

Flying by the Seat of My Knickers

Eliza Watson

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Why run from your troubles when you can fly instead?

When Caity Shaw is fired from her first job that doesn't require an elf uniform, her older sister, Rachel, an event planner, hires her to work a meeting in Dublin. Caity jumps at the opportunity to travel abroad and escape her pathetic life. However, even four thousand miles from home, there's no avoiding debt collectors, an overbearing mother, and haunting memories of a controlling ex.

While in Dublin, Caity suffers a series of humiliating mishaps, causing her to lose even more faith in herself. Caity struggles to earn Rachel's respect — and to keep Declan, her hot Irish coworker, at arm's length. Declan repeatedly saves Caity's butt and helps boost her self-confidence, making it difficult to keep her distance from the charming womanizer. When Declan helps her research her Irish grandmother, Caity discovers the mysterious past of the courageous woman she barely knew might hold the answers to her future.

**As noted, this is Book 1 in a series. The series is best read in order.*

Flying by the Seat of My Knickers Details

Date : Published March 25th 2016 by Elizabeth Jane Watson


ISBN : 9780989521970

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Format : Paperback 204 pages

Genre : Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Romance, Fiction, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Flying by the Seat of My Knickers for online ebook

Petra Q says

What a gorgeous book cover and very apt title for this book!

I was contacted by Eliza Watson to read and review the first book in the Caity Shaw series called Flying by the Seat of my Knickers and I must say this book tick all my bookish boxes. It is a quick paced, refreshing and romantic read. I loved the very well developed characters, the fantastic setting and the mystery surrounding the Shaw family history.

When we first meet Caity Shaw, she is in a very vulnerable position in her life. After being fired from her job and scared to death by her ex-boyfriend stalking tendencies, Caity jumps at the chance to fly to Dublin and help out her sister plan a fantastic event in one of the most gorgeous and mysterious cities in the world.

It takes a few embarrassing mishaps for Caity to learn the ropes and perhaps even gain some much-needed respect from her sister and her new colleagues. Caity certainly takes her new job seriously and as the book progresses, she is becoming more confident and stronger. It also helps to have a gorgeous Irish mentor to help her navigate the merry Dublin way of living.

I really enjoyed this book. I instantly bonded with the leading character Caity Shaw. There is definitely more to her personality and I can't wait to see her grow into even more of a confident woman as she takes on this new high-flying job. She is scared by her ex-boyfriend controlling behaviour and the way she had to change her life to please him but she had a lucky escape and now she is determined to mend her relationship with her sister Rachel.

Aside from her new job Caity struggles to keep the charming Declan in the arms length after her previous experience and the gossips swirling around this Irishman are a lot to deal with at the moment. But there is so much a girl can do when the man in question is so gorgeous, friendly and very helpful! The strong attraction between Caity and Declan is very clear from the beginning. They both have a lot in common and I can't wait to see where the story will take them next.

I loved the way Caity wants to know more about the history of her family and why her grandmother fled Ireland and made her new home in America. There is a mystery to solve and Caity and Rachel are prepared to dig deep into their Irish family connections to find out the truth. It may also bring them closer together.

What a fantastic book! I can't wait to delve into the second book in this series!

Tara says

Cute story, perfect light read. Caity is likable without being a damsel in distress.

Also hats off to the author for bringing to light important messages about domestic abuse - that it can be

emotional as well as physical.

Starting book two now!

Christy Newton says

Brilliant! When the story starts out you can't help but feel sorry for Caity and all she has been through, but you'll soon stop feeling bad for her and be cheering her on. The characters are all relatable and well written. Full of comedy, hope, adventure, and even a hint of romance. I really enjoyed this book and look forward to reading the next. Well done, Watson!

Sarah says

This is the first book in a series of books following Caity and her travel adventures. This particular novel is set fully in Ireland which you really get a great sense of what Ireland is like, as in the people and certain things that it is best known for.

Caity is almost a disaster waiting to happen. Her life just seems to be one disaster after another and she doesn't have much faith that things are going to get any better when she comes to Ireland to work with her sister Rachel.

There is a lot going on in the novel with Caity trying to find out more about her heritage, with her mothers family coming from Ireland. There is also Caity's past with her ex which especially doesn't seem to have been a happy time which has left Caity very wary.

Flying By The Seat Of My Knickers is a relatively short and entertaining read. It was fun joining Caity on her journey of ups and downs. The authors writing skills make this a compelling and light hearted read and very much look forward to more in the series.

My thanks to Rachel at Rachel's Random Resources for inviting me to be part of the blog tour. My opinions are my own and not biased in anyway.

Aleen ~Lampshade Reader says

Originally posted on my blog: Review: Flying By the Seat of My Knickers (The Travel Mishaps of Caity Shaw Book 1) by Eliza Watson.

“What better place to reinvent myself than a place where nobody knew me. I could be whoever I wanted to be.”

Caity Shaw finds herself in Ireland recently broken up from an emotionally abusive relationship that eventually caused her to lose her job. She now relies on her sister to save her from being totally money less. It seems that Caity's life had reached a low point and she is constantly nervous because of the stalker status she put her ex in. There are a lot of relatable characteristics that Caity has and one of them is her low self esteem. She is far from perfect and seeing her perfect sister, the one that doesn't screw up and has a secure job, makes her even more vulnerable.

However, besides the fact that she has every right to be depressed, it's her funny outlook on her situation that really made the book shine. I loved her mishaps. Her tripping in front of the boss, her Irish undies and socks, and her crush on her hot Irish co-worker, made me smile a lot. She is such a dork and that makes it all the more fun to read.

The writing style is fun and witty. I can only imagine what Caity's adventures throughout this series will hold. Because it doesn't end in this book. I'd wager that this series will not read as a standalone. So it's best to read this one first. I think that her growth as a character is not over, she has still has a lot to overcome. I can't wait where her research into her background will take her and I hope she hooks up with Declan. Surely, there's more to him than a seemingly playboy personality.

Caity is definitely flying by the seat of her "Irish" knickers, which totally suits her personality and tone of the story.

I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review

Beth says

I loved this read, love the cover, such a great read ... I am new to Eliza, I have never traveled overseas. I would love to one day. it is a light hearted read and I was immediately pulled in ... such a quick read for me. I will look forward to reading more from Eliza soon enough. Well done. (:

Elle's Book Blog says

:: 5 Pretty Little Stars ::

This is a such a fun novel! I read it in one day as it is not only fast paced but extremely interesting! Seeing as I am not much of a traveler I really look forward to reading books that take place abroad and this one did just that! Not only this, the characters in this novel are extremely relatable. I truly felt like the heroine, Caity, could be a best friend of mine. This is honestly one of my favorite things about this novel. If I cannot relate to the characters, it's a wash for me. But this one definitely had a set of characters that were relatable. In addition to all this, character growth and real life situations are prominent in this book. Everyone has a past and some of us have even had to live through some tough times. This is the same for Caity (which is why I think she is one of those characters that we all fall in love with). But us readers can see her growth and the way she is able to overcome her hardships.

All in all, I loved this book. I can't wait to see the series continue and will definitely be picking up the others books when they are available. This is one of those feel good novels that will leave readers feelings its

positive energy and wanting more. I highly recommend it!

Alexia Adams says

As a somewhat jaded traveler, *Flying by the Seat of My Knickers* let me relive the joy and excitement of that first trip abroad where everything is different and new. I've never been to Ireland so I was really keen on the descriptions and little insider information for this destination. The characters were well-rounded and interesting and by the end I was really rooting for Katy. Just a note, this is not a traditional romance but anyone who secretly dreams of going to Ireland will love it. A thoroughly enjoyable read.

Zoe (Attic Salt Reviews) says

I don't know if I've ever read something this fun and lively! *Flying by the Seat of my Knickers* had it all; stimulating writing and an original plot topped off with a quirky main character. This is a brilliant read for anyone looking for something amusing and upbeat.

When Caity is fired from her first proper job, her only fall back is to work for her sister, Rachel, as an event planner in Dublin. Jumping at the chance to travel, even if it means dealing with her overbearing, workaholic sister who is as much a stranger to her as the others working with her. Longing to prove her worth, Caity sets out to become Rachel's best employee while reconnecting with her Irish heritage and hopefully her sister along the way. But nothing can separate her from the problems back home. As her possessions dwindle, her mother becomes more overbearing (if that's even possible), and memories of her controlling ex bear down on her, Caity struggles to pull her life together.

This book is a short, silly, feel-good story that also carries some powerful messages. A little ditsy and vertically challenged, Caity is an interesting and quirky character that I wanted to know more about. While she didn't fully appeal to my ideals of a strong female character, she did get herself through some hard times and eventually learnt her worth, growing a backbone and a bit more self-confidence which was fantastic.

The male lead, Declan is such a sweetie and it seems like he's been crossed in love in some way or another. He deserves some loving – which I hope will happen sooner or later. He's the mysterious, handsome and charming Irishman, the girl should go with him right – everyone knows I would...

The only thing I really had a problem with was, at times, I felt some of the characters came straight out of some soppy, over-stereotyped, teen romance. Gretchen was probably the worst I mean, the girl's name is Gretchen and if that isn't a blaring sign for 'evil bitch' in today's literature then I don't know what is. She's the chick who can't let go of the guy and so strives to ruin everyone else's chances. I can understand why Gretchen was included and, fortunately, she didn't have a huge part the story but I wasn't a fan.

As for the ending, this book left me aching for the next one. There wasn't much of a wrap up regarding relationships, no final direction for Caity's life or even hints of a decidedly happy future. Sure, there is stability assured but, by the end, we know that our leading lady is still working on finding who she is, a mere step away from her forever.

Samantha March says

For full disclosure, I was a beta reader for this novel in the early stages. I was full of excitement when I read an early draft, and even more excited once I was able to dive in to the finished manuscript. This is a book for me! As someone who loves travel, reading a novel set in Dublin had me all kinds of hooked. But more than just a very cool setting and reading about castles, there is a solid plot here. We follow Caity who has always been in the shadow of sister Rachel, and now is at her beck and call after being fired from her job and getting thrown a bone by Rachel, an event planner. What Rachel doesn't know is the real troubles Caity is fleeing from – namely, an abusive ex-boyfriend who had a hand in causing Caity to lose her job. The sisters clash over a multitude of items while working together, but also bond over their Irish heritage and the mystery of the grandmother. I loved the way this book ended also, and am really hoping for another novel following Caity. Wait! Looking on Amazon, it says this is Book 1 of The Travel Mishaps of Caity Shaw series. YES! She made for a fantastic heroine and I truly enjoyed watching her journey and can't wait for more to come. One for your reading list!

Lyra says

Flying by the Seat of My Knickers is a fun, fast read that reminded me of all the joys of my first major travel experience. Caity, an American hoping to escape a string of bad luck, takes a job assisting her event-planer sister with a week-long meeting in Ireland. More of a women's fiction, this first person focuses on Caity as she works to impress her sister and regain her shattered confidence. I loved the character's voice and how she provided a voice of optimism and compassion in spite of the jaded professionals around her. I was surprised how quickly I finished the book and the journey and the end left me wanting more, so I was glad to see a second book in another city will be coming soon.

I don't get to travel as much as I would like, but this book was like virtual vacation and a reminder of why Ireland is on my to-do list, as is the next book in this series.

Javeria says

My rating: 4.5 stars

Flying by the Seat of my Knickers follows Caity Shaw and her journey to find herself/hide (?). After getting fired from her job Caity travels abroad to work for her sister, Rachel. However, things don't go as planned and Caity ends up suffering a few mishaps causing her to lose more self-confidence. With the help of her co-worker, Declan, Caity starts gaining more confidence and learning more about her Irish grandmother.

This is one of the cutest books I've ever read. I'm still on high from it. It's a power pack filled with laughter, joy, and growth. Caity is an amazing and relatable protagonist. She was sucked into a relationship with a manipulative ex and once she got out she didn't have a lot of self-esteem. I adored her growth in this book, she worked really hard to impress her sister and when it backfired a few times she was really bummed. But, I

love how that didn't stop her from trying again. The mystery of her Irish grandmother is quite intriguing and I cannot wait to find out more about it. I also loved the romance - it's going to be a slow burn and I'm so excited. :D I cannot wait for more Declan and Caity.

When I first started I had a feeling it would remind me of *Confessions of a Shopaholic*, however, it didn't. Don't be fooled by the synopsis. The plot, characters, writing style, everything about it is near perfection. I can already tell this will be a go to book for me and Watson can easily become one of my go to authors.

I received a reader's copy in exchange of an honest review.

Megalion says

As fluffy "chick lit romance" goes, I enjoyed this one. I don't read this genre much anymore as I prefer more substance to my "female centric" fiction. Characters of substance and all.

However, something about the title, cover, and premise tickled my fancy and happily... delivered on its promise.

Usually the problem with this genre is that the heroine has too much of "TSTL" (too stupid to live) to tolerate. But Caity Shaw, while flighty, simply needs to grow up a bit.

It's a fun lark with added good drama of estranged sisters learning to love each other as the adults they now are.

Easy recommend to fans of good beach reads or light chick lit reads. The romance was a fun romp too.

Thank you to the publisher for this free copy of the book in exchange for this honest review.

Sonia says

Esta novela moderna, cómica, te hace viajar con el personaje. Es un libro corto perfecto para ese viaje en avión o ese fin de semana lluvioso que solo quieres estar en tu sofá en pijamas con un buen libro relajante. Te deja queriendo saber más sobre el personaje, sobre su próxima aventura. Lo mejor es que tiene una segunda parte que ya anote en mi lista de libros a leer.

Erin says

This book was darling. I really loved the main character Caity. She was completely likeable, relatable and just a joy to follow. Her story was far from perfect and I think a lot of readers can relate (or could relate) to that time of struggling financially, trying to figure out who you are meant to be, trying to please a sibling, navigate romantic relationships and deal with the parents who "just want the best". I thought Caity was very well developed throughout, yet she still is a work in progress. I have to say I was pretty excited to read that there will be more to come of this character. While its sometimes nice to have everything tied up into a neat bow, I enjoy that there is more to Caity in the future. In addition, I have traveled to Ireland in the past so appreciated the Dublin setting descriptions- it felt very authentic. I would recommend this book and really look forward to more from this author to come. I received an e-copy of this book in exchange for a fair and honest review.
