

***Flying Solo* by Linda Holmes**

When her great, great aunt Dot passes away, Laurie Sassalyn is the only one of her four siblings (all brothers) who steps up and takes on the job of cleaning out her house. Dot was lifelong single woman, traveler, adventurer, photographer, and avid knickknack collector – so this is no small job. Laurie returns to her hometown with a month leave to tackle the boxes upon boxes upon boxes. She enlists her childhood friend June to assist. She also gets reacquainted with her high school/college boyfriend Nick (who is the town librarian and divorced) as she settles in.

Laurie soon finds something odd – a carved wood duck decoy carefully wrapped in a blanket at the bottom of a trunk. Curious, she thinks. She, June, and Nick tackle the mystery of the duck and meet quite a cast of characters along the way. They even enlist Nick's feisty grandmother to help. What they discover about the duck sheds a surprising light on Dot's past, which makes Laurie question how well she really knew Dot and consider her own life choices.

This is humorous, light read with a lot of delightful characters. Even the less delightful characters are somewhat amusing due to the author's writing style. This book also presents a different viewpoint on relationships than the traditional romance, which is a refreshing twist.