



Momo: My Everything

Posy Roberts

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Brave the spotlight for the man he loves, or stay alone in the shadows...

William Harris is a reserved man, private and guarded. He has no one to go home to. He's never found a man worth sticking around for. He's never been in love. And he's convinced he's happy with his lone-wolf life.

Nate Kelly is William's opposite, social and easy going. He comes into William's life as the elegant geisha Momo. When William realizes Momo is a man in drag, he's captivated.

From their first date, William's world changes. Nate is nothing like his usual type. And William soon finds out being with this carefree man means always being on display and attracting attention, which makes him want to retreat. He tries to keep Nate at arm's length, but it's no use. Nate's transformed his life in a matter of months and keeps drawing him back in.

If they stand a chance, William has to be comfortable standing next to someone so at home in the limelight. Their future together and William's happiness depend on it. Is Nate the man finally worth giving up William's solitary existence? Is he worth sticking around for?

*Extensively reworked from the short story, The Measure of a Man.

Momo: My Everything Details

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Author : Posy Roberts

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From Reader Review Momo: My Everything for online ebook

Stella ?????? says

Momo, My Everything was already released in the 2014 with the title The Measure of a Man, it was really short and I'll be honest and say it didn't satisfy me, I read it and it was just meh. It was very rushed and unfinished. I was so happy to know the author rework on it turning it into a novella.

Posy Roberts is one of my favorite authors, I loved all the books she wrote, I like her writing style and adore the characters she depicts. But this re-release was not a huge winner to me. While I enjoyed it and appreciated the plot, there were some snippets I wasn't fond of. First of all I adored Nate, he's sure and proud of himself and what he works as, I liked him so much as I despised William, he didn't convince me at all, he annoyed me cause he often seemed to me unsure and some of his words/thoughts were unexpected.

I felt the story was dragging, there were too many things unsaid, too many scenes with secondary characters and very few scenes just between Nate and William, often what happened was just told to the reader and not actually showed. Did they really love each other? I actually don't have an answer. And having only William POV didn't help at all. I missed a connection between the MCs, the attraction was not totally understandable. Knowing how good the author is, I think she could have easily handled this story so much better. It's probably I missed something or simply it wasn't for me, I don't know.

That said I still feel to recommend Momo, My Everything to all the fans of Posy Roberts. I gave it three stars because I liked it. If Posy is a new to you author, then I would recommend to start somewhere else, this one could maybe disappoint you.

The cover art by Natasha Snow is definitely better than the cover of the first edition, more eye catching. I like it.

Tailtiu says

3,5? for The Measure of a Man

Happily Ever Chapter says

(READ AS PART OF THE "LONELY HEARTS" BUNDLE)

POV ~> First Person, William's perspective

. William's bigoted, sexist boss holds an office dinner meeting (?) at a teahouse where semi-closeted and very stoic William first meets Momo who, off the clock, is really Nate. Nate is a theater teacher to upper-crust kids whose parents want them to be the next box-office breakout star and plays the part of a geisha at a teahouse to fulfill his own acting joy.

William is attracted to both sides of this person and soon they begin seeing more of one another. I liked the freer, more open character of Nate/Momo much more than William, who seemed to have many invisible hang-ups that were really way less substantial when they got down to resolving them. Predictability was low. Conclusion was good. It was an interesting read. Multicultural (William has, what I'm guessing was,

Jamaican roots, whereas Nate has Irish, Japanese and more in his background).

Rating: [R] ~ Score: 4.15 ~ Stars: 4

V says

This short story was lovely.

A gorgeous African american falling in love with a effeminate white man, working in a Japanese restaurant dress up as a Geisha.

Did I mentioned that is also free?

Sheri says

This is one of those hard to rate books.

There was a great deal I enjoyed. But there was also a fair amount that I had issues with. Those kind of issues that make you cringe and sigh aloud.

I liked both William and Nate, but I especially liked Nate.

William never really won me over and I'm sad about that.

I feel badly for him. He never really fit into his own skin. I'd like to say that he's not ashamed of the man that he is, but I think that's exactly it. That is, until he meets Momo.

Momo is a geisha at a teahouse he attends for a work party. He is instantly captivated by Momo. He desires her and then feels guilty for wanting her. He convinces himself it's simply the man underneath the drag that he wants. And he does. He wants Nate like nothing else.

But then he seeks approval from those closest to him.

This was one of my issues.

He turns to his twin brother first. His brother doesn't hold back and tells him exactly what he's trying to ignore. From there he takes his man (who is so different than him) around to meet his mama and his hair stylist. These three people comprise the emotional pillars in his life. I can understand his need for approval but it almost felt as if he needed permission from them.

There were a few other moments that I found difficult to swallow and one of them had to do with a silver lining. It just bothered me.

I enjoy Posy's writing very much.

I enjoyed meeting Momo and loved how she brought William out of his shell.

I loved the way they loved each other.

I just didn't like being in William's head so much.

I would have rather hung out in Nate's head.

There's a lot of great stuff here...but too much *not* so great stuff as well.

Optimist ?King's Wench? & MANTIES Champion says

1.5 Hearts

I know it's gauche for a reviewer to compare books but I cannot figure out a better way to explain why this didn't work for me. Apologies for my creativite paucity.

I recently read *The Impossible Boy* by Anna Martin and if it were possible for a person and a book to have a meaningful relationship, we'd have one. Not that I was expecting a carbon copy of Martin's book, but I loved Stan's gender fluidity and Ben's acceptance of it and my motivation for choosing this was thinking it would be a different take on the theme. I'm increasingly drawn to gender fluidity, crossdressing and femme characters and finding the gems is sort of a vision quest. Momo, however, I wouldn't classify as any of the above.

Nate does crossdress as a geisha at a local Japanese restaurant on the weekends for extra cash, but that's not what I would classify as crossdressing. He is extroverted, out and proud about it, but I wouldn't characterize him as gender fluid or femme. Ergo my primary motivation for choosing the book was a non-issue and I found that deflating.

William is the narrator and simply put, I did not like him. He meets Nate as Momo, his geisha alter ego, and is intrigued despite the fact that he ordinarily goes for jocks. Frankly, I never understood why he has such a hard time admitting that he's attracted to an anomaly.

I understand how suddenly being faced with an attraction to Nate's Momo persona during sex could be jarring for a lifelong gay man, but there wasn't enough exposition for me to become sympathetic to William. I'm not saying it's not realistic, but I didn't like that he kept making Nate jump through hoop after hoop after hoop-friends, family, co-workers, his loctician, all of them had to give their stamp of approval for William to accept what, were he paying attention, he'd know already! It came across as him fundamentally believing Nate wasn't good enough for him and I find no enjoyment in one character treating another thusly. That was compounded by the fact that he kept telling Nate that he cared for and even loved him. We have a saying here in the South: 'the carpet don't match the drapes'. That's all I'm saying.

Even in his texts I could feel his flamboyance, and it made me happy despite myself.

This speaks to the larger issue which is I like characters capable of independent thought and William is not that guy. I also abhorred that he wasn't honest with Nate about how he was feeling after months of being together. I don't need characters to effectively communicate, but by the same token I can't abide non-communication AND cliches. Herein we have the love conquers all/magic peen as well as omniscience both of which served to circumvent an open dialogue and, thereby, relationship development. That coupled with the frequent time jumps served to keep me at arms length while, also, bypassing character and relationship development. So when the "big moments" came in their relationship I was left sputtering. I never felt their connection and found myself continuously hoping Nate would dump William like a bad habit.

I'm sure I'm in the minority here but I wouldn't categorize this as a romance. It's primarily a character study on a closeted man, struggling with insecurity and shaking off the shackles of societal expectations, though not a well executed one.

What little sex there is was somewhat stirring, especially that dance floor scene. That alone is worth a half heart. I never understood the obsession with the painted W at the nape of the neck thing. It felt like there was something more there that wasn't fully realized.

So I'm left feeling like there was a wellspring of potential left untapped, thus I can't recommend it, but YMMV. I would encourage others interested to read other reviews before deciding.

A review copy was provided.

Sandra says

Many, many moons ago, I read the first chapter of this book in a different incarnation, and I also have the previously published version of the whole book.

I struggled with a review for a while, and I'm still not sure that what you're about to read is going to accurately convey my thoughts.

There were many things I liked about this book, especially Nate. His carefree, easy-going persona really appealed to me, but I could also see that he had much inner strength, and a forgiving nature, which was truly needed in light of the stupid shit that sometimes came out of William's mouth.

Which brings me to William - he's the sole POV in this book - who made me cringe on more than one occasion while reading. His self-loathing was evident, even if he didn't think of himself that way, but the fact that he hides his sexuality behind drab colors and a strict and no-nonsense personality at work was telling. While he was more open about his sexuality outside of work, we're also told that he's normally attracted to jock types, and that flamboyant, twinkly men don't usually do it for him, and thus the anomaly of his attraction to Nate was somewhat of a shock to him. I didn't enjoy being in his head, for most of the book, and he came across as judgmental and also somewhat ignorant. Like, it's okay to be gay when it's not obvious, and Nate's obvious gayness is a strike against him. Internalized homophobia is not a good look on you, honey.

Nate has an alter ego of sorts - on weekends, he works as a Geisha in a Japanese Tea House, as Momo. In fact, all the Geishas are male underneath the make-up and wigs, and most of the customers have no idea. He's out and proud, a bit flamboyant and unapologetic about it. I liked him from the start - his wicked humor, his easy smile, and his openness.

William and others from his company are enjoying a traditional Japanese tea ceremony, when William notices the somewhat prominent Adam's apple of the Geisha serving him and realizes that it's a man. He's intrigued, and when the young man gives him a business card with his phone number, William decides (after much soul-searching) to give him a call and ask for a date.

Nate/Momo sees something in William, though I couldn't understand what exactly that is. Perhaps he saw the lonely man who convinced himself he isn't lonely at all. Since we don't really get to know Nate other than through William's eyes, I couldn't discern what really drew him to William.

What bothered me the most is that William sought approval from three important people in his life - his brother, his mother, and his loctitian who's been doing his locs for a long time. I thought it someone strange that a grown man was so insecure in himself and his feelings for another man (albeit someone that didn't meet his usual attraction profile) that he had to seek the approval of others to ensure he was making a good decision. It just felt odd to me. What if they hadn't liked Nate? Would William have let him go?

Another thing that bothered me was William chastising himself for desiring Momo just as he desired Nate - as if they were two different people - and thinking that it was wrong. That he was wrong for wanting both. He also tested Nate at almost every turn, and I really didn't like William for doing that. He seemed to expect Nate to fail, and when he doesn't, William seemed surprised. I wanted to reach into the book and shake Nate to just drop William's judgmental ass. I think in these situations, it would have helped to have Nate's POV to make me understand what he saw in William and why he kept jumping through all those hoops for the guy.

William did eventually get his act together and redeem himself, though it was a long and draining road to read through to his happy ending.

There are a few sensual scenes, and I liked one of them best. The rest do further the plot, so there's no gratuitous hanky-panky here.

Overall, it's a good story, but not the best I've read by this author. That title remains with the North Star series.

** I received a free copy from the author. A positive review was not promised in return. **

Tamika♥RBF MOOD♥ says

I never expected to use this gif with this author. Posy Roberts is one of my favorite authors. Her realistic words, characters and emotions get me every time I read one of her works. Its hard for me to write this review. I don't think this should have been a novella. It should have been full length. With the amount of backstory and characteristics that she put into William, it wasn't fair to not get the same for Nate. So much information surrounding Will, and yeah it was told from his point of view, but it still took me a while to get into the story. It seemed so disjointed in the beginning, and I wanted to DNF it because I didn't see the point of the story. It took me a while to get into the pacing of the story, and I'm still not sure how I feel about the ending.

I think this is one of her only insta-love stories. I've read everything she's ever written, and the emotions between the two were fast, and I can see the connection from two people who opposites attract. I don't know if I'm okay with some of the actions or verbiage used in the story. It seemed unnecessary for me. It didn't add to the story. William's ignorance made me side-eye him a little bit. The whole fantasy around "MoMo" didn't

move me. I don't know if that was the right thing to say, but that's how I felt. I'm so unclear on why this was a big thing for him, and why not admit it to your significant other. I mean you did meet Nate who was MOMO at the time. It just didn't seem sincere to me. I really liked Nate, but we got so little of him. I really would have loved to have more of his story, and his voice, but he felt overshadowed at times by William's lack of knowledge or comfort ability in his sexuality. Nate easily made the story bearable for me. I liked where they ended up.

This was my first book by this author who I wasn't sold on it. From the very beginning I was a little put off by it. I guess I didn't care too much of the tone. I don't think you should let my review deter you from reading her work. It's really worth it. I love her characters a lot, and I'm always able to connect with them. This just wasn't meant for me.

Lorraine Lesar says

Elegant romance between an African/American male and a stunning feminine male. It was beautifully executed from start to finish, my only gripe? I wish it was longer! Thoroughly enjoyed this.

Ele says

~1.5 stars~

So much promise, but such a disappointing execution...

When I saw there would be a **male geisha**...

But no.

First and foremost, if you, like me, choose to read this for the crossdressing aspect...don't.

"Is that your full-time job?"

"Gracious no!" Nate placed his fingertips on his chest, as if my suggestion physically hurt him. "If I had to do that forty hours a week, I'd die."

Nate's words, not mine. There is a hot scene with William and Momo (Nate's name as a geisha) but that's about it.

Second, I just didn't like William at all. He is the sole narrator of this story, and **I hated being in his head**. He was never comfortable in his own skin, he's dull and one-dimensional, and I didn't like his thoughts regarding Nate. I'd go as far as to say he was pretty ignorant or subconsciously offensive.

"My coworkers had no clue they were coming on to men, and if they had, they'd be mortified. I found it superbly ironic, though I couldn't help wonder if men were employed in

this position specifically because customers got handsy."

There's so much wrong in this.

I never understood his relationship with his brother (who was pretty offensive too sometimes, btw), nor did I get the reason he had to drag Nate around to meet his family and friends (even his hair stylist for God's sake). It felt like it was a sort of test Nate had to pass, or like he was asking approval from those people.

So much page time wasted (IMHO) on other people, while the reader never gets to experience an actual relationship development. In the end, I don't see what Nate sees in William. Like AT ALL.

The ending felt abrupt. It actually left me scratching my head.

I have enjoyed this author's writing in the past, but here the prose felt...wooden and stiff. Probably because that's what William's voice was like.

I realise I'm totally the minority here. If you're a fan of the author, I'd still urge to go for it. It just wasn't for me.

A??ela W. says

Review Coming

Adrianamae, Marco's fan says

sigh, sooo good!

Rounded up to 4, for freeby.

Simone says

*****3.5 Stars*****

"Does anyone ever really get another person?" Nate asked. "Everything they get is still filtered through their own lenses."

I'll second that! And it is not always the first impression that counts... Sometimes you have to take a closer - not to say a *very* close - look at somebody to see what makes him tick, to see through his facade. Regardless of the fact whether he is wearing an actual disguise or not.

William Harris and Nate Kelly meet during a company event at a Japanese teahouse where Nate works dressed up as a Geisha named Momo. William is the first of his colleagues who recognizes the man behind the drag and although Nate normally is so not his type, both men feel an instant attraction for each other, which they pursue over several dates until it turns into something deeper despite their differences.

How is the saying? Opposites attract and this also proves to be true in this nice short story. William leads some kind of double life. During the day at work he is an uptight, reserved man who cherishes his privacy and who rather keeps to himself.

At night he is someone who likes clubbing, doing hook-ups in back rooms or taking them home. No relationship, nothing permanent, no strings attached. He himself is completely amazed when he feels attracted to Nate/Momo and even more surprised at himself when he makes a spur-of-the-moment decision and takes him up on his offer for a date.

Nate is out and proud. Flamboyant, comfortable in his own skin and his surroundings, he has no problem with being in the center of attention.

And that is exactly the crux of the matter... Wherever Nate shows up, there *will* be attention and William, accustomed to hide his true self, has to come to terms with accepting himself, with being in the limelight as well, if there ever will be a real chance for both of them.

I don't know the - much shorter - previous version of this book *The Measured Man*, so I cannot assess to which extent the story has been altered or extended. *Momo: My Everything* is nicely done, even if a bit clichéd regarding William's sexist, unlikeable boss, acting like a jerk. I have to admit that it was maybe a bit *too* sweet for me, though, and I would have liked there to be more drama. It is told solely from William's POV and for me it would have been more enjoyable to get to know more about Nate's thoughts and feelings. What I loved about it, though, was the fact that despite there was - for a short story seemingly mandatory - insta-love or in this case ~attraction, both men did not jump into bed with each other on their first date. Not even on their second. There was a lot of getting to know each other, before they act on their attraction more thoroughly, so to speak ;-), and that was really refreshing for a change.

I will leave it to the author herself to have the final word, to describe this book perfectly:

This is a story about falling head over heals in love. It's a story about transformation. It's a story about shattering boxes people try to place us in. But more than that, it's a story about learning to love yourself.

An ARC of Momo: My Everything was generously provided to Dirty Books Obsession in exchange for an honest review.

Leyna says

Free on Amazon 12/11/2017

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B06X9B9B1V>

Sadonna says

This review and much more can be found at The Novel Approach

William is a buttoned up financial guy who while out for the evening with a work group meets Momo, a geisha, who is really a man. William finds Momo fascinating and beautiful. When Momo, aka Nate, slips him his number after William steps in on boorish behavior, it's another surprise. But the bigger surprise is that William actually calls Nate and when they get together they have a really good time. William is not out at work though and he's not sure about dating someone who is as "out" as Nate certainly is.

William really likes Nate though and he continues to see him. They thoroughly enjoy each other's company and the sex is good between them. They come from such different worlds – not just their family and ethnic backgrounds – but their careers and the way they navigate their way through life. William's African-American family has not been terribly accepting of him – including some difficult years with his twin brother. Nate's family has no issues with his sexuality and it's not like there was ever even a question about it. Nate's pursuit of the arts is a natural fit for him and he loves his work.

As their relationship progresses over the months, there are a few hurdles to get over. Meeting the families is a big one – more so for William since he's never really had a "relationship" before. There are also important friends that have to pass judgement as well – Nate's roommates and William's hairdresser. It's an interesting situation that they each find themselves in – wanting their friends and family to accept this new person.

The real challenge for William though is how he wants his relationship with Nate to be known. William wrestles with this more because he's never been in this situation before – where he really cares about another person besides his family. He's got to figure out what he really wants and what he's willing to do to make that happen in the way he wants.

While I enjoyed this story, I would have liked more. What exactly I wanted to see, I'm not sure. I would have liked more of William's interaction with his coworkers other than the few scenes with his douchebag boss I think. William is so closed off that I kind of felt like I still didn't get a good read on him. I also wasn't sure where the Momo fantasy was going or if the resolution was going to be worthy. In the end, William and Nate find a way to make things work for them, so all in all, a satisfying read.
