



# Biochemistry

*Andrew Grey*

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## **Biochemistry** Andrew Grey

When his college biochemistry class turns out to be much more difficult than star quarterback Freddie Samuelson imagined, his lab partner, Kurt Maxwell, agrees to help. They're very different: a rich kid athlete and a hardworking openly gay scholarship student. But Kurt slips past Freddie's defenses, and little by little—despite Freddie ignoring his own sexuality in the past—Freddie realizes he wants to get to know Kurt, especially when Kurt helps him through more challenges than their science class. But it isn't long before rumors begin to fly, and the obstacles Freddie will face may block him from both the future he planned on and the future he didn't know he wanted.

## **Biochemistry Details**

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Author : Andrew Grey

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## From Reader Review Biochemistry for online ebook

### Debra says

#### 3.5 stars

This second book in the Chemistry series can easily be read as a standalone although Coach Josh from Organic Chemistry has a large supporting role in this book. Biochemistry reads more like a new adult story as the MC's are both juniors at Dickinson college and face the typical closeted jock falls for out nerd romance issues.

I really liked Kurt in this book. Yes he is the stereotypical out college nerd in many aspects, but in no way is he a doormat. Although his first few interactions with football star Freddie were somewhat intimidating, Kurt refuses to play his games. Freddie's issues go a bit deeper than just what will the guys on the team think and, of course, that leads to a rocky road between the two men.

A quick read with just a bit of angst and sex. If you enjoy college jock/nerd romances, I recommend this one.

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### Morgan Skye says

In book one, we met Josh and Brendan, a coach and a professor/genius who fall in love. Josh is here as the coach of Freddie, the star quarterback, and acts as a counselor for Freddie as he navigates his decision to come out.

Kurt is out and proud in his new college but he's already been the victim of bullying so he's a bit gun shy of jocks, especially closeted jocks. So when Freddie tries to strike up more than just a tutoring relationship – it's understandable that Kurt is a bit reluctant to take a risk.

Freddie, on the other hand, is captivated by Kurt and thinks he might be the reason it'd be worth facing his family and friends with his new "truth".

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I loved book one so much! Brendan and Josh were really sweet and adorable and I was hoping for something like that here.

Instead we get Freddie who has trouble in school, has trouble making decisions and has self-esteem issues when it comes to his family. I'm not sure what he sees in Kurt or vice versa and it was hard rooting for them as a couple.

Kurt is a bit of a bossy bosserton who waffles and gives in pretty easily in the face of only a very minor bit of pushing on Freddie's part. Besides his physical appeal I didn't see what he saw in Freddie nor did Freddie give any good reasons for Kurt to trust him.

Freddie's actions didn't feel authentic and I wasn't really feeling any chemistry between him and Kurt so this wasn't a romance that let me believe they'd still be together in the long run.

3 of 5 stars

## Audio

Nick J Russo is a great narrator and really seemed to hit Freddie's football persona on the head! I LOVED Freddie's roommate – the drawl Nick gives him is pretty funny and it actually added a bit of much needed color to this somewhat drab romance.

I definitely enjoyed listening to this more than reading it as Nick was able to draw me in to the characters with his well-done narration.

4.5 of 5 stars

Overall 3.75 of 5 stars

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## Jilrene ♥ says

Sweet. A little predictable, but still enjoyable.

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## Becky Condit says

**Please leave comments on Becky's 5 sweet pea and Recommended Book review of Biochemistry at <http://mrsconditreadsbooks.com/index....>**

*“Being gay has nothing to do with the way you play football. It just describes the gender of the person you’ll fall in love with.”*

First of all, take a good look at the cover. See the glasses on that handsome football player? Those glasses play a major role in this book. Just sayin’.

Andrew Grey's Biochemistry may be my favorite of all of his books. It has characters to love (a lot), a great story line that is one heck of a roller coaster ride, and lessons to learn without being beaten over the head with them.

Nerdy Kurt knows how to stand up for himself. He just isn't big enough to always defend himself physically. Athletic Freddy isn't looking for a boyfriend. He's just trying to live down to his father's expectations and get through college. Unfortunately, by his junior year he finds he can no longer skate through the easy courses and biochemistry is a complete mystery to him. His labmate Kurt is doing well but not in the mood to share much with Freddy due to the unfortunate way they met. However, Kurt is a good guy and offers to help Freddy if he'll come to the library during the hours Kurt is working there. The help comes with strings attached: Freddy actually has to study and learn, not just copy Kurt's work.

There are some secondary characters who are role models and friends, especially Freddy's coach Josh. When the glasses enter the picture (see? I told you they were important) it's Josh who helps Kurt make things happen.

Freddy blows (not in the good way) any potential relationship with Kurt up more than one time. I was surprised that Kurt kept coming back for more, and in fact, so was Kurt. This is a romance novel and love

wins out. It's a great story with a wonderful ending. You won't be sorry you bought this one so be sure to put it on top of your TBR pile. And by the way, while this is #2 in the Chemistry series, it is a stand-alone novel. It is a pleasure to read Organic Chemistry, but not necessary for full enjoyment of Biochemistry.

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## V says

Wonderful sequel, as always I can't go wrong reading stories from this author.  
Right amount of angst, sex scenes, enjoyable plot, great balance.  
If you are a fan of this author, you are going to like this story as much as I did.

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## Serena Yates says

Just like with the first book, what made the story in this second volume special for me was the two main characters. Both go from thinking they know what life is about to learning that maybe there are a few surprises along the way. Freddie may look like the typical jock, with a rich father to boot, but he has hidden depths that come out when he meets Kurt and starts to see life, and himself, a little differently. Kurt is the clever geek-type, and on a scholarship, but he has a big heart and is very people oriented. He knows he's gay from the start, but he has no idea how to handle his attraction to supposedly-straight Freddie. Just as biochemistry, the class that brings Freddie and Kurt together, is about "the science of life", the developing relationship between Freddie and Kurt is about the building blocks of love.

Freddie knows one thing well, and that is playing football. His father expects him to play and succeed, never mind a college education, and Freddie ends up believing that is all he is good for. It takes Kurt questioning that "wisdom" and his encouragement for Freddie to actually do the classwork himself. Soon Freddie begins to figure out that not all is as his father says. Add to that his growing attraction to and curiosity about Kurt, and Freddie needs a thorough overhaul of both his self-image and his world view. Unfortunately, he can't fight his battles in private, since rumors soon fly, and he has to decide if he can be honest about who he is and if he is willing to accept a totally different future from what his father wants and he always thought he wanted too.

Kurt is on a scholarship, has just transferred to a tougher college with a better reputation, and intends to keep his head down, his work current, and his GPA up. He did not expect to meet a jock who is far more interesting than he should be, and when the man asks for help, Kurt decides to do his best – in order to make Freddie really learn something. When the attraction between them deepens and he finds out more about Freddie's background, Kurt has his doubts. Life, however, has its own agenda, and Kurt is too good a guy to just give up on Freddie.

If you like sweet romances with a definite touch of realism, if you enjoy reading about two men who both think they know what they want out of life, only to find out there's a different future out there for them if they're only willing to grasp it, and if you're looking for a read that contains deeply emotional revelations and some very hot exploratory physical activities, then you will probably like this book as much as I did.

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## Cindi says

3.5 stars

Full review can be found at On Top Down Under Book Reviews.

I really enjoyed *Organic Chemistry* so I was eager to jump into this one. While I was entertained by the story, at times I felt like I was reading a Young Adult novel. Take out a few of the sexual situations and it could have easily been reviewed at On Top Down Under's sister YA site, Greedy Bug Book Reviews. While *Organic Chemistry* focused on college instructors, *Biochemistry* is about two students, Freddie and Kurt.

This is a nice opposites attract story. A bit predictable, as Freddie is the typical jock afraid of coming out of the closet and Kurt is the nerd who has never seen the inside of one. Throw in a demanding father, a couple of homophobes and a bit more drama and eventually Freddie and Kurt become the couple they want to be.

Another nice read by Andrew Grey.

*This book was provided by Dreamspinner Press in exchange for a fair and honest review.*

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## Stephen says

Kurt Maxwell, nerdy, out & outspoken, scholarship student from a poor Pennsylvania family, transfers in his junior year to a more prestigious school and is determined to do well.

When he's teamed as a lab partner with Freddie Samuelson, the studly closeted/clueless quarterback, scion of a wealthy east coast family, who shares a name with several campus buildings, friction is inevitable, and in the case of m/m fiction some sweaty wish-fulfillment fantasies.

This is a fun, if periodically incredible, romp in the hay, centered on the modern college experience. Sure there are plot glitches - (What guy gets a drivers' license without ever getting his eyes checked?)

However, if you're in the mood for fantasy fulfillment and aren't too concerned with the elegance of the prose (or plot plausibility) then this may be the book for you.

As I was reading this I was reminded of the time I once helped an artist friend take an estate donation of "folk art" from the NY Met down to the Smithsonian. It was an astonishing mix of clever mixed with crude mixed with meaningful.

Somehow listening to this book reminds me of that collection. This will not be to everyone's taste but if you are the type that can see the art in it, it can be a lot of fun.

It should be noted that this is the second book in a series but can be read independently with no problem.

One purely personal sour note for me... Nick J. Russo, the narrator, in this book was tasked with recreating the voices of a number of gay men, some bone-headed jocks and even an assortment of women. His portrayal of the women and a few of the more effeminate men was border-line awkward for me as a listener.

Note: I was given a copy of this audiobook by the publisher in exchange for a fair and honest review.

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## Wax says

I love the nerd/jock trope, so this book is right up my alley. Freddie, the star quarterback, has coasted through life and school relying on family money and his athletic ability to get him through. Kurt is a scholarship student who needs to work for what he has. They really couldn't be more different, but working as biochemistry lab partners changes things for both of them. The story didn't have much angst and everything was pretty straightforward, so those liking tension and conflict will be disappointed. But I like sweet stories and HEAs, so I enjoyed this story. I also loved seeing the characters from Organic Chemistry again.

Re-read 6/6/17: Low-angst story about a jock coming to grips with his sexuality and the guy who helps him see there's more to him than just sports.

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## LiveYourLife BuyTheBook says

### 4.5 Stars

A *"Live Your Life, Buy The Book"* Review

Kurt just transferred to Dickinson college and he is so excited to be there. On his first day of class he practically gets plowed down by a big guy in a football jersey, of course instead of apologizing, the jerk yells to him "Watch where you're walking, Short Stuff," and what do you know big guy turns out to be in his biochemistry class and things do not go smoothly for these two.

Freddie is the star quarterback and he's used to getting what he wants, but he might as well move along because Kurt's not buying what he's selling. If Freddie thinks Kurt is going to do his work for him he's got another thing coming and Kurt tells him so. Freddie assumes that since their professor Dr. Marcus is dating his football coach (Guys from "Organic Chemistry", Book 1 in the Chemistry Series) that he'd get special treatment, and when he realizes that's not going to happen he panics and pretty much begs for Kurt's help. Kurt won't say no, he'll help Freddie all he can. They agree to meet at the library where Kurt is working but when Freddie shows Kurt his work and Kurt doesn't say anything right away, Freddie thinks the worst and runs out. But there's a reason Kurt didn't know what to say after looking at Freddie's paper and I had a holy crap moment when it was revealed.

These two guys start spending a lot of time together and emotions start to leak in their friendship but when things start to heat up one of them has a hard time handling it and bolts leaving the other hurt. Freddie may be scared shitless but he truly likes Kurt and he wants to try to be together. It doesn't take long for one of his roommates to go crazy over the revelation that Freddie likes guys and soon the shit hits the fan, and when the shit hit the fan, it hit hard... for Kurt. Freddie turned into the biggest jerk, he was more worried about his image and reputation than the fact that he hurt the other man. Or maybe not. What if he's being that way for a reason? What if he had to do those things to protect the only person who's ever had his heart?

What I like most about Kurt was that even though he was the small, short, and geeky guy he was actually the more stronger character in the book. Freddie may be the big football star but deep down he was sad and lonely and all he wanted was for his dad to be proud of him, to like him for more than just how good he was at football.

I really enjoyed reading Freddie and Kurt's story. They had me cracking up with their nicknames for each other. Heck, even during writing this review, I wanted to call them Short Stuff and Ape Boy. It was also nice

to see Coach Josh from book 1 have such a large roll to play in this book. Without his help, Freddie would have been lost. Actually, Freddie and Kurt had some pretty great friends and they made the story that much better. At the end you get to see how things were going with the guys and how things turned out with Freddie's dad. Man, I hated that guy. Every time he called Freddie, I wanted to scream. I was a bit disappointed that we were not shown Freddie's coming out to his father. I am pretty sure that would've been one helluva fight, especially when Freddie told him where he could shove it and I really wanted to see Freddie tell his dad to shove it.

Once again this author has given us a great story to read. I always enjoy his books, and I'm always surprised at how wonderful each story is. You'd think after reading as many of them from this author as I have that I wouldn't be, but they keep getting better and better.

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## **Ari says**

Sukaan kisah Josh-Brendon ^^

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## **Annika says**

Audiobook review

First days of school are the worst! Add in an entitled and obnoxious football jock, a twisted ankle and things does not look good for Kurt. When said jock also ends up as his lab partner for the semester Kurt is anything but happy. Especially since he's trying to make Kurt do his work for him.

At the surface Freddie is the epitome of an entitled jock, who never had to lift a finger in his life or put much effort into anything but football. So when he finds himself in biochemistry class, and way over his head he does what he normally do - tries to get someone else to do the work for him. Only this time that doesn't work out quite the way he expected.

*Biochemistry* didn't have quite the same feel to it. It was still about the nerd and the jock, but it lacked a bit if the sparkle I felt in the first book. It was an enemies to lovers story and a really good one at that. Kurt and Freddie fit well together, that is when Freddie let his guard down and we really got to know who he was, his wants, dreams and fears. And watching him grow as a person, take that chance with Kurt, falling for Kurt was beautiful.

Nick J. Russo did a great job narrating this book too. I love listening to his voice, his narrations. He has a genuine talent and his books never disapoint.

*A copy of this book was generously provided in exchange for an honest review*

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## **Shannon says**

Cute story. Closeted jock harasses then becomes friends with smart guy. Then he freaks out, apologizes, freaks out again and well, you'll have to read it. Not as good as the first in the series IMO but still a fun read.

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### **Aine Massie says**

What happens when you mix a short, cute, scholarly type and the quarterback? Sparks, emotional and personal growth, and an HEA that will have you swooning.

Biochemistry is book #2 in the Chemistry novella series by Andrew Grey and I have to say, it's a great 'coming out' / 'coming of age' story. So many I've read have left me feeling kinda flat and cold, but OMG I love Kurt! And watching as Freddy comes to terms with who he is, especially while under the microscope that is his life—he's the star quarterback, after all—and dealing with his horrid father is both wonderful and heartbreaking at the same time.

Until recently I wasn't over thrilled with reading novella length stories, but when they're as deep and developed as Biochemistry, I'm totally won over. Oh, and yes, you get to see Josh and Brendon from book #1. I recommend this story for any that love HEAs, 'coming out' / 'coming of age' stories, or deep and passionate love, then this story is for you.

\*Sex is not a focus, but when it's had . . . it's so powerful and sensual you want to reread that section before even finishing the book!

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### **Peter says**

I love stories where the clear underdog and smaller character is actually the stronger of the two main characters. Kurt is having a good year at college. He's doing well in his studies, has a great roommate, and has a group of great friends. All that changes when he bumps into Freddie, quarterback of the football team and uber jock. What then begins is a sparring match between "short stuff" and "ape boy" and it slowly grows to something neither of them expected. As fate would have it, they also sit next to each other in biochemistry and are made lab partners. An attraction starts to grow between the two of them but all isn't perfect. There's some fear, insecurity, and anger which makes the outcome all the more to look forward to. As with any series, I was happy to see appearances from Brandon and Josh from the first Chemistry book.

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