



His Only Wife

Melissa Brown

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I didn't think I'd ever want to devote my life to someone. That is, until Brin.

I was twenty-six years old the day she entered my life, just when I'd given up hope, just when I'd given up completely on having any shred of happiness in my pathetic excuse for a life. After years of indecision, self destruction and soul-searching, she found me.

Brinley challenged everything I thought I knew. She proved that goodness could still come from that hellish compound. Goodness, bravery and love. She changed everything the moment she knocked on the door of my apartment, acting as brave as a lion, even though she was shaking like a terrified mouse stuck in my trap.

And now, three years later, I want her as my wife. My only wife. Till death do us part.

Just us.

And I've never wanted anything more.

His Only Wife Details

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From Reader Review His Only Wife for online ebook

Lady Vigilante (Feifei) says

4 stars!

What a sweet and satisfying conclusion to Brin and Porter's story! Wife Number Seven was one of the most unique and eye-opening romances I've read and I'm so glad the author decided to write this short novella giving us just a little bit more of this wonderful couple.

This story takes place three years after the events of Wife Number Seven. Brin and Porter are now together and out of the compound. Occasionally, Porter's addiction threatens to resurface and Brin's insecurities and newness to the outside world raises problems but for the most part, their hardships are over. I liked that the story wasn't just all sugary sweet with no bumps, though I did wish that instead of being told Porter's addiction recovery I got to read more about it. This is the problem with novellas – I always want more! ;)

Fans of Wife Number Seven will enjoy this final chapter of Brin and Porter's story!

His Only Wife is the follow up novella to Wife Number Seven and must be read after that book.

ARC provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.

Kirsten says

It's been a long time since I've read about Brinley and Porter, and I loved getting to revisit them. They are such a sweet couple.
If you haven't read Wife Number Seven, I'd highly recommend.
This is just a novella catching up on the pair.
Looking forward to more in this series!

Polly says

Perfect short story to give us a peek at one of my most rememberable couples!

Christine (Shh Moms Reading) says

3.5 stars

I loved this novella following the story of Brinley and Porter from Wife Number Seven. Just the title alone "His Only Wife" - cherished, adored and loved - this is the way that life should be for Brinley and Porter after finding love for each other away from the life that they grew up in; a life that included multiple wives,

multiple children and sharing the same husband - the only way of life as they knew of in a polygamist community.

Will Brin ever be able to separate from being the seventh wife to an "only wife"? The bad thoughts and feelings of being trapped are still present as she is trying to build her life anew with Porter. Coupled with the guilt that she feels for leaving behind some of the people she loves, Brin is a natural caregiver but she will need to learn to move forward in this new life of freedom if their love will survive.

Both characters so strong to leave it all behind yet still vulnerable too - is love enough?

Well of course, I won't tell you :) but I will share this....this was the perfect conclusion to Brin and Porter's story. Well written and sweet, you will close your kindle with a smile on your face knowing that life is as it should be for a couple we rooted for and could never forget.

Hanne says

I immediately started this novella after reading *Wife Number Seven*. It's an amazing addition to the series. I loved that the author decided to write more about Brinley and Porter, because I loved them. Also, what I wanted to read in the epilogue of *Wife Number Seven*, I got to read in this novella. Brinley is sweet, caring, genuine and loving. She's loving her life with Porter. She loves discovering new things and Porter loves to show them to her. Porter loves the life he's having with Brinley and he's more than ready for the next step. He still struggles sometimes, but he's a fighter.

elicerea says

Beautiful!

Lisa says

ARC Given to Blog for Honest Review

3.5 "I always knew I would fall in love." Kisses

I **loved** *Wife Number Seven* ...every part of Brinley and Porter's story just enchanted me in all the right ways and I adored these two characters to pieces, especially the way they felt about each other. I was happy with the way *WNS* ended...but I'm not going to say that I wasn't über excited that I was getting more of them with *His Only Wife*. Any time I can get more from characters I love, I will gladly take it...and *His Only Wife* only strengthened and reinforced my love for Porter and Brin.

Porter Hammond...honestly, one of the things that I loved most about *His Only Wife* was getting more from Porter. There are a few chapters in *Wife Number Seven* that are from his POV, but I would have taken 100 more and still probably not been satisfied. He is just one of those very intriguing characters...he's very unique, not your typical alpha male book boyfriend – but that doesn't make him any less desirable or alluring. If anything, with his past and what he has gone through to be with Brinley, I want to know him even

more. So, after I finished *WNS* I was thrilled to jump right into *His Only Wife*...because it gave me more of a connection with him and his thoughts...especially about how he felt about Brinley.

‘It’s amazing that you can live somewhere for twenty-two years and never feel like you fit in, like you’re home. That night in his truck, I’d known I was finally home. Porter was the home I’d dreamed about for years.’

Brinley Cluff...I was worried about this girl. You can’t take a caged animal and throw it back in the wild and expect it to survive without a few bumps and bruises along the way. There are growing pains...times when she is going to struggle in adapting to a completely different society than she is accustomed to...and that kind of stuff can really mess with someone’s head. I always knew Brinley was a strong girl, but her biggest battle wasn’t leaving the compound...it’s living without it and the only life she has ever known. I loved that she had Porter there to support her...and Tiffany...she faced everything as best she could, she kept her head high and never tried to deny the fact that what she was doing wasn’t easy...but it was what she wanted and what would make her happy in the end.

‘Brin wore her vulnerability like a brightly colored sweater, one she pulled tight to her body. And I loved her for it.

I loved her vulnerability, those splotches on her skin. I loved that even after so much time away from the compound, her heart still ached for those she loved. I loved that her ability to love was boundless, even after all she’d been through. It was all of these things that made her Brin. It was all of these things that made her the most gorgeous person on the planet.’

It was pretty clear by the title of the book what was going to happen...but it wasn’t as cut and dry as I thought, there was a lot more to Brin and Porter’s story. While pick up about three years after *WNS* ends...we do go back to a few key points during those three years. Porter and Brin never really got a chance to have the ‘normal relationship’ before she left the compound...so it was nice getting to experience some of that with them. They may have done things a little out of order but it didn’t make it less special – just all part of the uniqueness that makes me love them. After all the angst and tension from *WNS*, it was a nice change to see them in this context but it’s not all sunshine and rainbows. With Porter’s past history with drugs and Brinley trying to figure herself out outside of the compound, it’s emotionally a lot to take on. Thank God they have each other for support...but that can also be a blessing and a curse.

“I’m a risk, always have been.”

Snuggling closer, she said, “You’re a risk I want to take for the rest of my life, Porter Hammond.”

Overwhelming gratitude crashed through me with those words. She thought I was worth the risk. She thought I was worth it.

I’m worth it. I’m worth it. I’m worth it.’

I also liked that Tiffany (Brinley's cousin) was still a huge part of her life...also helping her adapt, since she's already been through everything Brinley is currently going through, but it was more than that. Tiffany is now Brin's only family...she went from being surrounded by family, down to one, but Tiffany is completely understanding and sympathetic to what Brinley is feeling. With Porter...he was blessed with Jesse...the father figure he always needed to help guide and support him and who knows more than anything the issues Porter faces with addiction. I was wondering after *WNS* how Porter's addiction was going to be addressed because...addiction is not that easy and I didn't want it to be one of those things where, now that he has Brinley, he doesn't need drugs and all is well with the world. Luckily, Melissa handled it marvelously and I was very pleased with what she did – it was completely realistic and yet true to who Brin and Porter were.

“I’ll love you forever,” I whispered as I wrapped my arms around her. “No matter what.”

I am loving every second of The Compound Series...another thing I enjoyed about *His Only Wife* were the little hints that were dropped about Aspen, Brinley's former sister wife – the way she responded to Brin at the end of *WNS* made her instantly amazing in my eyes and I'm *thrilled* that her story is next. *Mother Before Wife* could not describe Aspen more in three words and I am so ready to read it, it's not even funny! Porter and Brinley will always hold a special place in my heart, but *His Only Wife* gave them an amazing ending and I couldn't be more happy with the way their story ended.

Katherine says

“Till death do us part.

Just us.

My only wife.”

So What's This Book About?: Brin and Porter are finally settling down into a somewhat normal life, free at last from the Compound. Everything's (mostly) rainbows, puppies, and kittens, with Brin and Porter stronger. So strong, in fact, that you can practically hear the wedding bells ringing. But can Porter ever feel like he is worthy of Brin? And can Brin put the old memories of her life inside the compound to rest?

So Who's In It?:

“She challenged everything I thought I knew. She proved that goodness could still come from that hellish compound. Goodness, bravery, and love.”

If you can't already tell, Porter adores Brin. The character development was already pretty much established

before this little novella, so there's not much to say right here. But I will say that I very much enjoy Brin as a character, with her sweet but tough personality and caring nature. Seeing the world through her eyes, with her experiencing new things outside the Compound for the very first time, is wonderful to read about. Her endless compassion allows her to understand Porter and his demons better than anyone else (more than I would have, to say the least). He was the risk she took, and boy am I glad she took it.

"Was he perfect? No. He was flawed, stubborn, and oftentimes fragile. But he was mine."

Porter's still a recovering addict, but you can definitely not claim that he's not trying. Or that because of this, he's constantly doubting his abilities as a human being, especially when it comes to Brin. But he's SO GOOD with her, probably because of their similar situations. He truly, madly, and deeply cares about her and her well-being, which is rare in NA novels. Oftentimes, all the men care about is getting it on. Porter is a rare gem in the NA genre.

The Good: And with that, Katherine's heart grew three sizes.

This book was the most romantic, mushy gushy pile of adorableness I've read in a while. And since I don't often like mushy gushy adorable reads most of the time (since I have no soul), this came as a pleasant surprise. I loved Wife Number Seven by this author, so I was expecting to love this one as well. To the same degree, no. This just blew it out of the park! With a mature NA relationship (for once!), a NA hero who wasn't a sexist, misogynist asshole (hell yeah!), and a romance that will keep you cheering, THIS is what a good NA should be about.

NOTE: If you haven't read Wife Number Seven, DO NOT, I repeat, DO NOT read this beforehand.

The Not So Good: The whole situation with Tiffany was probably the only thing that somewhat irked me, but other than that, there is literally nothing else that I can complain about.

Is This a Kissing Book?

"I always knew that I would fall in love. Not the kind of love that I feel for Brin; that was something I never predicted. I never would have guessed that I'd love someone more than I love myself, that I'd do anything for just one person."

Guys, a wedding takes place; OF COURSE it's a kissing book. Porter and Brin are so sweet with each other, and he's so considerate of her feelings. He wasn't always this way, but if you've read the first book before this, you can see the change come full swing, which is nice. In most NA, the male character says he will change, but he never really does.

Was It Love At First Sight? Or Should We Walk By Again?: Nope!

What's the Love Shape?: There's no love shape; Brin and Porter only have eyes for each other.

What Do You REALLY Think?: Let's be honest here; I'm not a fan of New Adult. The few New Adults I've read make me rage inside over the typical situations, asshole males, and doormat females. This is different. I would say that this is the best NA series I've read in a long time. With a compelling storyline, great main characters who actually grow and develop, and a swoon worthy romance worth that'll make you squee, I can't recommend it enough.

I'm Done! What Do I Read Now?: Be on the lookout for the sequel, *Mother Before Wife*. For more fascinating books on LDS life, read *Keep Sweet*, *The Chosen One* (both YA), and *Hidden Wives* (Adult).

Chelsea says

5 The perfect ending for Porter and Brin Stars!!!

This book continues the story of Porter and Brin's life after she got out of the compound.

It was only a novella but I'm glad that the author was able to incorporate good character development. To be honest, the main plot of the story was pretty simple, but what I **loved the most** was Porter's journey from being an addict to being clean. I loved that it gives us a glimpse that their love story didn't just easily end up happily ever after but that they also struggled.

For once, I'd say that I thoroughly enjoyed reading about a side character in the story, for this one, his name is Jesse - Porter's sponsor. I can't believe his caring action actually had me teary eyed (mind you... I rarely get teary eyed over a book, much more cried over one) I guess I was so touched for how he cared for him. Also, their vows for one another was also sweet. Loved it.

P.S. The reason why it took me that long to finish this novella was because I'm so busy and didn't had the time to read and not because this book was boring because it was not.

Christine Wallflower & Dark Romance Junkie says

It's amazing that you can live somewhere for twenty-two years and never feel like you fit in, like you're home. That night in his truck, I'd known I was finally home. Porter was the home I'd dreamed about for years.

First of all if you're reading this review but you haven't read *Wife Number Seven* by Melissa Brown, then stop before I ruin an amazing book for you. I read *Wife Number Seven* last year and quite frankly it was unlike any book I'd ever read. Brinkley's story pulled me in from the get go, her journey (I know it sounds cheesy but it's true) of self discovery drew me in and didn't let go till the end. One thing the first book and now this novella has reminded me is how many things I take for granted.

His Only Wife is told mainly from Porter's POV, while I do think that the first book had a satisfactory ending for this couple, this novella provided the perfect round up of their story. I loved how their life post-compound wasn't perfect. They had fears, they went through hiccups and set backs like regular people. Which just made them seem more real and not cookie cutter or fluffy perfect. I'd be lying if I told you I didn't smile like an idiot or didn't shed a tear while reading this book. I thought Porter was absolutely adorable in his unwavering love for Brinley. Just effortless!

I can't wait for more books from this series and hopefully Porter and Brinley will make a few appearances

too!

I want to stand in front of God, if he exists. I want to stand in front of the people we love and proclaim my undying love to you. I want to be bound to you for eternity." I paused to take a breath and placed

ARC kindly provided by author in return for an honest review

Jennifer Kyle says

3.5 Stars

Melissa Brown gifts readers with a glimpse into Porter and Brin's future in this novella. I found the story to be perfect for this couple. The drama was kept low which was a total plus for me. I also enjoyed the characters catching us up to all that has happened since the last book, such as Brin's adjustments to the world outside of the compound, Porter's struggles with drug use and they love the found with one another.

Overall, a sweet read that will leave fans smiling while anxiously awaiting Aspen's story due to release this summer.

"Into a world of endless possibilities."

*Arc provided by the author in exchange for an honest review**

Pavlina Read more sleep less blog♥♥ says

IT'S LIVE → <http://amzn.to/1xKIzIO>

5 SWEET STARS <3

Such a beautiful and sweet novella!! I think if it's possible this series just keeps getting better!! Now I can't wait for Aspen's story! It was nice seeing that Porter and Brinley are together and still struggle with their lives together.

In this novella you can see that both characters have grown and changed. As for me, the previous book was one of my favorites it was nice to see how things are now after three years where the previous left us! I must say how much I love these characters. As a couple they're so sweet and you can feel their love for each other.

It is true that Melissa is so talented with her writing! I love reading whatever she writes! I highly recommend

this series and guarantee if you read them, one thing is for sure, you are going to think about them forever.

ARC provided by the author in exchange for an honest review <3 <3

Beverly says

I always knew I would fall in love.

Wife Number Seven is one of my favorites, I loved the story of Porter and Brinley. Two people lost between the what they were taught and what they know in their hearts is right. I felt like their story was perfect, but to get this extended epilogue is icing on the cake.

This epilogue picks up three years later. Brin and Porter are living together in the home he built. Their lives are on track and everything has fallen into place, but Porter wants more.

My favorite part of the epilogue was obviously the wedding and proposal, but what really stole my heart was seeing their struggles. I like how we get a picture of their lives. Things are not perfect, but life never is. Most importantly I like seeing how these two have handled and resolved conflict over the years. As crazy as it seems I like knowing my favorite couples are getting their happily ever after.

Yeah, I'm ready. It's Brin. I think I've always been ready with her.

It is hard for me to imagine living this life style, as a husband or wife. So it's hard for me to relate to their insecurities, doubts and fears; however, Melissa does a fantastic job telling this story. *His Only Wife* is a happy story and a perfect addition to the *Wife Number Seven*, but it also shows that despite years passing things don't just go away. I was happy to see the *new* family these two have built. With this conclusion I feel like their story has come full circle.

I highly recommend this one if you are a fan of *Wife Number Seven*, it is the perfect ending to a beautiful story.

ARC kindly provided in exchange for an honest review.

Didi says

*** YOU MUST READ 'WIFE NUMBER SEVEN' BEFORE READING THIS NOVELLA ***

Wife Number Seven was one of my favourite books in 2014. It was different, atmospheric and laced with a silent alarm throughout its pages. I loved it and loved how it had me hooked from the first paragraph. This was a great way to get re-acquainted with Brinley and Porter once again. I loved these two and felt this was like an extended and very sweet epilogue.

It's been three years since Brin and Porter met, three years since Brin escaped from the compound and three years since real life began for both of them. I loved seeing that each one of them still had their own issues to contend with. Brin didn't just blend into society seamlessly, she still works at it everyday and still deals with the ghosts of her past, but she does it knowing she's strong enough. Porter also didn't just miraculously heal all his old wounds and overcome his demons. His addiction has been a battle each day but he also has the strength to not let it define him.

Seeing Brin and Porter still wrestle with their issues yet be there for one another was so beautiful and completely realistic. I'm glad MB didn't just give us a flawless ever after, but showed that the problems Brin and Porter dealt with were in fact very real. But their love and devotion to one another was stronger and infinitely more important. I'm glad Jesse was there for Porter and I'm happy Brin has Tiffany. So despite losing their own families, These two created a family of their own.

Any fans of WNS will appreciate this sweet novella as I did, it was a short, yet satisfying glimpse into a lovely couples life together.

** Arc provided by the author for review **

Christy says

4 stars!

??*His Only Wife* is a beautiful and sweet extended epilogue to Brin and Porter's story.

This novella takes place about three years after *Wife Number Seven* ends. Brin is out of the compound completely. Porter is trying to clean up his life and stay clean. Brin and Porter are in love and happy, but they still have obstacles to overcome. Their past isn't an easy one and getting through those things takes time, love and patience.

Brin and Porter want each other. They love each other. And most importantly, they are patient and understanding with each other. I adore this couple together.

Readers of *Wife Number Seven* know how special and amazing that book is. It's one of my favorites. I was happy to get this lovely conclusion of this beautiful couple! I can't wait for Melissa to write more books in

this series (ASPEN!!!)
