



Rising From the Sand (Quicksand, #1)

Ria Fritz

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Tioria, the most crime-ridden city on the planet Krygilis, has always been full of trouble for Wynette Brown to get into. Between late-night adventures at lesbian bars and her job as a Protectorate Escort Specialist, she knows the planet, its people and its sources of mischief too well.

But her latest assignment gets her in way over her head, even with her rookie colleague Laris, mechanical genius Plutonia, and flirty detective Kirin at her side. Spontaneous cases of amnesia have flooded the city, and when the clues aren't adding up, the team has to throw the rulebook out the window. Trusting a Torian cop like Kirin is the start of a wild ride in itself, but tracking down the cause of the missing memories will force Wynette to go far above and beyond what she ever dreamed of signing up for.

A story of troubled, imperfect good versus self-righteous evil; of infatuation and love; and of a planet struggling to find itself in a new era.

Recommended for ages 16 and up due to violence.

Rising From the Sand (Quicksand, #1) Details

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From Reader Review Rising From the Sand (Quicksand, #1) for online ebook

Casca Green says

Yesterday I had the privilege of reading Ria Fritz' debut novel, *Rising from the Sand*, a fast-paced, brilliantly well-edited police procedural action and suspense novella set in the corrupt cities of a desertified colony planet. The locals of the city of Tioria are experiencing random, isolated, increasingly severe attacks of retrograde amnesia, and it's up to the protagonists, trapped in Tioria against their wishes by professional duty and moral obligation, to get to the bottom of these incidents, before they can leave.

The author manages to make interdepartmental police politics both realistic and interesting, almost a living force that the characters have to navigate and negotiate every step of the way during their investigation. All of the major characters are MOGAI, including an extremely endearing, respectful, non-sensational representation of a transgender teen girl. While there are some preludes to romance in this novel, that component of the subplot never dominates the narrative; these characters are professionals who put their work ahead of their personal lives, and it sincerely shows where their priorities are.

I especially love the character of Wynette; her initial overt abrasiveness and antagonism toward other characters is a fierce wake-up slap for the reader, within the first page. Over the course of the novel her personality develops magnificently, and we see dimensions of compassion and profound personal strength, which those initial encounters only hinted at. By the end of the book, she's a difficult person not to adore, and she's utterly convincing as a real person with real feelings, fears, misgivings, and motivations.

Janet Logan says

5 stars. Seriously, if you like a good mystery, with strong queer female characters (and a young trans female to boot), this is a great book. I thoroughly enjoyed it.

David Franks says

This book is simply not very good.

There are far too many unneeded descriptions of characters or items or scenes, simply things that don't need to be described in the detail that they are – or have no bearing on the plot to begin with. The very first paragraph is filled with over-description and clunky sentences, which in turn, causes the story to not flow very well, making it difficult to read.

But that's not even the biggest problem with this novel. As poor as the descriptions may be, it pales in comparison to the how quickly insufferable the rest of the novel becomes. It's not much of an exaggeration when I say that it feels like eighty-percent of this novel is dialogue. And that's not even the worst part about it. The dialogue in this novel is cluttered with needless, 'fancy' dialogue tags with a needless adverb tacked on each second tag. And the dialogue that isn't plagued with poor dialogue tags or needless adverbs is just a battle of tedious action tags. Not every line of dialogue needs to be accompanied with a mundane task. It just

makes the dialogue all the more boring.

Both of these prominent issues combined with the incredibly boring, tedious plot made for not a fun read. In the future, I suggest that the author hire an editor. A lot of these problems are easily avoided.

I'm giving it two stars; its only redeemable trait being the fact that it was free, so I didn't have to pay for this.

Christina McMullen says

An intriguing sci-fi suspense with likeable characters. Honestly, from the first chapter I didn't expect to like Wynette. I figured she was going to be the grumpy, pushy, too gritty protagonist people often write instead of strong. I'm pleased to say that within the span of just a few pages, I was proven wrong. Wynette **is** strong and strong enough to admit when she's not. It's an excellent trait that seems to have been replaced with stubborn-to-the-point-of-recklessness by too many these days.

And the rest are just as well developed. I was kept in my toes as far as what Kirin's motives were. Laris and Plutonia (adorable name) were great too, not just background characters.

So why did I take a star off a story I clearly enjoyed? Well, (view spoiler)

Highly recommended for sci-fi fans.
