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Shaina Richmond

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Adults only - erotic romance - contains graphic sex. Part 1 of a series.

Tyler Campbell was happy to be single and finishing his degree. He was back in school after leaving for several years to help out at home after the sudden death of his father. But things change when he's immediately attracted to Susanna Lombardi, a fellow student who walks into the coffee shop where he studies. After several disastrous, high-drama attempts at casual hook-ups in his past, he's surprised by his desire to get her all to himself after the coffee shop closes. He soon realizes he may not be as happily single as he thought when he finds himself thinking of her as a serious love interest.

Safe With Me Details

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Author : Shaina Richmond

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From Reader Review Safe With Me for online ebook

Summer Ellis says

I'm addicted to this series!!!

Brittney says

I loved this book

Jeanne says

I feel it's VERY important that anyone thinking about buying this, "book" understand that it is not a complete story. It's the first few chapters of a much larger story that's been split into several segments (six are available for purchase, with more promised to come). Each of these segments costs \$0.99. Recently the author made segments 1-6 available for \$2.99, but an Amazon customer wouldn't easily find this information looking at the profile for parts 1 and 2. Any interested reader would very likely buy Safe with Me Parts 1 and 2, then discover the collection (that is still not complete) and have to repurchase parts 1 and 2 along with the rest, paying an additional \$2.99 on top of the original investment. It feels like a lot of effort for an erotic ebook, and for this book it's a wasted investment, in my opinion.

The story is fairly simple: boy meets girl, they chat, have sex and then a budding romance begins to blossom. Yet, with a simple structure like this, I never got the feeling that there is an actual story in Safe with Me. Rather, it's a series of events strung together like one would find in a diary.

Safe With Me Parts 1 and 2 is told from Tyler's point of view, but his voice often doesn't ring true to that of a real man. The only time he sounded close to any men I know is when he rattles off random, often crude terms for female genitalia (I would use the actual words, but for Amazon's profanity policy) or when he says really cliched things that sound like the author has watched one too many episodes of Jersey Shore.

Susie's characterization isn't much better, though I gave some leeway for that since we are only seeing her through Tyler's eyes. Still, so much of her behavior contradicts itself and not in a way that hints at depth. In theory, Susie is a great character; an independent, sexually confident, full-figured girl as a romantic heroine. This is a character I've longed to read, unfortunately neither Susie nor the story lives up to that dream...at all. She has no personality, and her attributes are told to us rather than shown by her behavior. Right off the bat, Tyler raves about how Susie is independent and confident, which seemed rather premature, since at that point all she's done is have sex with a relative stranger on her couch.

As for the BBW (Big Beautiful Woman) aspect of this story, I both see it and don't. Susie is a size 12, which I know many people in American culture treat as "fat," but as a woman of a much larger size I don't see it as anything other than average. Tyler's insistence that he's never been attracted to a "girl like her" before and the constant negative/derogatory references to Susie's weight left me confused and frustrated. Tyler sometimes describes Susie's body rather eloquently (at times too eloquently to believe that I'm in the mind of a man), but then reverts to terms (i.e. "more cushion" for the pushing) that are so cliche and offensive it

left me angry and mildly offended.

It all combines to give one the impression that men have to “get over” the fact that a girl is “heavy” in order to love her rather than the truth, which is there are sexy men that actually pursue BBW and find their bodies VERY sexy and attractive. While I feel that it was the author’s intention to present a positive story of a full-figured woman finding love, her efforts resulted in a miss rather than a hit. It’s a mistake I think many authors in contemporary romance and erotica make.

Then we have the sex, or what little of it the author showed us. It feels like this author is trying to write erotica without really writing sex. The few details she gives us are laughable in their description and seem as though they were lifted from one of those porno magazines that Tyler refers to constantly. By the end of the first sex scene, it doesn’t feel like you’ve actually read about sex at all, but rather a seventeen-year-old boy’s third-hand retelling of it. Quite frankly, I didn’t find it sexy. I found it boring, much like most of the text.

This story suffers from what many self-published novels do: a severe LACK of editing. The author has potential and very interesting ideas, but she lacks the experience to properly present the story. She makes a lot of amateur mistakes that turned both her characters into one-dimensional cliches. This actually made me more sad than angry, because I would have loved to read a well-written erotic story about a Native American man and a full-figured woman. Sadly, *Safe with Me* is not that story.

As I mentioned in the beginning of my review, the price for this book (\$0.99) is about average for most erotica ebooks on Amazon, IF the entire story was here. However, this is just the first part of a much longer story that must be purchased in segments, EACH costing \$0.99. I believe there are six in all, with several more installments forthcoming. So, *Safe with Me* appears to be a \$0.99 ebook, but it is actually a \$6.00+ ebook (of poor quality) split into segments and made available at the author’s convenience. While the author is transparent about *Safe with Me* being a series, I don’t think the quality of the writing or storytelling is worth the price.

There are many erotic ebooks available on Amazon, as well as smaller online publishers, that are equal to or better than the *Safe with Me*. They’re also complete and actually only cost \$0.99. I would advise readers that are looking for a good quality, inexpensive erotic story to look for those books and to not waste their time and money on a series that is most assuredly going to disappoint readers when (& if) it ends.

Side note for non-Caucasian readers and lovers of multicultural romance:

I was pulled out of the story when Tyler referred to himself as “American Indian.” This really bothered me because I know Native Americans, and am part Cree myself. Most Native Americans refer to their ethnicity by their tribe: Lakota, Navajo, Cree, etc. They most assuredly do not refer to themselves as Indians.

In fairness, the author explains away Tyler’s lack of tribal knowledge by saying his mother is half “Indian” and he doesn’t know much else, like what tribe. However, he later refers to his grandmother marrying a “white man.” It’s very hard for me to believe that Tyler would have known of both his grandmother’s marriage and the fact that his mother is half Native American, but have no knowledge of the tribe’s name. This smacks of a lazy writer to me. A half-hearted reference to his ethnicity is given to play off the fetish of it, without bothering to research or write a fully-realized ethnic character. As an ethnic minority myself, I find that irritating and mildly offensive.

Most mainstream readers wouldn’t even notice this, but readers that are looking for a well-written multicultural romance should skip this story, as it will only serve to aggravate you.

Luz says

When I finish reading Pure by Jennifer Armentrout I search for another book to read in amazon. This one was one of the Books I "bought". It was free and it had a lot of goods reviews, so I started reading it...

The writing is baaaaaaaaaaaaaaad!! I have read books from the guy point of view, like New moon from Jacob's POV, or those amazing books from Simone Elkeles where the boy did random talking but this guy really got me bored to dead.. The lines are weak and he's not the smartest person on Earth. The dialogue are poor written and really needs to work on editing the book.

Just to make things worse, I got into the author page to see if I can learn more from the books and all the links are broken and the page have a poor design that keeps yelling me "GET OUT OF HERE!". So... No... I'm not reading this no more. Sadly, cuz the story isn't bad: Good boy loving the bad girl who's afraid to get into a relationship blah blah blah...

I think she need a new editor, someone who really clean after she write's everything she thinks the book needs. That and read some Arlequin books so she knows how to write a really nice sex escene... Bad choice..

Moving to the next free book that I found in amazon

Vivian says

First off, I dislike short stories. I like male POV, but the internal monologue was awkward. The dialogue itself was great. The story line was uninspiring, but fine.

Laurie says

I don't read much erotica. Okay, I don't admit to reading much erotica. But that's neither here nor there. This love story resonates with me. She's the commitment phobe who cuts and runs the second things start to get serious. He is head over heels in love and afraid to admit it because he knows it will scare her away. Been there, done that. My six weeks and he's done rule may not be the healthiest, but at least I'm aware of my relationship issues.

How could I NOT fess up and admit that I'm loving this series. Of course, I may have to reread 1-5 when 6 is finally released just to catch up. Ladies, if you're into romance and don't mind an NC-17 rating, read Safe with Me.

Renee Nicole says

Got this freebie sometime last year, and just gave it a go the other day. I liked it! Both Tyler and Susie were really enjoyable characters to read. They meet in a coffee shop, start up convo with their similar college class, and end up doing the nasty by the end of the night.

I think my favorite thing about this story was Tyler's attraction to Susie. She was a bigger girl than what usually catches his eye, but he is so attracted to her, it's awesome. That "story line" isn't often done too well. This time it just... worked for me. Plus she had a great personality to boot. I was totally digging her right along with him, haha!

This is the first part in a series, and I'd give the next one a go, for sure. I feel an interesting angsty-story bubbling.

Christine Mcginnis says

love this series. i came across when I was looking for something to read while slow at work. so hard to put down. I am rooting for susie and th-ler :-)

Tricia says

very nice sexy little story...

Mr. Granger says

This is a great start to what looks like a promising story. I was surprised how well Shaina wrote from Tyler's perspective.

The best part of this story isn't the sex, although that is very hot. The best part is the build-up to it. About half way through I wasn't sure they were going to get to the sex in this part, and I honestly didn't care if they did. There's a larger story here, and I'm looking forward to reading the rest of it.

Clarke says

whiny guy + whore= this book

Got tired of Tyler's inner monologue real quick. Susie is the typical top heavy blonde coed whore. A college guys wet dream. Since this is just part one we don't even get an ending. I won't be reading more.

Cyndy Aleo says

I can't do any more. Nearly 100 pages in, this reads like a high schooler-written fanfic.

The grammar is atrocious; the spelling creative, for example, using the little-known 's rule to make a plural when you aren't sure if it's an "es" or just "s" to make a word ending in "o" plural (hint: you can NEVER make a plural with an apostrophe unless it's a letter or number); and worst of all, for a "book" (it's really part of a single book the author has broken into multiple parts to milk more money out of readers) marketed as erotica, I'm left asking where the erotica is. Too much plot with uneven characters and choppy, insipid dialogue was broken by one very short sex scene that fell short of erotic.

This self-pub was not ready for prime time and it shows. Life is too short to spend reading books that are driving me nuts, and as a copy editor by trade, my fingers were itching for a red pen. That's not reading; that's work.

Lady Raven RAVE! says

4.5 STARS

First let me just say this post will be used and posted for Safe With Me part 1 through 4. When I received the book I received all 4 volumes together so for me it read like a novel.

I enjoyed the book. In the beginning I have to admit, I wasn't sure where the story was taking me and the more I read I became attached to it. While reading I felt maybe it could be a 3 STAR read but I quickly changed my mind as the progress of the book became evident. The story is told in a narrative aspect of Tyler which is kind of new to me. Which your use to reading it from a female view or both. But reading from a guy's aspect wasn't bad either. At times you felt Tyler's vulnerability and uncertainty.

Tyler is 26 and in college. One day he meets Suzzie who is 25 and is also in college with Tyler. Tyler meets Suzzie and is immediately attracted to her, while having a conversation and a study session it quickly became more by the end of the evening. After this encounter Suzzie immediately puts her guard up towards Tyler letting him know that she doesn't do boyfriends. The days that follows Suzzie and Tyler's encounters, it's clear Suzzie is secretive and doesn't reveals much about herself, which drives Tyler crazy as he wants a relationship with Suzzie. I have to say Suzzie personally drove me nuts with her secrets, she was like Fort Knox, she would not crack to reveal anything about herself. Tyler gets the help of Joan, Suzzie's best friend/more-ish (hehehe) to try and get closer to Suzzie. Towards the end I think all of Suzzie's friends are trying to figure out what she is hiding. Throughout the book I was rooting for Tyler he is so sweet and sexy from his description.

The book reads much better than my explanation. I also want to say the sex scenes got better and crazier along the way of reading the book. I literally felt my electrical reading device steaming. It was a good read for me and I look forward to book 5.

Story: GOOD

Intimacy Level: D.R.I.P (Don't Read In Public)

Enjoyment: GOOD

<http://www.romancenoveljunkies.com>

Olivia says

3.75/5.0 stars

VERY quick read, but a good start. Def, gonna start reading the other parts to this little series.

Justine says

This book felt very dull and driven by old time porn memories. The characters where one dimensional and quite disappointing.
