



Fall Into You

Posy Roberts

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Simon Phillips always hated Thomas.

Ever since his black nail polish high school days, Thomas Schultz has seemed like a carefree, uninhibited wild child, in stark contrast to Simon's shy, cautious nature. Now, from behind the safety of his hotel bar, Simon must watch, distracted, as Thomas becomes a shirtless rock star for every wedding reception they work. But when Thomas slips him the key to his hotel room, Simon enters a world where the fine line between hate and attraction becomes blurred, and finds more than he ever knew he wanted.

In the social upheaval of the 1980s, love is no picnic. The AIDS epidemic has reshaped the way people think about sex, and the discontent of Generation X drowns out any love songs. Despite the uncertain times, Simon finds himself falling in love. But when Thomas's band makes it big, the simple act of keeping in touch across the silent miles becomes an obstacle all its own.

Fall Into You Details

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From Reader Review Fall Into You for online ebook

Kaje Harper says

This book has a couple of components which give it personal appeal for me. It's set in the 1980s which was my college era too, and I actually spent a year at the University of Washington in Seattle, where part of the book is set. So it has a significant nostalgic resonance. (And a great cover!)

Simon, the narrator, is a genuinely nice guy, intuitive, intelligent, and realistic in his capabilities and desires. The book begins as a fairly typical M/M romance - he lusts after unknown guy (Thomas, a singer), then manages one sensually-described encounter with unknown guy, following which they don't meet again for some time. Then when they do, sparks fly. But as the story unfolds, their relationship develops its own unique path.

There were a few moments where my heart ached for Simon, and the completely-justified pain he felt dealing with the mercurial singer that he loved. Those were the highlights of the book - I love a story that can make me feel for the characters. Thomas was also interesting, a good guy, under stress and doing his best, despite the times I wanted to smack him.

Part of the appeal of a story set in the eighties also contributed to its slower moments, though. Thomas tours with his band, and for extended periods, in this pre-cellphone, pre-Skype, pre-email era, they have no contact with each other and no conversations. This sets the rhythm of relationship difficulties for these two men, but also results in long expository stretches. At those times there is a distance to the story that contrasts with its more appealing and engrossing moments. The book picks up significantly in its second half, but still occasionally fills in too much time in one extended stretch.

The guys' relationship has two main obstacles. The first is due to the realities of a musician on long tours. The second is more unique to this story, and in my opinion handled well. Not extreme, not angsty, yet not underplayed either. The author found what felt like a realistic route through the difficult times in these guys' lives, and not the most obvious one. This is mainly a slow, sweet unfolding of a relationship, with a little unique twist.

Sheri says

Why did I wait so long to read this??

Because it was long.

Did it feel long? Yes.

Did I mind? No.

Simon & Thomas.

It's the late 80's. Life was WAY different.

Communication was WAY different.

Like pay-phones & snail mail.

I had high hopes for the guys.

They had obstacles to overcome.

I was rewarded for my strong belief they would make it.

spoiler

They do indeed make it.

And you should read it to find out how!

;)

Jenni says

Fall Into You introduced me to these two perfectly young, perfectly flawed humans and took me along for the journey. In fact, wow. I've been struggling since I finished reading to describe what it felt like, and now I've got it...reading this book was like getting on a Greyhound bus on one coast and taking a meandering route to the opposite coast and, like, growing up along the way. What a journey!

Simon is this young bartender working his way through community college. He's known Thomas, this sexy, Doc Martin-wearing, kohl eyeliner-wearing rocker (**YES**), for several years. When Thomas invites Simon to his room one night after a gig, there's an instant, sizzling, hot connection.

Annnnnd the bus pulls out of the station.

For so much of *Fall Into You*, I wasn't sure where the bus was headed. Since it's told from Simon's POV, and more than 20 years in the past, I was preparing myself for, well, a crash. Thomas has secrets, issues. There are problems along the way, sure, but I never doubted the love Simon and Thomas shared. So all along, I'm getting to know these men, getting attached, loving them together and separately, and waiting for the fall...the intensity, the build was that perfect.

So what happens to Simon and Thomas? It's a journey; you'll have to buy your bus ticket to find out! No tears, though, I promise, unless you're prone to crying when you arrive home. ;-)

Because she packs so much feeling and love and complexity into her stories, I don't know if Posy Roberts is for everyone, but she's officially on my auto-buy list. Give ANY of her books a chance if you like a sweeping story filled with warmth, sexiness, loss, redemption and just really, really beautiful growth in every. single. character. she creates.

AnnaLund says

Some books just grab you by the neck and pull you in, telling you to shut up and sit still and read. So you do. You read until your eyes bleed. This was one of those books for me.

I loved many things here, but especially the red boots.

There are so many ways you can go wrong with rockstar-falls-in-love-with-normal-kid. Ms Roberts did not fall into any of those pot holes. She steered the story clear of all those obstacles, and only threw in a little bit of angst in the mix, to spice it up.

Setting the story in a period when there were no cellphones, interwebz, low-cost airlines and when interaction was so different from today, was really cool. We have come such a long way since then, so much

has changed, it's like it's a different planet. Thank you for reminding me.

The time-setting of this book really took me on a walk down memory lane. Set in the 1990'ies music scene, I could really relate to all of it.

Sweet and sometimes sad, this love story takes a journey to conclusion, and even if the sexing was a bit on the graphic side for me personally, the feeling that was conveyed came across both true and sincere. I love when the protags can be strong in turns.

A sentence that still rings in my ears? This one:

"Thank you for taking me away from that house."

All in all a good read, fast and love-filled. I'm glad I read this, it took me by the hand and showed me places I haven't visited in my head for years. It also made me think of the beautiful men in my life that I have lost to illness. I like remembering them.

I was NOT asked to read this book by anyone, I paid for it with my own money, as I do for all the books I read, all the music I listen to and the movies I watch.

Natalie says

A little angsty, a little sweet, and made me feel nostalgic for grunge music. The story spans several years in the lives of the main characters, so we get to see their good times and their troubled times too. I liked it very much.

Cor Cordium says

4 Stars for serious, well written content

Ever since his black nail polish high school days, Thomas Schultz has seemed like a carefree, uninhibited wild child, in stark contrast to Simon's shy, cautious nature. Now, from behind the safety of his hotel bar, Simon must watch, distracted, as Thomas becomes a shirtless rock star for every wedding reception they work. But when Thomas slips him the key to his hotel room, Simon enters a world where the fine line between hate and attraction becomes blurred, and finds more than he ever knew he wanted.

In the social upheaval of the 1980s, love is no picnic. The AIDS epidemic has reshaped the way people think about sex, and the discontent of Generation X drowns out any love songs. Despite the uncertain times, Simon finds himself falling in love. But when Thomas's band makes it big, the simple act of keeping in touch across the silent miles becomes an obstacle all its own.

Timeline 1989 - 2001

This story was written in first-person narrative so it came across very dry. It felt like the MC was reading a story rather than sharing his experiences at first. I usually have a difficult time relating to the characters as I cannot get into their head. I was even tempted not to finish because it was so dry

I didn't care for Simon at first. He was a broody and immature and seemed to be only interested in a hook-ups. I DO NOT like reading about promiscuity in books. But as Simon began to reveal himself, I realized that I was wrong. He was only 23 years old, but sounded like he was much older. He was relatively a kid and sounded ancient. I just wanted him to be (feel) young.

Thomas started out as the aloof musician turned rockstar (yay Rock stars). He was a talented, charismatic young man who was committed to taking care of his younger sister, to finding out he had epilepsy and sinking into a deep depression. It was heart wrenching for me as it didn't feel like he was going to come out of it.

Simon was completely dedicated to Thomas and wanted to take care of him no matter what. He turned out to be the kind of partner that anyone would be fortunate to have. It was wonderful and bittersweet.

I got my HEA although it was brutal getting there. Well Done!

Melissa says

Brilliant with a capital B! That's a lame way to describe this book but I can't put into words how much I loved it.

Simon has the patience of a fucking saint! I know that feeling, I waited a lot of years on someone who turned out to be someone who wasn't worth it. I'm so glad that in the end, Thomas manned up and became the person that Simon deserved.

This book is about meeting someone you instantly feel a sense of rightness with but due to circumstances and life, you can't build the life you want with them. It's about being patient and waiting for the time to be right until life throws another curveball at you and dealing with that too.

It's obvious from the start that Thomas and Simon are meant for a love that's bigger than the both of them can understand and I believe that's why Simon waited, even when it was really hard. Thomas seemed a bit selfish in some aspects at first but then it's all revealed and you understand why, he had to grow up so fast and never had time to just be a young man.

The angst and the heartfail were killer in this book and anyone who follows my reviews or knows me, knows that I fucking crave heartfail in my books. I cried so much during this book and there were times my heart felt like a vice was squeezing it and it was breaking for Simon and even Thomas at times. Fucking brilliant!

Ms. Roberts is a fantastic author and I can't wait for more from her because she is destined for big things, I can feel it!

Daphne says

Fall Into You was a different take on the rock star book - unlike many others, the focus was not on the performer experience, per se. Thomas and Simon evolved from boys to men over the course of several years (I guess everyone does, really, so that's not a terribly clever bit of reviewing) and this book trails along with them as they grow, slip, stumble and catch each other.

I am trying to put my finger on why I liked, but did not love this book. I think maybe there was too much telling and not showing - too many pauses, silences, unexplored trails throughout most of the story. The chemistry was fabulous and I loved Thomas' evolution and Simon's devoted patience.

3.5 stars.

Elizabetta says

The title says it all, for this is a very sedate falling-into-love for Simon and Thomas. Two twenty-somethings who are trying to find their way to each other through life's ups and downs. I liked this slow falling, the reality of how life can get in the way of desire is believable.

What didn't work so much was the formality of the voice... and the dialogue, these are two very articulate, well-spoken young men (rocker and bartender) and I found that a little hard to justify with their age (young twenties) and status. And especially with Thomas' alternative life choices (he's portrayed as a nail polish wearing, wild child gender-bender). Also, all the character voices were the same... Thomas, Simon, Thomas mother, their friends... they all had the same formal voice.

There's a level of hesitancy about the intimacy between Thomas and Simon that was hard to understand after a while— it made me curious as to why. Thomas has some deep-seeded anxiety about sex that makes you wonder about its origin. Sure, back in the '80s the fear of getting AIDS was very high, but Thomas takes it to extremes— both he and Simon had been tested and were monogamous at the start.

The story blurb is misleading— there wasn't anything adversarial about these two, they were friends. They do spend a lot of time apart which dilutes the sizzle, but, apart from the inevitable spats, they seemed quite sympatico to me. Also, some of the historical facts in the story are just plain wrong— I'm pretty sure there was no email service in 1992, at least not for the general public.

While this more of an 'average' read, I did like the guys for all their earnestness. (love Thomas' lace-up, cherry-red, knee-high boots!)

Jamie says

3.5 stars

Simon is a bartender at weddings in a local hotel in his small town. Thomas is the hot drummer for the band

that frequently plays those weddings. The story is told from Simon's POV and maybe because he's so clinical I just never felt that drawn into the story here. I didn't quite understand all of Thomas' fears about sex and it just wasn't totally realistic to me. I like it, but I didn't love it.

Asynia says

I'm giving this book 4,5 stars, rounded up to 5.

This is the story of Simon and Thomas, who went to the same high school, but didn't know each other then. A few years later they frequently work at the same wedding venue, Simon as a bartender and Thomas with his band on stage. This is where the story starts, the year is 1989 and Thomas slips Simon his room key since he's noticed the way Simon has been looking at him...

I'm about the same age as the MCs and I expected there to be many more cultural references that I could relate to, but apparently Sweden and USA were very different places in those days. It's not like today when we have a more global culture, due to the Internet, probably. The only thing that I *did* really recognize, as far as culture went, was all the hassle it was to stay in touch before we had cell phones! Nowadays I hardly even remember that.

However, I was surprised to find how many other things I had in common with the MCs, stuff that didn't get mentioned in the blurb or the other reviews that I read before I chose to read this book!

First of all, I was at the time (and still am) with my boyfriend, with whom I went to high school, but we didn't know each other that well in high school. Secondly, I was at University studying very hard for a LL.M., (view spoiler) Thirdly, in 1991 my boyfriend had just gotten accepted to the Police Academy, something he had worked very hard for, when he was forced to resign due to being diagnosed with epilepsy, something that changed his life, just like it did Thomas' in the book.

However, my boyfriend didn't (view spoiler) like Thomas did, he reacted in a very different way. Since my best friend also has epilepsy, and has dealt with it in yet another way, I was intrigued to read about how Thomas reacted. I'm sure that Ms Roberts has done a lot of research into this and I thought that Thomas' reaction rang true, even though at first I thought it strange.

Which brings us to another thing that I actually *did* remember from those days, but only as I was already a bit into the book. That is how it felt to be in your early 20's and being in love. At first I thought that the two MCs were stupid and immature, but then I remembered that that's the way most people in their early 20's are! And all the communication failures... That's also like it was then.

Thank God I'm not 23 anymore!!!

Well, Thomas' bands career takes off and he has to go on several tours throughout the book. Since Simon chooses to go back to University they can't be together nearly as much as they'd want. During and after the first tour I was really annoyed with Thomas and how he dealt with them being apart, but then I remembered that he was so young. and he *does* really grow up during the book. The main part of the book takes part in the years 1989-1994, with kind of an epilogue in 2001.

The story is told in first person narrative from Simon's POV. I usually don't like first person narrative, but in this particular book it worked very well and I didn't miss getting Thomas' POV. It was more like reading Simon's diary.

What pulled this story down a bit for me was that Simon's voice sometimes got too rambling and I actually found myself thinking about what to eat for dinner while I was reading and having to read a few pages again because they hadn't registered when I read them the first time...

I also has a slight problem with that although they were in love, told each other that, and had sex, Simon only referred to *penetrative* sex as "making love". I would personally call the other loving, caring and emotionally charged sexual acts they indulged in "making love" as well. That might have been Simon's voice, not the author's, but it kind of bugged me a bit.

All in all, this was a nice, sweet read with quite a lot of angst. I personally much prefer "real life" angst to stories about the FBI or werewolves since I find "real life" angst easier to get into. I liked that there's a HEA, that no matter how many issues they both had, they worked through them! Isn't that what True Love is really about? To communicate and resolve all problems and come through with a stronger relationship.

Gabbi says

4.25 Kisses

I definitely took a trip down memory lane as I read *Fall Into You* by Posy Roberts. As a teenager of the eighties, it was refreshing to remember some of the things from yester-year and I thoroughly enjoyed it.

The blurb does an excellent job at describing the book. What it doesn't tell you is that this book spans several years of the relationship between the two heroes, Simon and Thomas. Although they went to high school together, both men had their own crowds they hung out with. When they meet again a couple of years later, sparks fly between them and they immediately form a deep connection together. But they both have many responsibilities and their own ambitions that often pull the couple apart. What I liked about this book was how each man really had to have faith and trust in each other to keep their relationship from dying.

I enjoyed the realistic way Ms. Roberts wrote about the ups and downs of this couple. No relationship is ever easy and we all know it takes a lot of work and determination for a love to stay strong and to stay together. I thought Ms. Roberts did an excellent job with this and enjoyed watching these two men really fight to keep their love alive. I also experienced a range of emotions when I read this book. Between the bittersweet and sad moments there were also plenty of lighthearted, sexy ones to balance the story out nicely.

This book is told in first person through Simon's eyes. I liked Simon and enjoyed seeing his thoughts and witnessing his determination to be with Thomas first-hand. Both men were likeable, interesting men who I enjoyed reading about and I enjoyed their story. I do wish I could have experienced what Thomas was thinking at times too, but Ms. Roberts did a pretty good job at keeping him sexy and unique, so I definitely could see why Simon loved him so much.

Fall into you is a beautifully told romance filled with the many ups and downs of keeping a relationship together once the newness has worn off. I really enjoyed every minute of this book, and recommend it to those who love a realistically written read.

Lisa says

Simon meets Thomas when he is a bartender and Thomas is a singer with a band playing at wedding receptions.

After one reception, Thomas gives Simon the key to his hotel room. It could be the beginning of a relationship.

However, events conspire to keep the 2 of them apart and over the period of several years, whilst Simon studies to become a doctor and Thomas is on the road with his band and his subsequent diagnosis of epilepsy, they eventually find their way back and to their HEA.

Jess Candela says

The time period was my own youth, and I lived in the Seattle area in the mid-nineties, so much of the story took me down memory lane. In fact, in 1990 I dated a guy who regularly wore red Docs (though I remember his as "oxblood" rather than "cherry" red), so I could share Simon's thrill about how hot a man can look in them. *Drifts off in happy memories for a moment*

Because of that, I expected to really enjoy it. And I did, but I'd have enjoyed it more with less telling and more showing. I felt like I was kept at a distance much of the time, watching the characters rather than living it with them. During the "showing" moments, I was fully engaged and turning pages frantically to find out what happened next.

Even when I felt distanced, I still cared about the characters. It just would have been nice to have stayed connected with the characters for the majority of the story, as they were interesting people whose company I enjoyed. I'll definitely look for more by this author.

Karen says

What a wonderful story. Sometimes you read a book and connect with a character, something that touches your heart. Fall Into You was one of those books for me. From beginning to end I loved it and while I couldn't read it fast enough at the same time I didn't want the story to end. Posy Roberts tells a story of enduring love that is definitely worth the read.
