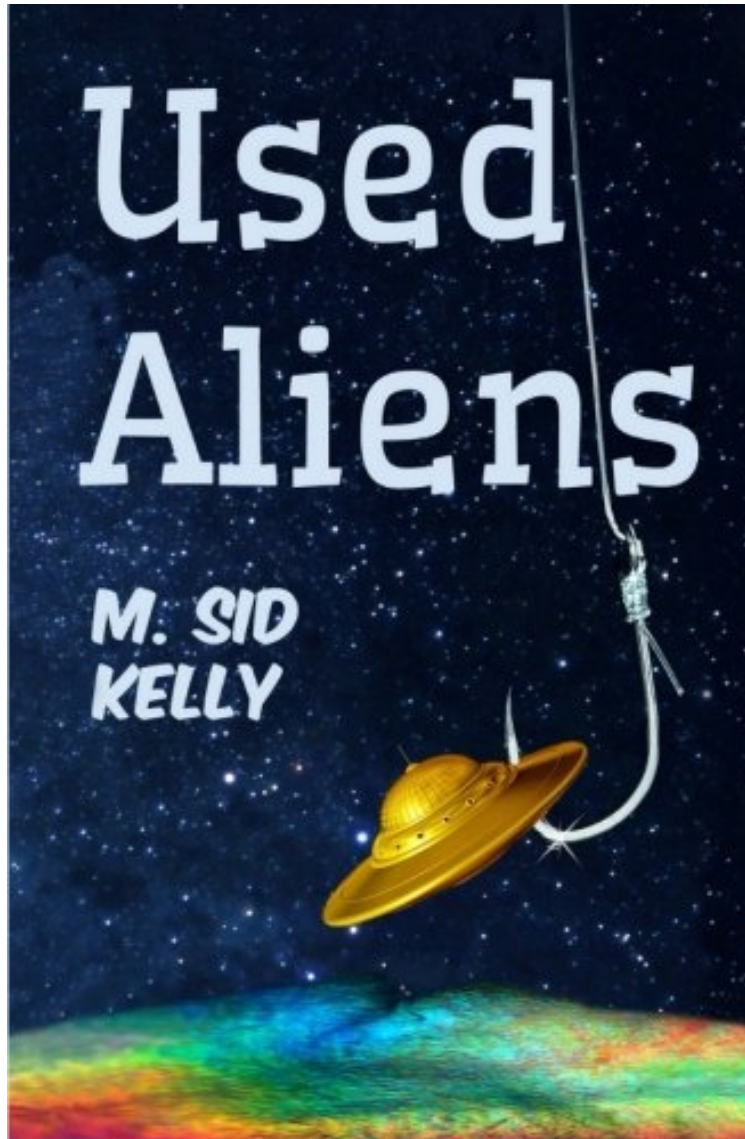


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Used Aliens: A Novel

M Sid Kelly

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M Sid Kelly : Used Aliens: A Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Used Aliens: A Novel:

12 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Fun and Different By Nash Android The story begins with Jimmy Fresneaux. He wants to be the star of a fishing show. Unfortunately, he's not very good at catching fish. This matters not at all to the aliens that abduct him. They just need to gather a few specimens and conduct some tests as part of their evaluation of Earth for entry in the Galactic Pool. They're supposed to throw him back when they're done, but a

mishap leaves Jimmy and two of the aliens (along with their sunken flying saucer) on Earth. That's part of the story. The rest has to do with why Earth is being evaluated. It's kind of political. This is humorous science fiction romp with a fair amount of cultural satire. The human characters are funny in a buffoonish sort of way. Jimmy is believable as a mentally uncomplicated Cajun wannabe. Mike and Greg, two fossil hunting hobbyists, are a bit less believable. They are portrayed as having some serious scientific interests and knowledge but seem to be forcing themselves to sound more stupid and juvenile than they are, mainly by saying "man" and "dude" a lot. I don't think they needed to be written this way. Jimmy is fine as a lone clown. Three stooges are not necessary. Mike and Greg might work better as supporting characters if they were written as nerdy straight men. I loved the aliens. They are imaginative, and the 'good' ones are quite likeable. Dluhosh (an evolved squid), Dee (a hug-loving bear person), and Trukk-9 (a highly ethical filmmaker with a large number of eyes) are especially endearing. The 'bad' aliens are more dim and incompetent than they are evil. I liked that. They're much easier to laugh at. The story is written in third person with a shifting point of view. The prose is casual, complete with split infinitives and colloquialisms. The writing style reminds you that this story is not to be taken seriously. It's meant to be fun, and it is. I have found that 'indie' books often provide something that traditional publishers do not--well-written stories that don't easily fit into established genres, that defy stereotypes, and that make no effort to follow the currently popular trends--in other words, stories that are truly fresh and different. This is a good example. On the surface, it is a science fiction farce with comic characters, but it also offers insightful satire, intelligent wit, an imaginative setting, unique aliens, and even a bit of real science. How many books like that have you read recently? If there were any, I'll bet they were 'indie.' I found this quirky book enjoyable. I recommend it to humor fans with a scientific outlook. If you've read and enjoyed Douglas Adams' 'Hitchhiker's Guide' stories, the 'Red Dwarf' books by Grant Naylor, the 'Stainless Steel Rat' books by Harry Harrison, or Spider Robinson's 'Callahan's Crosstime Saloon' stories, you may also like 'Used Aliens' by M. Sid Kelly. It's not quite like any of these, but there are a few similarities in places.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Used Aliens
By Kindle Customer
at first I thought this book started out confusing and kind of hokey, but all the sudden, the plot thickened, and I was really drawn into this science fiction. Partly, it seems like a satire of bureaucracy, but the characters develop depth, and there are so many puns and references to other science fiction, that I am going to have to re-read it right away. Not too often is there a book that just makes me laugh out loud while reading it!

7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. A great adventure
By Jordan S. Stocks
I happened across this book by chance and I am glad that I did. It was free when I downloaded it, so I figured, "why not?" and went ahead and downloaded it. I have to admit that the first few paragraphs were kind of rough, in my opinion. But the story quickly picked up and found a nice pace. I found the book to be well written. The characters were funny and likeable, the story was packed with meaningful content that added to the overall experience, and it was just an all-around great adventure reading. If I had to liken it to another book, I would say Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy. If you enjoyed HGTG, you will probably like this. Grab it while it's still free.

It's space aliens versus the Almighty, and Jimmy gets pulled in. When a sabotaged flying saucer crashes into Jimmy's fishing hole, he protects the stranded aliens so they'll find big fish for his TV show. But the marooned aliens threaten the Almighty's grand pseudo-scientific experiment, and the galactic saboteurs plotting to plunder Earth seize the opportunity.*There are fabulous sex scenes, but they're strictly telepathic. (Sorry.)

"M. Sid Kelly's Used Aliens is a fantastic, hilarious tour of what can go wrong when prospecting planets... Kelly does a fantastic job of introducing his universe, the varied aliens and wild personalities that populate the Galactic Pool."
~Jason Weisberger, publisher BoingBoing.net "This is a work of splendid quality... a side splitting comedy that is also relatively scientifically sound."
~ Paul Little, Little Ebook s "...insightful satire, intelligent wit, an imaginative setting, unique aliens, and even a bit of real science."
~ D. L. Morrese, author of 'The Warden Series'.
From the Author If any English professors try to make you write a book report on Used Aliens, tell them the author says to get stuffed.