



Folly Cove

Holly Robinson

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Folly Cove Holly Robinson

An emotional and rich new novel about family and secrets from the acclaimed author of *Chance Harbor*.

The ties of family bind us forever—no matter how far we may go to escape them...

The Bradford sisters are famous in Rockport, Massachusetts: for their beauty, their singing voices, their legendary ancestors, and their elegant mother, Sarah, who has run the historic Folly Cove Inn alone ever since her husband disappeared.

The two youngest sisters, Anne and Elly, fled Folly Cove as soon as they could to pursue their dreams and escape the Bradford name, while Laura stayed and created a seemingly picture perfect life. After a series of bad decisions, Anne has no choice but to come home and face her critical mother and eldest sister, reluctantly followed by Elly, another Bradford woman who's hiding something.

As the three sisters plan a grand celebration for their mother's birthday, they struggle to maintain the illusions about their lives that they've so carefully crafted. But when painful old wounds reopen and startling family secrets are revealed, they soon discover that even the seemingly unbreakable bonds of sisterhood can be tested...

READERS GUIDE INCLUDED

From the Trade Paperback edition.

Folly Cove Details

Date : Published October 4th 2016 by Berkley

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Author : Holly Robinson

Format : Kindle Edition 397 pages

Genre : Fiction, Romance, Contemporary, Librarian

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From Reader Review Folly Cove for online ebook

Pat says

A very entertaining story about three sisters, their Mom and a life built on lies. Emotional, at times funny and a look at a family close to shattering.

First read by this author and I will be looking for more. Full review to follow...

Jennifer S. Brown says

Rarely do I read a book in a single day, but FOLLY COVE absolutely captivated me. Maybe it was because I saw my own relatives in these characters (Sarah reminded me of my own grandmother), but this story about three sisters and their mother gripped me.

Folly Cove is an old inn in Rockport, MA, run by single-mom Sarah and her three daughters, at least until two of the daughters are old enough to escape. The third daughter married, had a child, and settled in to continue helping out. At the start of the novel, however, the two other sisters are pulled back to Folly Cove, and all three must work together--despite that not all are speaking to one another--to plan their mother's birthday. I didn't want to put this book down so I could find out what all the secrets are--and there are plenty of secrets to be uncovered.

Robinson's writing is gorgeous and her descriptions are spot on. In describing an older couple staying at the inn, she writes, "They looked like a pair of pigeons mated for life." So evocative! I thoroughly enjoyed FOLLY COVE.

LynnDee (The Library Lush) says

EDIT 12/8/2016

Review originally published in Booklist Online on October 20, 2016.

Set among the lush backdrop of a New England autumn, this charmer tells the story of love, family, sisterhood, and "letting go of the life you planned to make room for the life that's waiting for you." The Bradford sisters—Laura, Elly, and Anne—grew up seemingly to have it all, until their father abandoned them. Then it took everything they had to help their mother, Sarah, keep the Folly Cove Inn from financial ruin. As soon as they could, Elly and Anne fled Folly Cove to pursue their dreams, leaving their sister Laura behind to cope with their stoic mother. Now the sisters are reuniting to prepare a grand celebration for their mother's birthday. But there are secrets that can no longer be kept and past wounds that refuse to heal. Only when their picture-perfect lives are shattered do the Bradford sisters realize how strong the bond of sisterhood really is. Although the writing can be a bit cliché, Folly Cove is a warm story of sisterhood that will take the chill out of the autumn air.

Robert says

Three sisters are each at a low point when they meet up at Folly Cove, their childhood home. Mom and a few others are still local. Some dysfunctional family dynamics, lies and old secrets. A few events along the way but the story is all about the interaction between family members. Two of them are instigators trying force issues out in the open. Every plan they devise seems to work out but only after causing some pain.

Annette says

A fast enjoyable read! Loved it!

Nancy says

Was a very easy read about three sisters Laura-elly-Annie how they come back to folly cove and help each other with their problems Annie a single mom with four month old baby father went back to wife Laura husband gay tell daughter and pull self together Elly from California comes easy to help friend Ryder comes to visit and they get serious. Mother Sarah deal with husband gone thirty years gets letter he died. Flossie aunt to girls helps them all

Billie says

The three Bradford sisters are together to have a celebration for their mother, Sarah. There is a mix of personalities and complex relationships to each other and their mother. It is set in Massachusetts, where Sarah has run the Folly Cove Inn since her husband disappeared. This story is all about family relationships and has great descriptions and detail. Holly Robinson is a talented author and this is one of her best books. I received the book from Goodreads Giveaways for a review.

Stacey Lechner says

Thank you to Net Galley and Berkeley Publishing Group for a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. Another great read by Holly Robinson who has a gift for writing compelling stories about family drama and dysfunction. This book tells the story of the Bradford sisters, who have grown apart after two of them left their home to settle into their own lives away from their distant but domineering mother. Anne and Elly find themselves at loose ends and decide to return home to face the judgement of their older sister Laura and their mother.

While they start to mend fences and plan a grand birthday celebration for their mother, old family secrets and resentments surface, which forces the sisters to decide once and for all how strong the bond of family actually is.

Shelley says

Author's guest post at my blog:
<https://bookfare.blogspot.com/2017/07...>

OpenBookSociety.com says

<http://openbooksociety.com/article/fo...>

Folly Cove
Holly Robinson
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Synopsis:

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As the three sisters plan a grand celebration for their mother's birthday, they struggle to maintain the illusions about their lives that they've so carefully crafted. But when painful old wounds reopen and startling family secrets are revealed, they soon discover that even the seemingly unbreakable bonds of sisterhood can be tested... (Goodreads)

Review:

This is a book about family drama, family loyalty, family secrets and family love. It took me through a wide range of reactions: laughter, sadness, shock, frustration and understanding. This is one of the best family saga books that I have read, and I enjoyed it immensely.

Anne Bradford, the youngest of the three Bradford sisters, has returned home to Folly Cove Inn, after breaking up with her boyfriend. A boyfriend who happened to be a married man. And she is not returning home alone. She has a four month old daughter that her family knows nothing about. She does not know what type of reception she will receive but she knows she needs to go back and figure out what to do with her life.

Elly has also returned home at the request of her other sister, Laura. Laura is upset that Anne has returned, due to a nasty fight that the two have had. Since Elly is between jobs and does not have a serious relationship, she agrees to come and try to play peacemaker between the two.

Laura is the only one of the sisters that did not leave Folly Cove. She has stayed, married, had a daughter and opened her own riding stables. She knows that things between her and her husband are not great, but she is willing to do whatever it takes to make her marriage work and keep her family intact.

Sarah, the mother of the three sisters, is a no-nonsense type of woman. She has had to make sacrifices during her life to keep Folly Cove Inn open and successful. She has secrets that she has kept hidden from her daughters for most of their lives, and although she is not proud of that fact, she feels she had no choice but to keep certain things from her daughters.

Flossie, Sarah's sister-in-law, is a new age woman and a thorn in Sarah's side. Flossie knows all of Sarah's darkest secrets.

The two do not get along very well at all, but the girls all love Flossie.

The characters are well developed, well rounded and three dimensional. All five of the female leading characters are strong willed, independent, smart women. They are not afraid of working hard and doing whatever needs to be done to help them achieve their goals. The one area in their lives where they flounder is in matters of the heart. They all seem to be cursed in love and all have track records of picking the wrong man.

The author is very talented in her descriptive writing and through much of the book, I felt like I was right there, watching all of the action taking place and listening in on conversations. I could picture the rooms at Folly Cove Inn and all of the traditions held in the rooms of the resort. She is also very talented in writing the emotions of her characters, what they are thinking and feeling. At times the emotional turmoil and raw reactions felt so human and real. That was some pretty heady stuff and made for great reading. I enjoyed the fact that the book was told from four different points of view: Anne, Elly, Laura and Sarah. I felt this allowed the reader to learn more about each character's background and the reasons behind how their lives have turned out.

I cannot recommend this book enough to anyone who enjoys a superbly written women's contemporary. If I could, I would give this book more than five stars. Every time I had to stop reading, I found myself wanting to get back to the book as soon as possible. I will definitely check out the other books written by this author and I am looking forward to that.

Chris C - A Midlife Wife says

Holly Robinson brings us a great story with all of the ingredients of a family saga. Secrets, sibling problems, jealousy, misunderstandings, marital issues, and so much more is wrapped into an engrossing read you hesitate to put down.

I found myself reading late into the night due to the wonderfully crafted in-depth descriptions and character development that begs you to keep turning those pages. As the secrets and issues in this family unfold, the more you have to read. While in some parts you can guess where the story is going, it does not lessen the interest or the overall effect of this engrossing story.

You can get lost in Folly Cove easily and I did. A wonderful read that you can fall into and maybe even recognize parts within your own family.

Full review on <http://amidlifewife.com/folly-cove-ho...>

Susan Peterson says

The Bradford girls, Laura, Elly, and Anne were close once, as close as only sisters can be. They'd learned to rely on each other after their father abandoned them and their mother focused on making their inn, Folly Cove, a success. But along the way, betrayals and suspicions have driven a wedge between the sisters, creating distances, physical, and emotional, that threaten to break them apart. When their mother's stunning past is revealed to them, revealing lies that are unimaginable based on the facade their mother has worn all their lives, the sisters must come together to move forward, or watch their family crumble. Folly Cove is an intimate, gritty look into sisters and families, told with warmth and humor. As the story unfolds we get to know each of the sisters and their mother in detail; their triumphs, their tragedies, their losses and their accomplishments. Holly Robinson has a gift for developing the characters and the settings in her books, and once again she has woven the two into an enthralling story about families...the things that drive them apart, but mostly about the love that binds them together.

Carol Boyer says

My heart was feeling all of the emotions this author so richly portrays with the Bradford sisters, Luara, Anne and Elly, their anger, resentments, and withheld secrets from one another, and how their present lives were affected and intertwined. They had been estranged, with some hurts too deep to fathom yet they came back home to the family inn to celebrate their mother's 65th birthday. The history of their childhood was not what they had been led to believe. Sarah, their mother lived her life under false pretenses, the lies she had told everyone, and the status she claimed and upheld was a devastating secret. There were wonderful pages when the love of the sisters pasts were shared with uplifting humor, and the longing hope that they could be as carefree like that again. Holly Robinson captures your heart with this wonderful family saga as only she can. Her message that family drama can change and forgiveness is possible when the truth is revealed and wonderful options are possible.

alwaysneed2learn says

To be honest, I expected this to be a light chick lit romance, but found it a lot more complex (and enjoyable). It probably deserves at least 3.5 stars.

It is told from several different point of views, but it does not detract from the flow of the story. However, if you are distracted often as you read (as I am), it might take a minute to place each one of the characters and their unique back story. Still, the effort is rewarded in a surprisingly well-developed and engaging read.

Sonja Yoerg says

For my money, there's nothing better than characters withholding information, telling white lies and flat-out misrepresenting themselves. It's so much like real life--and so fun. Indeed, this lively novel might've been subtitled: *Sisterhood of the Unraveling Secrets* because all three sisters (and their mother) have an uneasy relationship with the truth. Readers who are familiar with Robinson's deft hand with scene setting, dialogue and pacing will not be disappointed here as they race toward the satisfying conclusion.

Foley Cove is as honest as the characters within often fail to be, and its message is clear. No one can break your heart like your family and no one else holds greater power to mend it.
