



Fire Rising

Donna Grant

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For centuries, the Dragon Kings have battled heaven and earth to protect their dragon magic. But when a beautiful mortal seeks refuge in their lair, she ignites a warrior's love, an enemy's wrath, and a firestorm of passion that could destroy them all...

A WOMAN ON THE RUN

Sammi Miller lives a quiet life as a pub owner in the Scottish Highlands—until the mob bursts in with guns blazing, looking for her ex-lover. Taking a bullet in the shoulder, she manages to escape and make her way to her half-sister Jane. Hidden away in the mountain fortress of the mysterious Dreagan Industries, Sammi finds more than a safe haven. She finds Tristan—the most gorgeous, beguiling, and haunted man she has ever known...

A WARRIOR ON FIRE

Newest of the Dragon Kings, Tristan fell from the sky in a snowstorm naked with a sword—but with no memories of his ancient struggles. When he meets the wounded Sammi, something powerful stirs within his heart. When he sees the dragon symbol etched into the bullet from her shoulder, something fierce burns within his soul. With his darkest enemies closing in, Tristan must take wing, take sides—and take no prisoners—to save the woman he's destined to love...in *Fire Rising*, second novel in the *Dark Kings* series

"Donna Grant spins a searing and intense tale [that] will keep readers spellbound."—*Romance Reviews Today* on the Dark Sword series

Fire Rising Details

Date : Published June 3rd 2014 by St. Martin's Paperbacks

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Author : Donna Grant

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From Reader Review Fire Rising for online ebook

Kathy (My Nook Books and More) says

Fire Rising is the second book in the Dark Kings series with Scottish shape shifting dragons who are fierce warriors and passionate lovers. This is the book I have been waiting for and I loved everything about this book!

Fire Rising is Tristan's story, the newest Dragon King, who has been a mystery for the fans of this series. As the newest king we got the treat of seeing him adjust to his new abilities of shifting into a dragon and flying, which made for some funny scenes in Dark Craving (Dark Kings 0.1). But Tristan does not remember anything from his past. He has no idea of who he was and why he became a Dragon King, so the not knowing has haunted him. In a surprising twist we discover that Tristan was Duncan, a powerful warrior from Donna Grant's Dark Warrior series. But Tristan has no memory of it. He has accepted his new family with the other kings but still feels incomplete. That is until he meets Sammie Miller. Sammie is in danger and comes to Dreagan to visit her half-sister of Jane. The moment Sammie and Tristan meet there is an intense attraction. But they both are holding back – Tristan because he doesn't remember his past and Sammie afraid to love again. Their romance is steamy and predictable but what I loved was how they healed each other. They both had to learn that who they are today matters most than their past. The story of discovering the Dragon Kings enemy continues but I really enjoyed the addition of the characters from the Dark Warrior series. I still haven't read that series but it was easy to understand who the characters were and I plan to start the series soon.

This was another exciting and romantic story, which is just what I have grown to expect from author Donna Grant. Fire Rising can be read as a standalone but I suggest you read all the books (including the novellas). This is one of my favorite series and I highly suggest this to all paranormal romance fans.

litsiren says

4 stars

SPOILER ALERT. This is an honest and highly subjective review, proceed with caution. You have been warned.

GR doesn't have point-five, so I just round the number. Anyway, I liked the story in *Fire Rising* and it looks like the series is getting better. I am impressed. Good job, author.

What I liked.

- * The plot was interesting, enough to hook me until the end.
- * I liked the romance. It was there although not much scenes of it as the premise focused more on action and suspense, at which I loved.
- * Learnt that vicious Dark Fae people might not as dark as they claimed be. They could flip back to Light, there's a way although it may not easy. - as Kiril said.
- * My most favourite character in this series is Rhi. She's a nice person and yet she's damaged from the inside.

Poor Rhi.

* The bromance between Ian and Tristan.

* The heroine's a Scottish! Maybe half. I don't care. As long as she's not American. Before you kill me for saying that, read this status update I wrote during reading:

Not that I have anything against American but I sensed stereotype in previous books where all the heroines are Americans, in Scotland. The chances these dragon boys meeting their American darlings is past coincidence, it felt unnatural.

What I disliked.

* So much is missing and unanswered.

* There was one particular scene that both hero and heroine were acting moronic.

* What's with the nick/short names? I remember a person closest to me said, "It's a shame to give your kid a beautiful, long name only to be called by the shortened version of it. Might as well just give your kid the short name." -- feel free to argue with me. Anyway, I'd love people to call me by my full name but I felt bad for them because to pronounce it would get them tongue-twisted. Hence, I allowed the nickname.

* Improved plot, yes but it's quite similar to previous book. I see no originality. Clue: (view spoiler)

* So many characters and once again, I lost track yet I have to remember them because they're all connected to each other. This has to stop and am still figuring out how.

Main characters: Tristan/Duncan (Dragon King of Amber/former Warrior) + Sammi (human)

.....

I read the excerpt of the next book and already I'm loving it. Why? Hints: (view spoiler)

Read on your own peril.

Marta Cox says

Fire Rising is the second book in the Dragon Kings series and manages to merge both dragons with characters from this author's other popular series that featured Dark Warriors and also Dark Swords but trust me this book is all about the dragons! Ms Grant has managed to take something so fantastical and make it feel current and contemporary. When you read this book it really seems as if dragons could be amongst us and it's a magical thing!

Once again we are transported to Scotland the home of the Dragon Kings and one particular Dragon, Tristan is finally going to discover his own secrets. Tristan burst onto the scene two years ago when he was found but he has no memory of events before that. All those who meet him realise that at some point he was Duncan an immortal warrior but Tristan has fought against the idea until a chance meeting with a woman in peril awakens all his senses.

Sammi had been happily running a pub with her old boyfriend and business partner when she discovered that he had laundered money for the mob. When armed men arrive and kill her partner Sammi goes on the run but she's hurt and scared and feels so alone. Sammi travels to where her sister lives but has no idea that her sister

is mated to an immortal who can shift into a dragon. She's near exhaustion when she arrives but not so dead that she cannot appreciate the fine male Tristan that lives on the Dreagan estate. The chemistry is instant but Sammi refuses to stay and place her sister in jeopardy so leaves but this time she is followed by Tristan. Unfortunately Tristan is not the only person hunting Sammi as the Dragon Kings greatest enemy Ulrich has sent men to capture Sammi but it's not just humans chasing Sammi down as the Dark Fae have a reason to hate the Dragon Kings and somehow Sammi is caught in the crossfire !

It's an amazing job the author does of making something that is pure fantasy feel so very realistic. The idea of dragons and Fae living amongst humans works very well here and I'm loving the way all the authors various series can just come together and breath life into this story. This is paranormal romance at it's very finest with characters that come to life and sweep the reader away. As always Ms Grant gives us a passionate and steamy tale but it's also an emotional one as these two people learn to trust each other.

The world building is amazing with such a diverse range of characters and that's where this author truly excels . From creepy bad guys to possessive courageous heroes , really strong female characters and enough twists and turns to keep the reader guessing. I absolutely adore a certain Light Fae whose mischievous nature always makes me laugh and there is still enough mystery to make me want to continue reading this fabulous series. Magic is always going to intrigue me but magic with a dragon involved now that's plain awesome! Another great story in what's turning into a fabulous series and I can't wait for the next book.

Teja says

I wanted to give it 2 stars, but I just can't.

I'm so disappointed. I've been curious about Tristan's story since I read the Darkest Flame, but this.. I didn't expect *this*. I didn't feel any connection whatsoever with Sammi, the insta-lust was just annoying, and the story.. there was no story!! And the worst part.. I stopped caring about Tristan's past about 10% into the book! Ughh!!

The only thing that kept me going was wanting to know more about Rhi and Ulrik. That's it. Definitely won't be re-reading this one.

? Sassy ~ Amy ? says

Let me tell you that this is my all time favorite series. I guess I just love these dragon kings & all the places this series can go!

I read the very first book of prequels that were a bunch of novellas in one book & then I missed the first book that was a full length book. Not a big deal, but since I love this series so much, I will be going back to read it too!!

I seriously cannot say how much I loved this dragon series & I put it above all the other dragons I have read! Maybe it's the highlander in them, but yep!! Love IT!!

So, back to the basics. This was Tristin's story, but it centers around Sammi. I was not a fan of Sammi. I don't really know why, except that she seemed dull & flighty. She kept leaving & coming back. She liked Tristin, but wanted him & her sister to be safe. The only safe place was with them, so it was back & forth.

What I really liked was the incorporation of other people's story, the dragon's past & Con!! I want his and Ulrich's story. Con needs to hook up with a silver dragon woman... HA!

To sum it all up, it was more of what is to come that I loved instead of this particular story!

Valerie says

4 1/2 stars

Just like every other book in this series, I was drawn in and captivated by this world. Dragons have been here since before man. They became shifters to peacefully exist with the humans. That doesn't happen though. And the complications begin.

Tristan's story is interesting. I'll admit that I was surprised that the newest Dragon King would be the subject to book two in the series. After reading it, I get why. Those dark are targeting who they see as the weakest link. Dang Fae. But what adds to Tristan's story is how he became a Dragon King or rather who he was before he became a Dragon King. He wants nothing to do with that, understandably. So the elements of that become woven into the story making this much more than a shifter romance.

I think that's one of the things I enjoy so much about this world and Donna Grant's writing. While we don't have dragon shifter, we do have a lot of people that just don't get along. There is so much mirroring in this world and our that it adds depth and interest that I enjoy.

Things are changing. Someone is after the Dragon Kings. They think they know who. But they are always surprised. I think there's more to it than we know at this point in the series. Old grudges run deep and revenge is best served cold. Much more to come.

Sammie is Jane's (another Dragon Kings mate) sister. She's in trouble and heads to Jan for help. That just ends up exposing the whole can of worms her life has become. It's also where she meets Tristan. But Sammie is bound and determined to not bring this mess on her sister's head - or Tristan's. She stubbornly tries to fight her own battles. I admire her though she has no idea what she's facing. She's a good strong female character that I liked.

Of courses, Tristan and Sammie together is explosively hot. And they resist the pull a lot. Both have reasons for trying to keep the other at bay. But they suck at resisting each other. Ha.

I keep wondering about Constantine. I think that's one of the things I really enjoy about this series. There are lot of other kings who's story I want. His is one. Doubt is cast on him in this book. But I'm having a hard time believing it. I don't always agree with him (or any king for that matter) but he wants what's best for his kings. It's the beginning of trust on my part.

More, I need more. I'm sure I'll be devouring the next book soon. I'm still in such a paranormal mood and these books just do it for me right now.

Vanessa theJeepDiva says

This is the Dragon King book I have been waiting for. Tristan and his past and knowing exactly who he was

has had my interest piqued since the moment he fell from the sky and into the lives of all those who inhabit Dreagan. There are so many questions surrounding Tristan how can one not be beyond curious. Since the moment Sammi found out she had a half sister she has been in avoidance mode. Sammi knows the pain and hurt of loss. She has resigned herself as a loner. The fewer attachments to more likely she is never to experience loss again. She is fine with this until she becomes a target. On the run she can only think of one truly safe place. That safe place puts her having to form a relationship with her sister and in direct sights of a man that is so much more than just a man.

It doesn't take Tristan long before he realizes that Sammi causes something interesting to happen to him quite often when he is in her presence. He notices that touching her causes him to have brief glimpses into something that he has been trying to avoid. The more trouble that plaques Sammi the more Tristan is put into a place that he has been trying to avoid. It seems that fate really wants Tristan to know things that he can only avoid for so long.

As with all of Donna Grant's Dark Swords, Dark Warriors, and Dark Kings books I am so pleased that I get to still read the lives of so many of the characters from the past books. She never gives them little roles either. They always seems to have very active roles within whatever is going on. The battles are constant and her characters know that working together is the only way to fight the evil that plagues them.

My only disappointment was that there were a couple of questions that were not answered. Something Sammi does raises some questions about why she was able to do it. There was never any light shed on this. It might be something that will be brought up in a later book, but I would have liked to have known more now. When it comes to Tristan there are several huge questions. Some are really obvious. I suppose any book that I enjoy in a world that I love I always want more of everything. So of course I wanted more answers.

°BeautiLovve says

Loved this book on to dragon warriors now.....

Stacy says

Pub owner Sammie Miller finds herself running for her life when her business partner steals money from the mob and comes after them. Her partner never made it out of the bar before it was blown up. After some time on the run and nowhere else to go she finds herself visiting her sister Jane for some much needed rest. To try to keep Jane safe she keeps her troubles to herself and vows to get away from Dreagan as soon as she can. Tristan still can't remember his life as Duncan. He fits into his new life as a Dragon King and really doesn't want to remember his supposed past. As soon as he lays eyes on Sammie he is immediately protective of her and shortly after that he starts having flashes of his past life as Duncan. With all the emotions running through him all he wants to do is keep Sammie safe but she doesn't make it easy.

I have to admit that Sammie and Tristan were not my favorite couple so far but they still fit together nicely, their story was still fantastic and I like how they tie the Dragon Kings together with the Dark Warriors. It's nice to see most of the crew together in FIRE RISING. I could not imagine being in Tristan's position and I really felt like he handled everything as best he could. I am glad that he has a better understanding of who he is but the end and that he has Sammie by his side as he worked everything out.

On the romance side of things FIRE RISING was still hot hot hot. There is a normal amount of fighting feelings at times on both sides but both Sammie and Tristan know that they are falling fast for each other and sparks fly from pretty much the beginning.

I really like how the series is a continuous story conflict with their own plot lines drawn in. I have found that each story in the series is full of action and danger. I really love all the dragons and look forward to watching them each find their match as the series continues.

* This book was provided free of charge from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Book Swoon says

Fire Rising is the second book in Donna Grant's thrilling Dark King series featuring Scottish shape shifting dragons, magic, danger and romance. Once again we enter the world of the fierce warriors known as the Dragon Kings, shape shifters tied to both the human and fairy realms who fight to retain their magic and freedom.

Fire Rising swept me up right away with its story. Donna Grant gives us not only a wonderful paranormal romance filled with sexy, shape shifting dragon warriors, but a plot that begins to take some exciting direction as well. The story focuses on Tristan, who has mysteriously been turned into a Dragon King. He fell from the sky with only a sword—with no memories of his former life. Once part of the Donna Grant's Dark Warrior series, and formerly known as the druid warrior Duncan (Midnight's Lover) he is killed and somehow returns as a Dragon King with all the dragon shape shifting and magical abilities of the other kings, only with no memory of what has happened to him.

As a new dragon king, Tristan is more vulnerable as he tries to figure out his past which haunts him. When he comes across Sammie for the first time he feels an immediate connection to her, and the more he is around her the more memories of his past begin to return. When old enemies threaten to take Sammie away from Tristan just as his heart and memories open up, the warriors known as Dragon Kings will once again unite together. Tristan will need the help of his shape shifting dragon brothers as well as allies from his past who have not forgotten their Druid brother.

Another fantastic read by Donna Grant. Tristan makes a super, sexy (vulnerable) Dragon shifter and this time around our heroine Sammie gets to take flight with her dragon lover. The romance and tension are there for these two, but in this story I would say the plot is more focused, with some very interesting and exciting new threads. Tristan's character really took the forefront of this story, and I love the connection I was able to build with his character because of it. Sammie our heroine, who is on the run from the mob and dark Fae, was a more in the background and had less of an active role, despite this fact it was still easy to connect with her. She's been hurt before and has a hard time trusting Tristan at first, making the romance filled with some nice tension. Old characters (Rhi an awesome light fairy with tons of sass and druid warriors) continue to be a part of the overall story arc, and the bigger mystery behind the Dragon Kings, Dreagan Industries, the dark and light Fae courts are interwoven.

With magic, shape shifting dragons, and deadly warriors with sexy Scottish brogues, it's hard not to swoon over these Dragon Kings! I can't wait for the next installment in this exciting series that delivers my fix for swoon, romance and action!

My Rating: 4.5 Stars. I really like it!

PLEASE NOTE: A courtesy review copy of this book was provided by St. Martin's Paperbacks in exchange for my fair review. Thank you St. Martin's Paperbacks for the review opportunity!

Dawn ♥ romance says

Lots of exciting fast paced action in this paranormal romance. I liked many characteristics of both hero and heroine but the story was a bit too heavy on the number of times the heroine seemed to be in dire straights. It is obvious this is part of a series and this piece of the conflict felt tedious. The mob is after Sammie so she runs to her sister and is helped by her sisters dragon friend Tristan.

Kelly at says

Review will be posted at www.books-n-kisses.com .

NUMBER OF HEARTS: 4

REVIEW:

Is it wrong for me to want all the Dark Fae to die horrible slow deaths? I get a huge case of anxiety whenever I read about them. Fire Rising kinds followed a very similar plot line as Darkest Flame yet it was still a good story. I loved Tristan, yet at the same time I want to slap him upside the head. Boy, you need to learn about your past and deal with it in order to have a future. Geesh. Sammi is tough yet at the same time she is not. She has lived through a lot and that has made her harden her heart. Of course it takes a life and death matter to make her open her eyes. Silly girl.

All and all this was a good book. I love all the character that were involved in this mission. And I am very much looking forward to the next book in this series. I believe Kiril's books is going to be a wild ride.

Disclaimer:

I received a complimentary copy of the book from NetGalley & St. Martin's Publishing in exchange for an honest review. This review is my own opinion and not a paid review.

Austine (NovelKnight) says

I don't like Tristan.

There, I said it. I didn't like his character. I wasn't a huge fan of him in *Darkest Flame* and though his introduction to the Dragon Kings was shown a bit more in the prequel novellas of *Dark Heat*, he just didn't catch my eye. But it's his book. *sigh*

My biggest issue lies with the insta-love. Now so far every one of the romances in the novellas and first book have had the instant attraction turned to love *very* quickly which I've come to accept when authors play the "mate" card. You know, where the supernatural being finds their one true love that's perfect for them and just *happens* to stumble across their path through some unusual turn of events. And I've been mostly okay with that because Grant does a decent enough job of making the romances at least semi-believable.

But Tristan and Sammi? That was ALL lust and I wasn't buying it.

In terms of the plot, *Fire Rising* picks up after *Darkest Flame* and features more of the Warriors introduced in their own series previously. I haven't read the Dark Sword *or* Dark Warriors books, both series that come before the Dark Kings, but it hasn't been too much of an issue. The world is the same in all three series and

they follow chronologically, with the connections becoming more prominent so I'll be going back to check those out. But anyway, the Warriors return and play a big role in *Fire Rising* as they team up with the Dragon Kings to battle the Dark Fae.

I said it with the last book and I'll say it again: Rhi is one of my fave characters so far and I want her to get a book. She's a Light Fae who happens to enjoy meddling with the Kings and, in general, her character is spunky and fun with a darker edge which hasn't been explored yet.

There's a lot of action in this one but the romance came down to a couple hot and heavy scenes, and Tristan being super alpha male protective of Sammi. I think Tristan just bored me as a character. He has this really interesting backstory that comes out more in *Fire Rising* but not enough to satisfy me as a reader. I felt like a lot was still left out yet this was *his* book and it would've been the perfect time to share it.

This definitely wasn't my favorite book so far and I think a lot of it came down to the romance and the fact that I wasn't a fan of the Dragon King featured, but I enjoy Grant's writing and these books are quick reads. I'm definitely excited for *Burning Desire* up next with Kiril who's been off playing spy the last couple books. Not the greatest book but a solid PNR series.

Dottie says

This latest sizzling Dark Kings' romance is a must read for lovers of paranormal romance! Taken from my review at RomanceJunkies.com:

Samantha 'Sammi' Miller had trusted her ex-lover and business partner Daniel to handle the accounts for her business. But now, when it is too late, she discovers that he is using her bar to launder money for the mob. As if that is not bad enough, he stole from them and even involved her without her knowledge. Now the mob is after them and she knows they will never believe her protests of innocence. His deception has cost her the bar, which has been her whole life since the death of her mother. But as she packs, preparing to go on the run, she hears Daniel's screams. The mob is there and torturing him for information to the stolen loot. Sammi manages to escape, but not before being shot in her arm. After four weeks on the run, with little to no sleep, she decides on a brief visit to her half-sister Jane's home, located at Dreagan Distilleries. Jane has been trying to get Sammi to visit, but being busy with the bar, she never had the time. She figures she will only stay for a day and give herself time to rest, not wanting to bring trouble to Jane's doorstep.

Dragon shifter Tristan, who is one of the kings, lives at Dreagan also. He has little memory of his past, only remembering falling from the sky, naked with a sword in the midst of a snowstorm. Everyone claims that he is Duncan, the deceased twin of warrior Ian. So far, Tristan has maintained his distance from his twin, having no memory of him. But when he meets Sammi, there is an instant chemistry between them. Appointing himself her protector, Tristan soon finds that their close proximity stirs up memories of his twin for some reason.

In trying to keep Jane safe, Sammi decides not to tell those at Dreagan about the mob that is after her. But with Tristan's ability to get people to tell him whatever he wants to know, Sammi is soon spilling the beans, although she is not aware that she is doing it. With the bullet that was dug out of Sammi's shoulder bearing the likeness of a dragon, the kings know that something much more devious is in the works. Tristan, along with the other Dragon Kings, discover that Sammi's pursuers also include one of their own, the outcast silver Dragon King, Ulrich, who is bringing his five thousand year plan of revenge to fruition. To further his cause, Ulrich has joined with the Dark Fae. With evil quickly catching up with Sammi, Tristan will do whatever it takes to keep the woman he loves safe. Was the bombing of Sammi's bar and her pursuit all part of a much

different plan, which involves Tristan? Will Tristan be able to protect Sammi while avoiding capture himself, or will he lose his soul mate just as he has found her?

New York Times and USA Today bestselling author Donna Grant has penned a winner with her latest novel, FIRE RISING, the second book in her amazing DARK KINGS series. This delicious paranormal romance sizzles with sensuality and pulses with danger and excitement as the two main characters, a dragon shifter king and a mortal, fight the darkness that pursues them and struggle with the desire that flares up whenever they are together. Tristan and Sammi are wonderful together and the secondary characters, an intrepid Light Fae named Rhi and a clumsy Jane, who is the mate of Dragon King Banan, add even more humor, suspense and appeal to an already delightful tale. An additional highlight of this story is the healing of the twins, Tristan and Ian's, relationship as Tristan's memories begin to surface. I am a huge fan of all of Ms. Grant's books, but especially the Dragon Kings. Readers will find this book hard to put down as the suspense continues to build right up to the very satisfying ending.

Loaded with magic, mystery, suspense, danger, passion and love, this riveting story is one you will not soon forget. If you enjoy this story, as I am sure you will, be sure to also pick up the first book in this series, DARKEST FLAME, as well as the exciting novellas – DARK CRAVING, NIGHT'S AWAKENING and DAWN'S DESIRE. The three novellas can be purchased altogether in the DARK KINGS anthology. Even though I enjoyed the way the book concludes, I always find it hard to leave Ms. Grant's world of Dragon Kings, so I am now anxiously awaiting her next addition to this spellbinding series, BURNING DESIRE, which is due to release at the end of September 2014. For a mesmerizing story that is sure to leave you hungry for more of the Dragon Kings, pick up a copy of FIRE RISING. I am sure you will enjoy it as much as I did!

Dottie, RomanceJunkies.com

Deanna says

Brilliant!!! I love this series!!!
