



Wriggle & Sparkle

Megan Derr

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Lynn is a kraken shifter in every way: detailed, tenacious, resilient, and hard-working. Also possessive, vain, arrogant, and demanding. It makes him an excellent agent for the Federal Bureau of Paranormal Security and Investigation—and impossible to work with, as the long list of partners who have transferred away from him will attest.

His newest partner is a unicorn, possibly the worst type of paranormal for work that often turns ugly and violent. Everyone knows unicorns are too delicate for such things. Then Anderson proves to be a unicorn like no other, the kind of partner Lynn has always wanted—the kind of partner he wishes was more. But if there's one thing he's learned, it's that the only thing harder to keep than a partner is a lover.

Warning: Contains tentacle porn

Publisher's note: This was originally published as a serial at Yaoifix. It has been edited and revised for release with LT3, but nothing significant has changed

Wriggle & Sparkle Details

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Author : Megan Derr

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From Reader Review Wriggle & Sparkle for online ebook

Melyna says

I saw this book reviewed on The Novel Approach Reviews when it released and loved the review. I am not usually a shifter fan, but a Kraken and a Unicorn? Cool. Tentacle sex. Well, that's a first for me. :-) The story turned out to be very enjoyable. Fun, light, sweet and romantic, filled with great characters and a cute, entertaining story. Lynn is a cranky Kraken that loves the finer things in life and Anderson is not your modern stereotype of the sweet, vulnerable unicorn, although he does have a pretty serious sweet tooth. They work together for the Federal Bureau of Paranormal Security and Investigation. As they work together solving cases, their relationship grows. They make a great team, on and off the job. It is quite a cast of mythical creatures and I liked the way the author portrays them and their characteristics. I read after the fact that this was originally a serialized story. It helped explain the way the mini cases/mysteries felt in the book. That is not a negative. It was fun. I will never be able to call this book Wriggle and Sparkle - it will always be Wriggly and Sparkleson to me. If you want a fun, light, sexy read and aren't afraid of a little tentacle sex, give it a try.

k reads says

Trite and shallow characters.

Had to force my way through it.

1.5stars

Camille Adams says

DNF at 54%

I just can't.

This is politicized porn...and it's boring as all books written with an agenda are.

- *gender fluidity
- *promiscuity positive
- *pansexual positive
- *effeminate men affirming
- *gender roles negation
- *transsexual positive
- *body positive

Etc etc etc.

And all of the above are fine but this is written to turn typical romantic tropes on their heads and to celebrate all things tentacle. Its too much of a response to Goodreads readers, to the GR m/m community. There's nothing authentic herein. It's very specific. It's very plot-less. It's very tiresome.

Lendle loan.

Rachel Emily says

OMG. OMG I think this is the BEST story with tentacles I have ever read! I LOVED IT.

This story is actually several short stories all together, all revolving around Anderson, AKA Sparkleson who is a unicorn shifter, and Lynn, AKA Wriggly and a kraken shifter. I just LOVED reading about them together, from their first meeting with great chemistry, to them falling for each other and what happens over the course of their relationship.

I enjoyed the world building in this (something I have come to really love in all of her stories), how shifting works, getting to know Anderson and Lynn's family, and just EVERYTHING about Lynn and Anderson. Loved Lynn's brattiness and love of suits and opulence, and I loved Anderson's snark and sparkle and love of sugar.

These two were perfect for each other and I just did NOT want this story to end! HIGHLY recommended to those who love shifters and a bit of kink for some tentacles! ;)

I received a copy of this from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

F. says

My first tentacle story and I loved it!! The snark, especially at the beginning, had me lolling much to my TV watching DH's disgust!! Liked how each character wasn't stereotypical as others have written them. Lynn was a genderfluid, moody kraken at first but was revealed to be a closet teddy-bear with a passion for designer clothes. Anderson definitely wasn't an airhead, sparkle distracted unicorn but had a coma inducing sweet tooth.

The book is actually a collection of stories that takes us from when they first meet to their wedding with lots of paranormal baddies along the way.

Highly recommended to all PNR lovers who enjoy sugar snacks!!

4.5 stars

Lena♥Ribka says

DNF at 8%

I enjoyed Tournament of Losers, my first Megan Derr, it is why I asked for an ARC without even thinking twice.

Wriggle & Sparkle is kind of a funny story book that readers could like, but it is not a book for me: the plot is too brash, too loud, too weird, too excessive for my taste.

I'm not in the mood to read about too quirky and bizarre characters who are fooling around.

I hope that this was merely a slip-up.

No rating.

Copy provided by Less Than Three Press via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review

Vivian says

"Let's go, Sparkleson."

"Right behind you, Wriggly."

This is fun and campy. If you're looking for an irreverent mockfest of unicorns and krakens, then you've found the right book. The jokes are rolled out regularly, and they're funny--only a few groans. I think I might have contracted diabetes just reading what Anderson ate--sugar-fueled supernatural being that he is. While it plays with the stereotypes it also deconstructs them and by association all stereotypes, thereby pointing out how ridiculous they are even if appearances are deceptive, or not.

No one is a ONE SIZE fits all. No one.

Add in some clever gender fluidity that's inherent in fishes and you have a wicked funny gender fluid hero/ine. I loved all of the snipping back and forth between Lynn and Anderson. It's the format of the book that I wasn't as thrilled with. Essentially, this is episodic with five separate incidents/dramas that weave Lynn and Anderson's lives together. It's well done, but it reads like four short stories. But... it has the most romantic and sweetest tentacle sex I've ever read!

"Once she's gone, I feel there should be some make-up role play."

Anderson heaved a long sigh. "Any excuse with you. *Fine*. But it's really hard to keep a straight face playing virgin sacrifice."

Overall, fun read for unicorn and kraken fans.

3.5 stars.

~Copy provided by NetGalley~

namericanwordcat says

Oh this book is so much fun! Funny, witty, silly and yet at the heart of it is a really tender love story between our heroes.

Watch out there are tentacles (and they do things that aren't safe for work but under the water) , and gender/sex shifter as well as Kraken and Unicorn culture.

We have all kinds of paranormal beings and mysteries to be solved and banter and snark and love.

Since this is a serial, it feels that way a bit with one mystery per section but the relationship grows and I am

happy to be with this couple for a long long time.

A little goofy treasure that made me smile and it will you as well as long as you don't take anything to seriously and like glitter, cake, and sarcastic bad assess.

Santy says

Megan Derr is one of my favorite MM/PNR/fantasy writers and when I saw the opportunity to review this book I jumped at it as I knew it would be awesome. I wasn't wrong . She is a fantastic writer.

As always with Ms Derr , the world building is impeccable. It is thorough, fascinating and unique. We have humans(normals) and the paranormals. The paranormals are further broken down into earth, wind, water, air, fire, divine and necro(think vampires) sub-segmentations.

They shift between their natural paranormal forms and human forms via magic/technology with aid from custom made and sometimes government-issued shifter rings which lessen the hassles inherent with shifting into and maintaining these human forms. Some (a rare few) ,of course, could do so without the rings though a majority need them. Some species, in addition to shifting into humans are more fluid gender-wise (i.e. they have the ability to seamlessly shift between male and female in their human forms) . As I said, fascinating stuff.

Our MCs ,Lynn and Anderson, work for the Paranormal version of FBI and first meet when Anderson becomes Lynn's new partner. Lynn was snarky, whiny, bratty, hostile, obnoxious,generous, adorable , sweet and thoughtful with a heart of gold. He was basically a very sweet guy with a prickly shell, all bark and no real bite. He was my favorite, I adored him.

Anderson (a unicorn like you've never read about before) was a tough as nails badass unicorn .A reformed "slutty" unicorn shifter(the number of exes he had were outstanding) , he was also mouthy, snarky ,sarcastic as hell and gave as good as he got when it came to Lynn. He was the perfect match for Lynn who spoiled him rotten precisely because he just got him and was there for him no matter what. Their relationship was full of snarky affectionate banter and real selfless love unique to them. I adored them together.

For the story itself, as the blurb says, it was"The collected adventures of a kraken and a unicorn" and adventures they were.I thoroughly enjoyed them. They moved from one insane, mostly dangerous adventure to another, solving cases officially or unofficially, while growing their relationship. In my opinion, this story must be read as the collection of adventures intertwined with growing relationship between the MCs . If you read with that notion in mind, it'll flow as smoothly as it did for me, if not, it might seem a tinsy bit choppy.

There is a whole lot more sex(quite a lot actually), than in previous books I've read from Ms Derr. Also, there was a lot more variety(who knew tentacle sex would be SO hot? You can judge me. I don't care I don't care) .

The sexy times were so freaking HOT regardless of what shape or form the MCs were in. Damn. You won't see me complaining about the copious amount of sex though..nope. Not a peep. My dirty mind was thoroughly satisfied.

However, I think I need to point out that there were two short M/F scenes (because of the gender-shift ability

of one of the MCs) . They were also HOT as well but if you have issues with M/F(as some do) you've been notified. You're welcome. ;)

I do hope Ms Derr returns to this world(maybe not as a follow up to this story, but with another stand-alone) . (view spoiler) I would LOVE to get my grabby hands on them!!!!

*****eARC generously provided by publisher in exchange for a fair, honest and unbiased review ******

Jane (PS) says

Lots of fun, and it follows a similar story format to the Dance with the Devil series in that each chapter covers a separate event/case; however I find the Dance series is more charming and 'old world'; a little more special. This book is modern-day and immediate; the MCs are 'in your face' direct and abrassive, for all that they are very amusing.

So if you want some light fun that involves tentacles and glitter, set in easy to read portions - jump on this sparkle-horse!

Kristen Burns says

4.5 Stars

Full Review:

I received a free ecopy of this book via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

I. LOVED. THIS. BOOK. Seriously, I just *adored* it! I was so sure when I started reading this that it would be too cutesy and fluffy for me, but I couldn't resist reading about a genderfluid kraken and a bisexual unicorn, and now I am eating my words because this book was just fantastic. And no, I don't mean fantastic *for a fluffy book*. There are no conditional statements here. This book was just fantastic. Period.

First things first, this book was definitely easy, fun, light reading, not my usual dark, disturbing fare, but it was so much more than "fluff." It had depth and meaning. It had real stories and developed characters. Characters acted in ways that made sense. There were relationship, family, work, and society struggles. And there was emotion written in a way that actually made me *feel* it.

Second, the characters were so lovable! For the first 10% or so, they seemed stereotypical, but that changed after the first story. They became much more developed and unique. I've always loved those surly, constantly-complaining, doesn't-play-well-with-others characters who secretly have a heart of gold—no joke, my favorite show was Becker when I was just 10 years old—and Lynn (kraken) was basically that character (though honestly he wasn't even a jerk unless people deserved it). He appeared to be a total hardass on the outside, but he was an adorable closet softie on the inside who surprised me and whom I really wanted to hug whenever any emotional scars from his past came up. And Anderson (unicorn) was also snarky yet sweet with his own emotional scars, and I could relate to him in some ways.

Third, their relationship gave me a total case of the warm-fuzzies! I like slow-burn romances and normally get upset when I don't get to see that tension-filled build-up, but I was enjoying their relationship far too much to care that that part was skipped over. By 30%, when it got to the third story, I was grinning like a

damn fool while reading because they were so ADORABLE and basically my new favorite fictional couple. I also loved getting to see the way they saw each other through their individual perspectives because I could so absolutely feel the love they had.

Fourth, I'm putting this in a separate point even though it relates to the above one because it's just that important to me, they waited EIGHT MONTHS to say I love you to each other. And Lynn himself was thinking about how eight months really wasn't a long time to be together. THANK YOU, MEGAN DERR. It's like every character in every book, movie, and show portrays this message that you have to say I love you within a month, and if you take any longer, there's something wrong with you. You can say it in a week if you *want* to, but you don't *have* to. And in this book, when the characters took things at their own pace, guess what? No one thought it was crazy.

Fifth, this was the first time I had ever read sex scenes that involved tentacles, and thankfully it really wasn't extreme. I've seen some other reviewers mention that this book was pretty mild, so fear not, my fellow tentacle porn newbies.

Sixth, as I mentioned above, I loved that there were genderfluid and bisexual main characters. The gender-changing was especially unique.

Seventh, the animal traits were both well-written and adorable. Anderson's were cute, like always wanted sweets and colorful things, but I especially loved Lynn's, like how he always wanted to wrap his tentacles around Anderson and pull him in when he got emotional or possessive and that one time when he got upset and sank to the bottom of the pool where he just curled all his tentacles around himself, because
awwwwwwwwwww <3

Last but not least, the plot was episodic, but that's because it was literally a collection of stories/episodes that were once published as a serial. There were overall character and relationship arcs though, so I didn't have any issue with it.

Honestly, nothing was a major problem, but the pronouns could get a little confusing, what with people changing genders. And sometimes it was hard to figure out what gender Lynn was in and picture him female when I was so used to picturing him male most of the time. There were also one or two M/F sex scenes, which might bother some readers. Also, the last story and the epilogue weren't quite as strong to me as the other stories, but they were still enjoyable, and there was a sweet ending.

Overall though, this was a book I never wanted to end with lovable characters, unique paranormal creatures, a completely adorable relationship, and snarky humor, and it just filled me with so much happiness!

Recommended For:

M/M paranormal readers who a) want something light and fun but still with depth and realism, b) like adorable relationships and lovable, surly-but-with-a-heart-of-gold characters, c) want to read about a genderfluid character who can actually change gender, and/or d) want to read about a kraken and a unicorn! Also anyone who just wants to be filled with happiness because that's how this book made me feel!

Original Review @ Metaphors and Moonlight

Tamika♥RBF MOOD♥ says

3.5 stars

This was a super cheesy and fun shifter story. I've never read a story featuring a unicorn & a kraken. LOL. I laughed alot. For all of Lynn uneasiness about having a partner and him swearing that a unicorn was to soft for him, he fell for Anderson quickly and hard. This was a cute collection about Lynn & Anderson two different species working together and falling in love.

It was snarky and campy to a joyous extent. I liked the writing and telling of the story. I'm super glad I wasn't annoyed about the sugary sweetness of it. It still had a plot, rather easy but it was still a plot. It was some of the silliest adventures ever and Derr wrote some of the steamiest scenes ever. I enjoyed it more then I thought I would. It was some tentacle/ shifting sex going on. I was a tad bashful, but I digress it was done and HAWT!!!! I enjoy laughing and it's no shortage of it. Kudos Megan, I enjoyed it alot.

Daphne says

Wriggly/Lynn (a Kraken shifter) and Anderson (a unicorn shifter) started as coworkers in the supernatural version of the FBI. They quickly coupled up and dealt with a series of inept bad guys when they weren't hooking up.

As a prior reviewer mentioned, this book was made up of several stories, each of which had their own little arc. The relationship built throughout the "big picture" but this definitely read like a serial rather than one book.

I thought that the tentacle sex was going to be the most "whaaaat?" element of the story for me but that turned out to not be the case. Rather than the kraken loving, I struggled with the gender fluidity for Lynn that seemed to come out of nowhere later in the story. It was apparent early on that Leslie, Lynn's sibling, was gender fluid but not Lynn. As the story evolved, and Lynn started to plan their wedding, he was suddenly female often. Because this was not a part of his story for so long, it was jarring to me as a reader. When Anderson and Lynn got married, as a man and a woman, and Anderson referred to his wife and they were suddenly having heterosexual sex, it seemed like I was reading about a different couple. For avoidance of doubt, I am not criticizing the existence of gender fluidity or m/f love scenes in books etc. so much as 80% of a story going in one direction and then taking a sharp left turn that seemed to change the characters as they had previously been developed.

Interesting book for sure. Different.

Tamara (?) says

This book was fun, cute, action-packed and angst-free.

It consists of five stores and an epilogue, and all of them are about two paranormal agents - Lynn, the gender fluid Kraken shifter with a tailored suit fetish, a foul temper and a barbed tongue; and Anderson, the Unicorn shifter with an equally barbed tongue and an addiction to everything sweet.

These two were a fun pair to follow, especially since they seem to attract every kind of trouble, even if and especially when they're not looking for it. There's also lots and lots of tentacle sexy sex scenes!

I would love another epilogue a few years after the ending - (view spoiler)

Deeze says

Take away the tentacle porn and this was a fabulous read.

I absolutely loved Wriggly and Sparkleson lol. The snark and banter were brilliant. I easily fell in love with them both.

The mysteries were entertaining and very well handled. I loved all the different creatures we met, and the way they were all portrayed was very clever.

My only niggle is with the last chapter. First the mystery was rushed and felt clumsy, I couldn't believe in it the way I could with the previous mysteries. It felt more like something thrown together in a rush. Secondly Lynn marrying as a woman threw me off a little. While I enjoyed the more gender fluid roles I can't help feeling that Lynn and Anderson fell in love as males, so the whole female wedding was far to het like for my MM loving self.

However the epilogue more than made up for that. I adored it and can only hope one day we get to rejoin Wriggly and Sparkles on their journey into parenthood.
