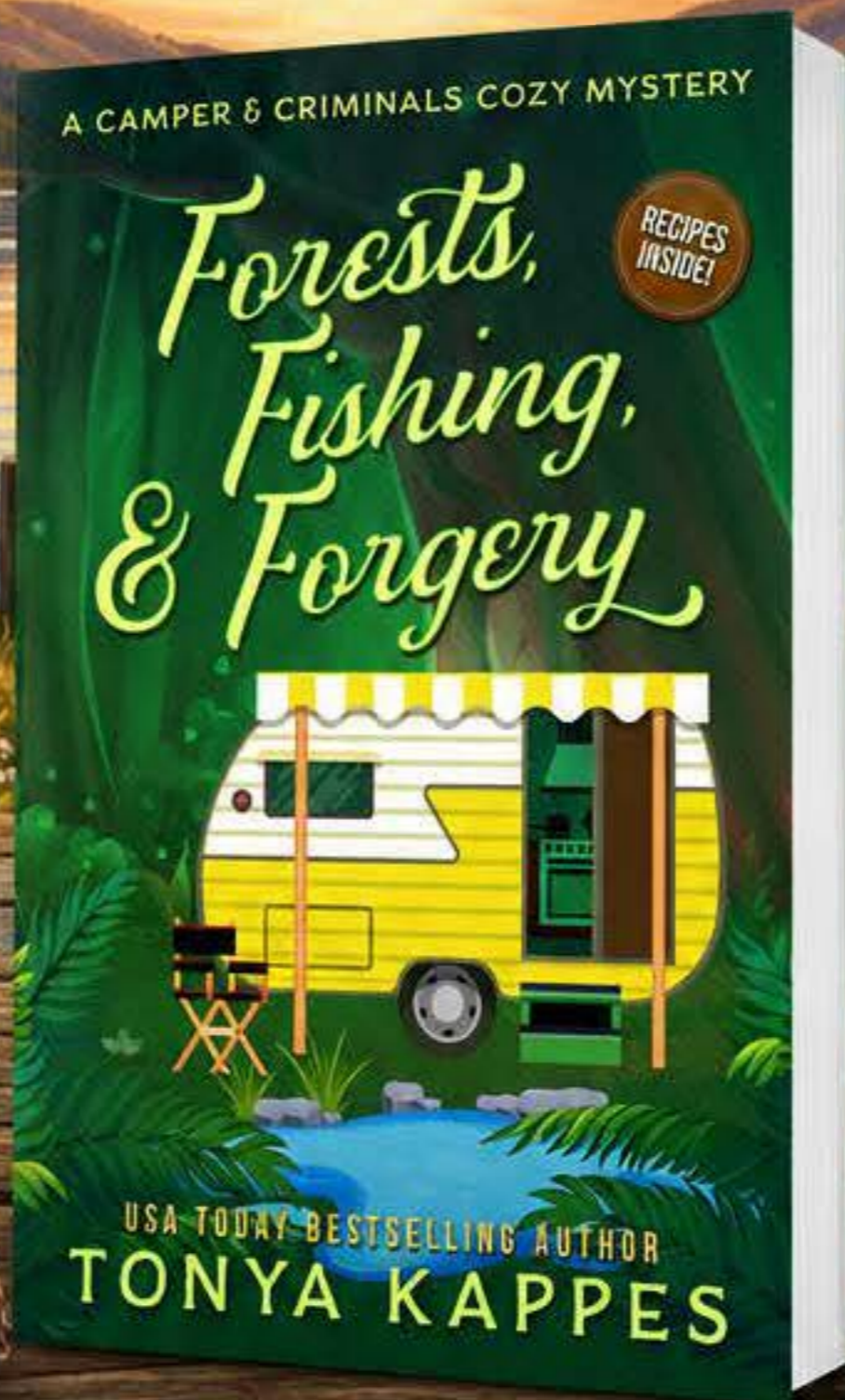
LAUGHTER

MYSTERIES

ADVENTURES

MEMORIES

Life is
BETTER
—at—
HAPPY
TRAILS



Mystery.
Friendship.
Small-town
Charm.
Big-time
Adventure.

CLUES
&
COFFEE

GRAB YOUR COFFEE, GATHER YOUR FRIENDS,
SOLVE THE MYSTERY!

WELCOME
TO
HAPPY TRAILS
CAMPGROUND

Welcome to BOOK CLUB!

Forests, Fishing & Forgery

by Tonya Kappes

A CAMPER AND CRIMINALS COZY MYSTERY, BOOK 3

Welcome, fellow readers!

Pull up a camp chair, pour yourself something warm, and get ready for a cozy evening of good conversation. This month we are heading to Happy Trails Campground in Normal, Kentucky — where the fall foliage is stunning, the community is tight-knit, and somehow, trouble always finds innkeeper Mae West.

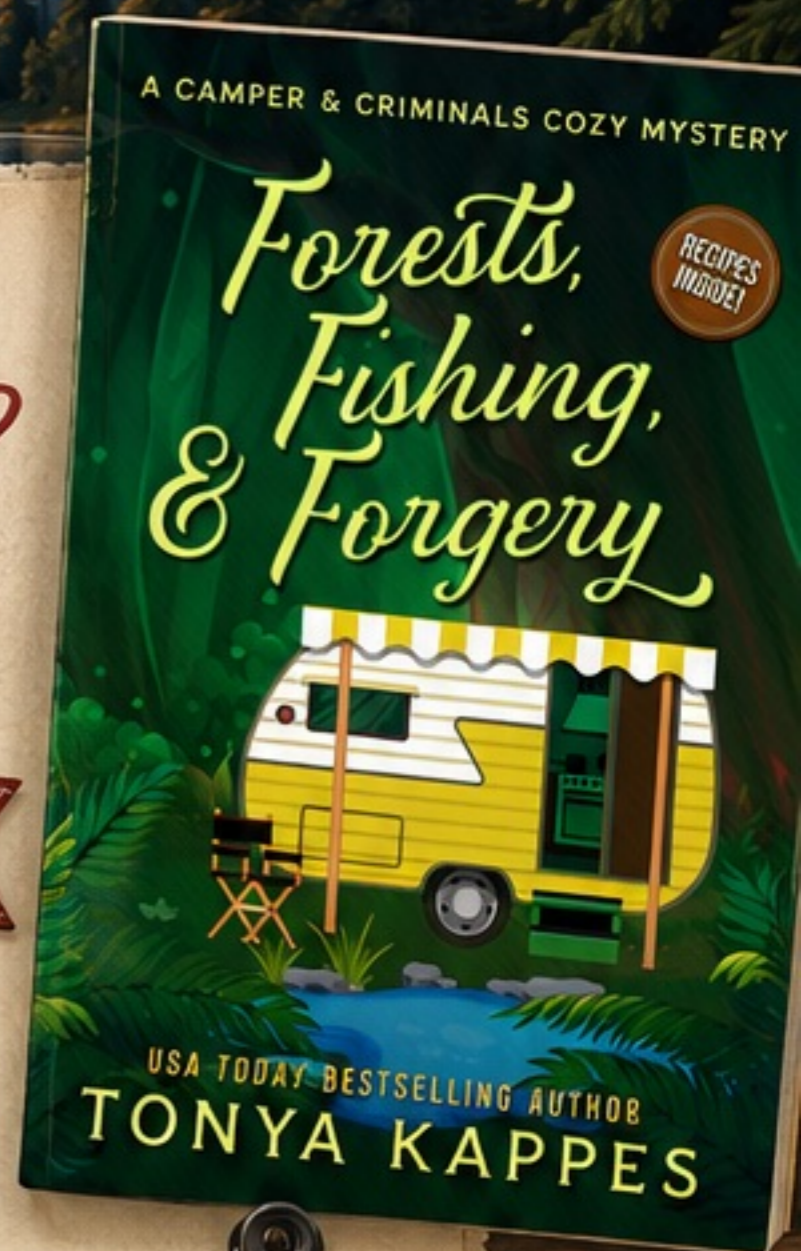
In *Forests, Fishing & Forgery*, Mae is finally gearing up for a romantic hiking date with Ty — until she nearly stumbles over a dead park ranger. What follows is a tangled web of drought politics, missing bachelors, local corruption, and a mystery that reaches all the way to the mayor's office. Oh, and Fifi is about to have puppies.

Whether this is your first visit to Normal or you've been following Mae from the beginning, we're so glad you're here.


A Few Things to Think About Before We Begin...


- ♥ Team Ty or Team Hank — and are you willing to defend your answer?
- ♥ Did you see the Mayor coming as the killer, or were you fooled?
- ♥ And most importantly — were you more worried about Fifi than about solving the murder?


Happy reading, happy trails,
and happy sleuthing. ♥
SEE YOU AT THE CAMPFIRE!



What to Expect TONIGHT

 Discussion questions covering the mystery, the characters, the romance, and what makes a great cozy.

 No spoiler rules — everything is fair game once we start!

 Campfire snacks encouraged (s'mores, anyone?).



Book Club

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Forests, Fishing & Forgery by Tonya Kappes

A Camper and Criminals Cozy Mystery, Book 3

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Getting Into the Story

1. The book opens with Mae nearly stumbling upon Ranger Corbin Ashbrook's body in the woods during a hiking date with Ty. What did this opening scene establish about Mae's life at Happy Trails — and about her luck with romance? Did it pull you into the story right away?
2. Happy Trails Campground in Normal, Kentucky feels almost like a character itself. What details made the setting feel vivid and real to you? Did it make you want to go camping?

Characters & Relationships

3. Mae West is a woman who reinvented herself after a difficult childhood in the foster care system. How does her past quietly shape who she is now — her drive, her loyalty to her community, her need to fix things? Did you find her a relatable protagonist?
4. Dottie Swaggert is one of the most memorable supporting characters — sharp-tongued, no-nonsense, and fiercely loyal. What were your favorite Dottie moments? What does her friendship mean to Mae?
5. Mae is clearly caught between Ty and Hank. Ty is the southern gentleman; Hank is gruff and unpredictable. Team Ty or Team Hank — and why? Do you think either relationship has a real future?
6. The Laundry Club ladies (Abby, Queenie, Betts) serve as Mae's informal investigation team and social support network. What does this group dynamic add to the story? How does it reflect the kind of community Normal is?

The Mystery

7. The book gives us two deaths — Corbin's (initially appearing accidental) and Alison Gilbert's (murder). How did you feel when the deaths seemed like they might be unrelated? Were you convinced, or did you keep looking for a connection?
8. Mayor MacKenzie turns out to be the killer, motivated by protecting her political future and her brother Skip's grant money — not a dramatic personal grudge, but a self-serving cover-up. Did that feel like a satisfying reveal, or did you want a bigger motive?

9. Mae pieces together the key clue — “S.T.” with hearts in Alison's calendar — at the hair salon, surrounded by gossiping townsfolk. Cozy mysteries often use community gossip as an investigative tool. What did you think of how Kappes used that device here?
10. Hank officially tells Mae to back off the investigation, yet clearly relies on her. What do you make of their working dynamic? Is he using her, respecting her, or something in between?

Themes

11. The drought threatening to shut down the national park hangs over the whole story — affecting Mae's business, the rangers, the town economy. It felt very grounded and real. Did it add stakes for you beyond just the murder plot?
12. Forgery is right there in the title — but the “forgery” here is more about a corrupt official forging ahead with deception than literal document fraud. How did the theme of dishonesty and covering up the truth run through the story beyond just the murder?
13. Fifi the pregnant dog is woven throughout — everyone fussing over her, checking on her, waiting for her puppies. What role does she play emotionally in the story? (Bonus: did you find yourself more anxious about Fifi than about the murder?)

Cozy Mystery as a Genre

14. Cozy mysteries have a distinct set of conventions — an amateur sleuth, a tight-knit community, low violence shown on-page, a touch of humor, and a romance subplot. Did *Forests, Fishing & Forgery* satisfy those expectations for you? Is there anything you'd want more or less of?
15. This is the third book in the series. If you've read the earlier ones, how did this book deepen the world and characters? If this was your first, did you feel like you were missing too much, or does it stand on its own well enough?

Looking Ahead

16. The book ends with the case closed but Mae and Ty's relationship still up in the air after the awkward morning when Ty spots Hank leaving her camper. Would you keep reading the series to see where that goes? What would you most want to happen next?

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USA TODAY BESTSELLING AUTHOR
TONYA KAPPES