



## Fusion

*Posy Roberts*

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## **Fusion** Posy Roberts

*A love story comes out of the shadows.*

Everyone in Kevin's life knows him as straight rather than bisexual. There was no need to come out until now, but loving Hugo is worth any prejudice he'll encounter. Hugo does his best to be patient while Kevin navigates his way toward openness, but he refuses to be put back in a closet for long.

Kevin wants to tell his kids without screwing up their newfound stability, and he worries about telling his ex because Erin might use the truth against him to renegotiate custody. Kevin wants it all finalized, but time isn't on his side.

When Erin gets grim news, it shakes everyone to the core and rips Kevin away from the life he planned with Hugo. The news brings Hugo's past hurts bubbling to the surface. Yet when Erin turns to Hugo for support, their new connection shows him how essential he is to Kevin and his kids.

Despite the chaos, it's clear Hugo is very much a part of this unconventional family.

North Star Trilogy

## **Fusion Details**

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Author : Posy Roberts

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## From Reader Review Fusion for online ebook

### SueM says

[Erin, Kevin's soon-to-be ex-wife, is diagnosed with terminal cancer mere days before their divorce is final. Halting the divorce proceee

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### Jess A Jaye says

Wow I read North Star books one and two back-to-back and just wow. How have I not read this series before. It is sooooo good. I'd been hearing good things and it's true what everyone says - I loved it. Hugo and Kevin are everything. They are such a great couple and totally deserve to finally be together again after being high school boyfriends and then losing touch. In this book just when you think they will finally get their HEA after being reunited in book one and get the life they want tragedy strikes. Your heart will break for not only them but the rest of their family. You will fall in love with the rest of the family as much as you do with Hugo and Kevin. I am so fully invested in this series that I can't wait for book three. I know there will be some turbulent times still to come but I'm sure it will make things even more bittersweet.

I don't wanna give any spoilers but I can't recommend this series enough. It's superb! Read it - you won't regret it!!

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### Jenni says

Hugo and Kevin, Kevin and Hugo: how I love thee.

\*sigh\*

Before I get started, *Fusion* is the sequel to *Spark*. You can read my thoughts about *Spark* here. Briefly, though, *Spark* is where you learn who Hugo and Kevin are and what makes them tick. They met and fell in love in high school, but went their separate ways for many years. While Hugo was out of the closet and living his life as an actor and voice-over guy, Kevin got married and had two kids. In *Spark*, they reunite (after Kevin's relationship ends) and begin exploring options for their future together.

*Fusion* jumps right back into the thick of things, with Hugo and Kevin working hard to blend their lives. There are jobs, friends, and most importantly, family to consider. Hugo has to learn to move beyond the things that ordinarily would make him withdrawn or angry or upset. It was so awesome to see him come into his own as a caregiver, friend and step dad. He ran into some pretty awkward, uncomfortable and downright sad situations in *Fusion*, but wow, does he handle it all with grace!

Kevin also does some serious growing in *Fusion*. He's determined to give more of his time and energy to his kids, and he, too, makes some big changes, all while being a rock for his Hugo.

The family faces some turmoil, but I enjoyed how they came together—even the kids shine. There are,

naturally, fabulous supporting characters, and the storytelling and complexity of the plot is perfect.

Importantly, excitedly, happily, deliciously I share: Posy Roberts writes some of the **best** sexy time in the genre (in this girl's humble opinion). **Smoking. Hot.** Roberts remains one of my favorite guilty pleasures, and I'm looking forward to reading *Flare*, the final book in the series (stay tuned for my review!).

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### **Denise GremoryKohta says**

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If you thought Spark was good, you'll love Fusion. It's an even more emotional read. We really get to see Hugo and Kevin at some seriously intense moments. It made me fall more in love with them. You get a strong idea of what they are going to be dealing with next as well. Luckily they do a lot of growing in this one to prepare them. Have tissues ready because you will need them.

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### **Melissa says**

Just finished Fusion by Posy Roberts and I can't make heads or tails of my emotions right now. My eyes are swollen and hurt but it's the good kind of hurt. I think the last time I cried this much while reading a book was Something Like Autumn by Jay Bell I need time to process... I'll review tomorrow. I need to sleep now, my face, head, and heart hurt But I loved it.

\*Edit\* 12/28/2013

\*Tissue Warning\* (Like seriously, I was bawling through most of this book and probably used half a box of Kleenex... it wasn't a pretty site!)

Once I took the time to process all of the intense emotions that this book evoked in me, I realized that I loved this book even more than I thought I did.

Kevin still isn't really out to a lot of his friends or his ex-wife and is only a few weeks away from the divorce becoming final so that Hugo and he can move on with their relationship.

Things seem to be going well for them, and the Kevin stops answering Hugo's calls and texts and goes almost an entire week without replying to Hugo, which sends him into a nervous frenzy thinking he pushed Kevin too hard about coming out to people.

A drastic turn of events takes place when they discover Erin has terminal cancer. Kevin is devastated; he thought that even though he was getting a divorce, he would have decades left with his best friend and the mother of his children but that doesn't seem to be the case.

She has less than a year and Kevin makes the decision to not go forward with the divorce and move Erin

back in with him so that she can be with the kids everyday and so that she doesn't lose his insurance to cover the medical costs. This is a major problem for Hugo because he loves Kevin with his whole heart and wants nothing more than for Kevin to be only his and then Kevin brings him a dog and drops this bomb on him.

Things seem to be so up in the air and it's devastating for everyone involved.

I really like Erin in this story. I love that the author stayed true to her characters because no matter how much Kevin loves Hugo and wants to spend the rest of his life with him, his best friend and the mother of his children has to be more important at that point. That's just who Kevin is and that's just life sometimes. I hate that people are upset that Erin is such a huge part of this story because although this is technically a M/M romance story, Kevin is a bisexual male, meaning there was an entire section of his life where he was married to Erin and had two kids with her. He loved her and she is important to him, that's important to this story. He didn't lie to her for years about being gay like so many stories where the man is married and has kids, he genuinely loved her and still loves her as his best friend.

What kind of person would he be if he left her alone to die just so he could run off to be happy with Hugo? Whether it's his daddy issues or just his internal struggle to prove that he's the complete opposite of who his father was, Kevin needs to do the right thing to feel okay with himself.

The story is told so beautifully and it's definitely a heartbreakingly tale. Hugo eventually comes around and he and Erin become incredibly close. Hugo isn't sure where he belongs in their tight knit family but Erin is incredibly supportive of Hugo and Kevin's relationship.

There are a lot of battles they have to overcome in this story and as you follow them they will drag you through an emotional ringer. You see everyone struggling to deal with Erin's illness, Kevin struggling with coming out to everyone and Hugo trying to do the right thing and be the rock for everyone.

I look forward to the final installment of this series but on the other hand, I don't want their journey to be over and I know I will need more tissues for the next book based on the blurb.

Five HUGE Stars for this one!

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### **Anke says**

Here we go! First, before I start with my review: I married my husband, left for our honeymoon, returned and then learned that my MIL was diagnosed with brain tumor. I then became pregnant with my first child and gave birth exactly one year after our wedding. Yes, and just a few hours later my MIL died. So, as you can imagine, this topic isn't an entertaining one for me.

I feared reading the blurb that the author would go the way to have the mom terminally ill, but still hoped for the best. Sadly, that wasn't the case. And yes, poor Erin learned about her brain tumor. Again a wife and mother had to become terminally ill in a gay romance. Why do authors write it this way over and over again - I don't want to read that anymore.

I expected a book about Kevin and Hugo developing their life together, yes, with ups and downs, but instead I got a 101 regarding life with a terminally ill relative. I read books I expected to be sad and dreary and in fact they were upbeat and positive - here I think it was exactly the other way round. I expected a book of

further settling into the relationship between Kevin and Hugo, whereas in fact I got a by-the-by of dealing with tumor patients and the pros of marijuana and I even learned that there are states in the US where it is legal. Yes, that was really important for me to know.

With regard to the marijuana stuff - don't want to read that. Even if it's 'medical' sorry, not my cup of tea. And of course Hugo has a friend who grows his own stuff, don't know the proper termination with drugs, sorry, but yes, he got it for Erin and then took her step-by-step through the whole process including us, readers, to know everything about the great effects of marijuana.

Hugo - I liked him in the first book very much, here now he evolved to be the know-it-all, über-parent, couldn't do anything wrong at all. It was a bit too much for me. He was central point, well besides Erin, of the whole book, everyone leaning on him and of course, he managed each and everything.

The whole book was unbalanced. About 80%? dealt with the illness and its effects to the family and friends and then, about 10% at the end - death, funeral, outlook of life in the future.

After saying all this - I wasn't able to put this book down. Never thought about DNF it. I wanted to know about Hugo and Kevin and the end. The writing therefore obviously was very good, gripping, I just really didn't like what was written.

But that most probably is just me.

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### **Sandra says**

I really liked this second book in the trilogy. Despite its sad plot, it was close to perfect as a continuation, with richly developed characters and an easy, organic flow. Love!

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### **Karen says**

'Fusion' is the second book in Posy Roberts 'North Star' trilogy and it follows the relationship between Hugo and Kevin. That certain events were totally unexpected is an understatement. Events happen that cause are unforeseen not only in what happens but the impact that they leave on the lives of all concerned.

While I definitely enjoyed this part of the story more than the first book admittedly I'm not finding myself as taken with the story in general as I was with 'Fall Into You' or 'Feathers From Heaven'. While I felt like Kevin was growing as a person in terms of stepping out of the closet that he had kept himself so safely ensconced in while his father was alive. At the same time I found myself a little angry with how oblivious Kevin seemed to be to Hugo's situation and the treatment that he seemed to be willing to accept in his efforts to care for the family he and Kevin were making.

'Fusion' was not a happy story there was a lot of heartache, but seeing Kevin and Hugo work together to rise above it and make a happier life for themselves and Kevin's children in the midst of tragedy and the resulting fallout was very heartwarming for me and maybe just a little closer to home than I usually like my stories to

be. If you intend on reading this book than I strongly recommend skipping the spoiler.

(view spoiler)

4.5 stars round down to 4 because there just wasn't enough 'I like it' to make me want to round up.

At the end of it all book 2 for me was definitely a better read and yes, I am almost done reading the third and final installment in this trilogy.

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### **Tina says**

Wonderful sequel of Sparks. Adored Kevin and Hugo.

Loved Erin, too. What happens to her broke my heart.

The story focused too much on her fate, though. A bit more Hugo-and-Kevin-all-alone would have been more my thing.

Now on to Flare, the third book of the trilogy.

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### **Lee says**

I have to say that I liked the first book better. Too many things and situations are predictable and keep the plot from soaring. Because I already own the third book in the series, I'll most likely read it, but not right now.

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### **Emily Seelye says**

This is the second in a trilogy, therefore it does not stand alone.

On the eve of their divorce, Kevin's wife finds out she has terminal brain cancer. For practical purposes, such as insurance and making sure the kids have as much time with her as possible, they stay married.

Erin has no intention of coming between the guys, so she invites Hugo into the family. He basically becomes everyone's rock during this difficult time.

While this book focuses on her cancer, there is plenty to show how the men continue to connect and strengthen their relationship.

Considering the topic, it's not as sad as one expects. The focus is on living life to the fullest, instead of dwelling on her eventual death, which does happen in the final chapters.

This was compelling, and once I started I didn't want to put it down.

Recommended

\*ARC provided by author

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### **Stella ?????? says**

I could be biased because I'm a huge fan of Posy Roberts, she is one of my favorite authors, but this second installment in the North Star series was simply amazing. I already met these characters in Spark but here in Fusion, things are on another level. The emotions were so deep I admit I had to stop for a few minutes sometimes, yes I shed tears more than a couple of times but it was inevitable to me. This novel hurt me, the themes the author used hit my memories very hard. I struggled with the reading but all the pain was rewarded with a beautiful and powerful story.

Kevin and Hugo were just starting their relationship when a life changing news was delivered to them from one of the most important persons in Kevin's family. From that moment everything changed and Hugo had to build new strong bonds. The old and new relationships he strengthened and created were just the confirmation of how a positive and selfless person he is, someone every one of us should have beside them.

Of course to me Fusion was so much better than Spark, it's so full of feelings in every aspect of the life, love, friendship and more, when I finished the novel, I was a little overwhelmed, definitely in a good way. I can't wait to discover where the third and last book in this trilogy will lead me. I'm so ready to see these characters grow into their so new lives. Each one of them.

Highly recommend it.

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### **Katie says**

I usually don't really trust stories that go after HFN into new book with new complications to deal with. I mean, I love everything to be tied together, and then next set of characters. Otherwise, it's suspicious.

This book did the same. The new book brought so many new events, with one complication/event being extremely tragic. When Erin gets those bad news, the whole situation changes. Hugo and Kevin were prepared to start new life together, and Kevin's divorce was supposed to be finalised.

But when Erin gets the bad news, everything is changed. Kevin insists she move back with him and their children so they can make the most of the time they have left, which leaves Hugo feeling left out.

While I understand Hugo's reaction when Kevin told him about their new arrangement, it was a bit selfish. I mean, here's the man who just found out his wife is terminally ill, who is still dealing with it, and yet he keeps thinking of Kevin being like the other guys he's dated.

I loved how they made him fit in in this unusual arrangement. He was a valued and an important member of the family. I also loved that Erin wasn't a bitchy ex who would have problems with Hugo and Kevin, and is even telling them that they can touch and show affection even when she is around.

I also wasn't a big fan of marijuana part but that's just me.

All in all it was a heart-wrenching book, with a lot of description of illness and family dynamics, but also hot and sweet in moments.

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### **Ricardo says**

It was definitely different from the first one in the series. Not better or worse, just different. There was much more emphasis on Erin. I couldn't help but feel that the book somehow became "the Hugo show" and after a while I started to wonder if they were going to make him a saint or elect him for president or something like that

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### **Tracy~Bayou Book Junkie says**

\*\*This review is a collaboration\*\*

4 Stars

Tracy: Ugh, I'm torn because I loved Hugo and Kevin and I couldn't wait to get to the next installment of their story. There were things I really enjoyed about the story. I'm kinda scared to write this review because I have a feeling it'll turn into a bitchfest.

Mari: You and me both, Tracy. While I loved many aspects of this book, there are others that made me want to throw my kindle at something (or someone \*cough\* Kevin \*cough\*)

Tracy: I love Hugo and he is just an absolutely amazing, sweet and caring man. He was so nurturing to not only Kevin, who of course as his boyfriend it's expected, but the way he cared for Erin, Finn and Brooke, well, it was just so heartwarming. I only have one question for Ms. Roberts, where can I find my very own Hugo?

Mari: Hugo was awesome, definitely the best part of this book. The way he cared for everyone in Kevin's family, even when they (Kevin, Erin and their friends and family) sometimes didn't exactly make him feel like a part of it, was both heartwarming and heartbreak. He just gave so much of himself and I think they didn't quite appreciate him as much as they should have.

Tracy: Kevin, oh gosh, there were times I wanted to punch him in the face. I know he spent years married to Erin and she is the mother of his children, and I love that he cared for her and did everything he could to help her and make her last part of her life as comfortable and enjoyable as possible. But what irked me to no end, was his use of the word wife. I know on paper they were technically still married, but as a reader, reading a MM story, frankly, it left a bad taste in my mouth. I felt like it was continuously thrown in my face and at times I wanted to scream.

Mari: I completely agree with you about that, Tracy. I was expecting more of Kevin, you know? To see some growth in him now that he wasn't under his father's thumb, but even when he came out he did it through FB and I felt he wasn't quite to the level of commitment that Hugo deserved.

Tracy: I also sort of felt that it took too long for Kevin and Erin to explain who Hugo really was. It angered me the way their friends and family treated him at times, and while, yes they did defend Hugo, I felt it was still a slap in the face that he was just “a friend of the family”.

Mari: Definitely, while I sort of get that Erin was going through a lot, Kevin didn't have that excuse.

Tracy: What Ms. Roberts did manage to do well, was to recapture the chemistry and heat between Kevin and Hugo. It was simply off the charts and smoking hot. I loved the interaction between the Kevin, Hugo, Erin and the kids and I absolutely adore Russell and Summer. But at times Erin's illness seemed to take over the story and it was all too much.

Mari: The chemistry was out of this world, and the sex scenes were passionate and intense. My favorite part was Hugo's relationship with Summer, though, she was a great friend to him and a fantastic support system when Hugo needed her the most. I wish we could've seen more interactions between Hugo and the kids, I loved seeing how well they seemed to fit whenever they were together.

Erin's illness was dealt with objectively and in a sensitive manner, however, I also felt as if it took the story over, overshadowing Hugo and Kevin's relationship.

Tracy: The story is well-written, but please bring your tissues to the party because it's heavy and sad throughout most of the story. Still, it's very recommendable.

\*\*\* Copy provided to Bayou Book Junkie for our reading pleasure, a review wasn't a requirement. \*\*\*

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