



# Lotus

*T.L. Smith*

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## Lotus T.L. Smith

To break a heart is easy.

All you have to do is reach in, wrap your blood-covered hands around it, and pull.

This happened to me.

Two hands, both red as my hair, did this exact thing.

Tore it away like it wasn't made for me.

Maybe it was his to take?

Because years on, with those same blood-red hands, he still has it.

In his clenched fists.

And he won't give it back.

But the real question is, do I want it back?

He is dangerous, uncontrollable, and downright sexy.

I fell for it all, but in the end, he didn't catch me. He let me fall.

\*Standalone\*

## Lotus Details

Date : Published July 25th 2017 (first published July 2017)

ISBN :

Author : T.L. Smith

Format : Kindle Edition 254 pages

Genre : Romance, Suspense, Dark

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## From Reader Review Lotus for online ebook

### Becca - ★Wicked Quests of a BookNinja★ says

HOLY SUPERMAN and the yummiest macaroni!! What have I just read??? I knew TL Smith was an amazing, mind-blowing author, but how can she do this to me every-freaking-time? I feel like my soul had been kidnapped and been to an other galaxy, created by TL Smith.

This book is fucking powerful. I'm talking about the heart-wrenching, soul conquering kind of strength. It will leave a mark on your heart and soul as well. And you will love every minute of it. No matter what. I just couldn't resist it, I devoured the book in no time. I've been hypnotized. Yup, that's it.

I don't think my words are worthy to touch this story. Bowing down, just bowing and hoping for an other journey like that in the future!

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### Heaven Scheuring says

This book was capitvating until the very end!

I love TL Smith's writing style and this book did not disappoint!

Lotus is a great second chance romance with a touch of suspense. There are so many details in the story and I absolutely loved that!

Orion and Lotus truly have a one of a kind love story that proves love trumps all! They drowned themselves in each other. No matter what obstacles they faced their love remained!

Excellent read!!

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### Dani says

I'm not sure how to review this book. T.L. Smith really knows how to weave a beautiful story, both filled with angst, tension, sensual beauty, and just raw emotion. Lotus is not an average love and loss story. It's filled with so much more. It will grip you, and I mean it will reach into your chest, capture your heart and squeeze. The words on the pages hold you hostage for much longer than you'd think. Long after you've read the last word, closed the book, you'll still be in the murky depths along with Lotus and Orion. These characters dragged me along for the ride, and I didn't want to look away.

If you've never read T.L.'s books before, start with this one. It will grab you hook, line, and sinker. You'll fall

in love with her characters, and also the way she weaves a twisted web of love, lies, deceit, and a general WTF, because once you journey with Orion and Lotus, you'll never be the same again.

ONE CLICK NOW!!

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## **Shabby -BookBistroBlog says**

**Love sucks fucking ass.**

Ain't that the truth. Couldn't be more true than Orion Hurley and Lotus Vein's love story. It's more about unbridled passion that fuses their hearts together. They both are from different start as of life, different attitudes and mindsets. Yet Lotus sees in him, what nobody could see....his heart !

**“It’s only as dirty as you make it out to be. To me, it wasn’t. It was fine .  
Maybe that’s what you see him in, too. You never really saw the bad, just the good you wanted.”**

Orion has a secret life , which he hides from Lotus.

This is driving her crazy and angry. Her frustrations make her violent and aggressive and yet Orion's lips are sealed. This distance and invisible wall between them turn them into people who are antithesis of lovers, so they split up. In fact Lotus shows balls enough to leave.

**That was the problem with loving someone so hard, so fast, so uncontrollably. It was bound to fuck with you. Screw you over, and tear your soul to shreds. Lotus Vein was my high, but she was also my low. Plus, she was everything in-between.**

**“We did it to each other, our love was damaging, exciting, thrilling,”**

**“Unhealthy...”**

The whole story from hence forth is about their battle between heart and brain. For both of them. Orion wants to change but there are ties that bind him to his old life and Lotus needs to move away for her own sanity.

The story has soul , no doubt about it . But for me, it lacked the body. Powerful emotions , intense inner ramblings but ever little dialogue , made me feel detached to Lotus. She was in a daze, without coherence of thoughts , it seemed. Couldn't decipher her emotions or feelings properly so was lost.

Orion and Cole were very powerful and well etched characters. Kama and Roan turnaround left me wondering. I'd love to read more about Cole & Yumi , Sebastian and Loretta.

All in all a good book .

4 Murky Pond stars

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## **Lisa Sylva (The Book Bistro) says**

**Love is so many things and it's all here in this book!**

T.L. Smith tells a story of true love and all its beauty - a real love that they know is theirs and theirs only and that it has never died but it is seriously & potentially lethal in so many ways. How do you fix something like this? The complexity of the situation and the nature of it is so complicated that you don't know what will happen. And if you've ever read a T.L. Smith book, you'll know to expect the unexpected sometimes. It really made you think and feel about how easy the line between love and hate really are but in this case, I can't really use the word hate. Smith has this talent to begin her story with immediate attention grabbing words and then takes you on the journey of explaining them from past to present. (*There is no eye rolling here!*) The way it is written, she gives you just the right amount of information to bring you up to task for the ongoing present - it is not wordy or cluttered with too much past that you start to wonder when you'll get back to the present - **NO!** Not at all, promise!

***“Orion Hurley... you, my love, do not know a thing about me. And that is a good thing because you do not understand who I am. You may have understood the girl I once was when you had her in your grip. You chose to let her go. So I bid you goodbye, and hope you have a marvelous life.”***

This story is very intense and grips your heart and soul so easily that it has already captured it before you even realized it. The two main characters in the story have beautiful souls regardless of how flawed they are, you can't help but adore both of them. I fell in love with them deeper and deeper throughout the book and by the end my heart was full. I'm not one of those reviewers that tell you about the story because you really should truly read it and find out for yourself with fresh eyes - there is nothing like going into an incredible book for the first time and loving it so immediately afterwards.

And if you've ever read a particular T.L. Smith book, that I adore - there are a couple of "guest stars" that made it all the more fabulous - I literally shrieked with joy when I saw those names because **THAT BOOK - OH MY!!!!** Another one that did me in - ahhh!

***Hint: "She's watching me, which is something I didn't expect. She waves and smiles, then looks down to rub her very round belly. I see her every day, and today's the day she smiles at me. So odd. I remember seeing her over a year ago, and she wouldn't even look me in the eye, or any customer for that matter."***

All in all - Lotus is a magnificent and alluring book - action packed with plenty of suspense, grit, surprise, throw in some humor, lots of sizzle and beauty - love. I think those are some pretty good ingredients!

*\*this review is affiliated with The Book Bistro*

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## **Tawny says**

Tapped out at 48%

I gave this book a solid effort however it lost me somewhere around the time the heroine skinny dipped in a murky pond on the wrong side of the tracks yet somehow still managed to smell like strawberries and go party. I don't care who you are, if you go swimming in a swamp you're going to smell like a swamp.

This book excessively told me about the connection Lotus and Orion have without ever showing me. I didn't understand their connection so I lost interest in them pretty quickly. Also excessive was the inner monologue. In my opinion it totally stilted the dialogue and made their actual conversations sound very strange and forced between literal paragraphs inner monologue. I skimmed a lot to make it to 48%

I finally called it quits when Lotus' fiancé switches to a guy who is trying to win a bet with her brother (?) I literally said "What the hell?!" To my kindle because one minute she was DTF and the next she was fleeing like she was being chased by the devil. Everything happened so fast and was not explained enough for me to understand what was happening (again too much inner monologue and not enough writing about the current sitch). At that point I didn't care about Lotus or the fact that Roan turned out to be a douche canoe so I decided to stop and move on to bigger and (hopefully) much better writing.

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## **Bloggers From Down Under says**

\*\* Provided on behalf of the author for an honest review \*\*

\*\* Review by Gayle from Bloggers From Down Under \*\*

I have no idea why I keep doing this to myself, I honestly don't. My head is mush, my heart hurts, and I am lost for words....Why?

Ohh that's right, how could I or anyone for that matter ever forget....

That's what happens each and every single time I read a TL Smith novel, because she knows how to get into your head, manipulate your every thought, and makes it hard to even catch your breath.

And Lotus did just that.

Wow people, just wow. What the fu#k did I just read?

There are no words to express how I am feeling right now. I am at a total loss.

And furthermore I don't want my words to tarnish such a powerful read.

My words are simply not deserving.

Lotus is everything any reader could ever possibly ask for. It's perfection at the highest of levels. It captures your mind, kidnaps your every thought, manipulates and crushes your soul. It literally takes your breath away. It's an all consuming read that delves into the dark recesses of the minds of the broken, of the soul searching love that we all yearn for, that we all long to feel, and how to keep it once it's in your grip. It takes us on a journey of the damaged, the people that are trying so desperately to repair the hurt and pain that consumes their every thought.

A deep an emotional read that I can't rate high enough.

Lotus....A read that will stay with me for a lifetime, a read that I completely drowned in.

5 stars.

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## **KAT ? Kitty Kats Crazy About Books ? says**

**LOTUS:** by T.L. Smith is a standalone dark, romance book and suitable for readers 18 years and above. Spoken in 'Dual Perspectives' and flits from 'Past to Present' effortlessly. A second chance romance. In this we meet Orion Hurley and Lotus Vein.

Orion and Lotus had a toxic soul crushing love that travelled full speed from a high so high to a low they drowned in. They were complete opposites in every way. He grew up on the wrong side of the tracks, both parents alcoholics.

*My mother was an alcoholic, my father came and went, never staying for too long. And then there was me, broken and damaged just like them.*

She was raised in an affluent neighbourhood her aspirations were to become a lawyer to help children in need. They met in the most unique way, she was his lotus the spitfire with the flaming red hair taking a dip in the pond in his backyard.

Lotus and Orion have that once in a lifetime kind of love, that in the end destroyed them. Their love was built on lies, betrayals and secrets.

*Lotus Vein was my high, but she was also my low.*

*Plus she was everything in between.*

*That was the thing about love. It hurt, it wrecked, and sometimes it had beauty.*

They had such a beautiful, powerful, all consuming intense love that didn't die out even with years they had spent apart. It was lying in wait waiting for the embers to ignite again, and ignite they did.

*The love we had, it was powerful, yet it was destructible as well. We were uncontrollable, nobody around us could tell us differently. To us no one else mattered.*

This took me a while to get into then as I progressed further the story just soared, I was captivated, invested in reaching the end. An intricate tale weaved and shrouded in a cloud of suspense and angst, a second chance romance about a toxic off the rails relationship that was their downfall.

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**SueBee★bring me an alpha!★ says**

**LIVE! | AMZ US | AMZ UK |**

**OH THIS SOUNDS INTRIGUING!**

Stand-alone.

**LIVE! | AMZ US | AMZ UK |**

Blurb:

*To break a heart is easy.*

*All you have to do is reach in, wrap your blood covered hands around it, and pull.  
This happened to me.  
Two hands, both red as my hair, did this exact thing.  
Tore it away like it wasn't made for me.  
Maybe it was his to take?  
Because years on, with those same blood red hands, he still has it.  
In his hands.  
And he won't give it back.  
But the real question is, do I want it back.  
He is dangerous, uncontrollable, and downright sexy.  
I fell for it all, but in the end, he didn't catch me he let me fall.*

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### **~lil maso~ says**

This book consumed me.

Their impossible, addictive, drowning in each other's love.  
You can feel the pull that draws them together.

I don't think I have read anything with this kind of magnetic love.  
This book surprised me and I don't get surprised often.

\*ARC received in exchange for an honest review\*

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### **Sonya ?Chatterbooks book blog? says**

??? 3.5 Stars ???

***“ He was my number one addiction, and I was his.”***

There's this thing about loving someone who isn't good for you. Your heart doesn't get the memo because it beats for the soul purpose of that person and your brain, doesn't register that falling in love is a bad idea but yet you fall. So heartache becomes your middle name and sorrow your last because you decided to give in to the one thing that has the ability to hurt you. Walking away isn't an option in most cases because you know you'll end up right where you've always wanted to be so what's the point. Like I've said, there's thing about loving someone who isn't good for you.

This is a story about two people who were so completely wrong for each other turned out to be the best thing that ever happened to each other. Their love knew no boundaries, and time was not on their side but for Lotus and Orion, loving each other was not only a necessity, it was down right toxic.

Lotus has never been the type to shy away from something so when she meets Orion for the first time, their encounter was no different. That day sealed her fate of being with him and from that moment on, they were inseparable and filled with a hunger for each other that nothing could tame. Secrets and lies, passion and anger were all a part of Lotus and Orion's relationship and in the end, those were the very same things that ultimately destroyed them. How can you come back from something like that?

I won't go into anymore details but I will say that I was hoping to get more of a connection with Lotus and Orion's love story. I know that they loved each other and I also know that there was a lot of hurt involved but I didn't FEEL it. I was desperate to feel that betrayal and pain between them and I got nothing. Maybe I missed something because it didn't feel like a big issue to me even though I understood their reservations about certain things.

Orion and Lotus were two people who couldn't have done without each other even if they tried and boy did they try! But when you love someone like that, it doesn't go away no matter how much time or distance you try to put between yourselves.

If you're looking for a slightly different romance read, then you should try this one.

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## **Heather Pollock says**

Kristen Stewart So Epic GIF from Kristenstewart GIFs

QueenZany 5 Star Review

Lotus

T.L Smith

I'm so at a loss for words!

T.L Smith has decimated my reality! Breaking me! Making me lose my shit!

She pulled me into her web, of twisted turns, mind altering reality, killing my every thought and making me gasp!

Waiting for that next "Wham Bam Thankyou Mam" to hit me! Fuck it hit me hard! Like getting the force of knuckle punch!

Now all I can think about is that Love of Orion and Lotus!! Shit they were the right kind of crazy, intense love, that I need and yearn for!

God help me but it's a kinda love that will last a lifetime!

Lotus is one physiological road trip of ecstasy and aw!! That is nothing short of 5 fucktastic stars!!!

## **Phyl says**

This book consumed me. Their impossible, addictive, drowning in each other's love. You can feel the pull that draws them together. I don't think I have read anything with this kind of magnetic love. This book surprised me and I don't get surprised often.

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## **Tammy McGowan says**

This is quite the second chance romance, with an edge, story.

Orion and Lotus.

He was dark. She was light.

He was quiet. She was voiced.

He was dangerous. She was good.

He was low. She was high.

They were opposite in so many ways, but that is what brought them together. They became an addiction. One that could destroy them. They were young and fantasized of a future.

Then life got in the way (of course it did!). Sacrifices were made. Love this time couldn't save them.

Then fate stepped in with one invite (yes!). Orion took full advantage of seeing Lotus and grasping the opportunity to get her back in his life, as they should have been. He will stop at nothing to get her back. She is still drawn in by him, even when she is not in position to be.

Neither could deny their feelings for each. After all that time apart that spark that only they felt towards each other that told them, this person is my heart, mind and soul was ignited once again. They knew they loved each and wanted to swim their way back to drown as one.

And, drown they did. As they moved forward they have to face their past. It was not easy, secrets had to be revealed. It became a path of healing. Opening up like never before. They are still each other's addiction. They need that hit. That ecstasy that only as a pair that they can provide. (I willingly volunteer as tribute to be his addiction.)

I was 100% entranced in the explosion that was Orion and Lotus.

I felt their story.

I felt their hurt.

I felt their anguish.

I felt their struggles.

I felt their love.

The murky water, is life, real life.

We have to wade through the bad to get to the good.

The Lotus, is the good, true good.  
When have to pick the good to get to love..

For more reviews, visit

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## **Natalie The Biblioholic says**

It's LIVE! <http://bit.ly/2v2ph3D>

### ***3.5 "When love turns to hate and turns back to love" stars!!***

At 17, Orion and Lotus met and it was as if their hearts decided to finally beat. He was from the wrong side of the tracks and all he knew was desperation and struggle. She was the light granting him peace and a taste of normal. He refused to let the dirt and sins of his life taint her so he kept his secrets close. But over the next few years, those secrets ate away at their foundation until eventually Lotus became someone no one could recognize. BTW, I HATED her at this part. One day Orion's lifestyle hits a little too close to home and he drives her away. It was all he could do at the time to protect her, but she didn't know that. He ended up breaking both of their hearts in the process. He stayed away for years but now he's back to claim the only woman who has ever owned his heart.

With *Lotus*, T.L. Smith gave us a second chance romance that was dark, twisted, and full of pain, mental anguish, hope and love. It had touches of suspense, boatloads of secrets, and more than a few glimpses of passion. Once you read it, you'll probably never look at lotus blossoms, lily pads, or ponds the same way again.

*Release Date:* July 27, 2017

*Genre:* Contemporary - Second Chance

*POV:* Dual - 1st person

*Heat:* 3 out of 5

*Type:* Standalone