



The Flesh Cartel #15: Twenty-Five

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In the exciting final season of the Flesh Cartel . . .

With the help of the FBI, Mat Carmichael has let himself be re-taken by the Flesh Cartel. Objective? Rescue his brother, exact revenge, and destroy the entire organization from the inside.

FBI Special Agent Nate Johnson will be playing backup, of course, but to get Dougie out alive, Mat will need to make sure his brother is out of Allen's clutches before calling in the troops. Now that Mat's back in bondage, though, there's no way he can do it alone. He'll have to ask for help from the only man within the Cartel who cares about Dougie's welfare: Nikolai. And even knowing it will destroy him, Nikolai delivers.

Bringing down the Cartel should have been the hardest part, but it doesn't take long to realize that the real challenge has only just begun. Dougie doesn't know how to be free anymore, and Mat is forced to admit that he may no longer be strong enough to help himself, let alone his brother. But with loved ones in their corner and their love for each other banked but not extinguished, Mat and Dougie learn that you can come home again, no matter how desperate the circumstances you've left behind.

The Flesh Cartel #15: Twenty-Five Details

Date : Published April 7th 2014 by Riptide Publishing (first published April 5th 2014)

ISBN : 9781626491199

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Format : ebook 75 pages

Genre : Romance, M M Romance, Erotica, BdsM, Dark, Adult Fiction, Sociology, Abuse, Contemporary

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From Reader Review The Flesh Cartel #15: Twenty-Five for online ebook

Debra says

I love Mat more with every episode. Nate cemented his place in my heart with his little "slip" with Nikolai (seriously sometimes those things just happen). I fear there is no way the next part of the plan can go well, but for Dougie I am hopeful that the last 25 days have given him a better perspective on things.

Every chapter has me changing my mind for what I want to see at the end. I am on pins and needles waiting for the next one.

A Girl Has No Name says

5 stars!

The beginning of this last season of *The Flesh Cartel* looks very promising! While I really "liked" the first few books of the series, I felt a little bored by the middle part. Luckily, the appearance of **Nate** made the story interesting again and I really enjoyed getting to know him better in this book.

Putting Mat back in the hands of the Cartel has been extremely frightening, but the knowledge that he isn't on his own this time, made it a bearable. I loved the careful interaction between **Nate and Mat** and I can't wait to see how their plan is going to work out.

There is finally a little hope for an HEA here! I know that it might get smashed, but for now I'm going with it!

Alona says

This book was both frightening and beautiful!

I'm in LOVE with both Mat and Nate. I can't wait for their turn in happiness.

I can feel the next book is going to be intense and heartbreaking, yet with the hope and light I was craving through out the series.

Off to #16!

Martin says

I love Nate and Mat so much!!! Had I known that a romance like this would be in there too, I would have started this series much much earlier. Sure, it took like almost a full year of torture and violence before we got some romance, but it's so very worth it!!

I love Agent Nate Johnson and the feelings he harbors for the physically and emotionally wounded Mat.

And I love even more how Mat reaches out to the handsome agent and tries to reconnect himself with a life before this hell, back when he didn't shy away from a consoling touch...

But Mat doesn't give up. He'll fight the cartel no matter the costs to his own mind and body. He is a fighter after all and would rather die than see the cartel win...

LOL, it's hard to write a review for a book in a series. You're supposed to write ABOUT the installment you just read, but your mind is actually already in the next book, spooked by what will happen there.

It's absolutely crazy!!

And as for Dougie...

Poor guy... we'll see what's left of him in the next book.

(view spoiler)

BUT, in THIS book, we got our first oh-so-very-sweet-taste of revenge!! And god, it was more satisfying than any sex scene. I think WE ALL SAW Nate's hand slip there, right?

Ooops... 7 hours of constant pain in every cell of Nikolai's body? Oh, too bad. We'll do better next time **WE BLOW UP A F***ING SLAVERY RING!!!**

I feel so sad for Roger, though. I really like him. I hope he will ever be able to find himself again after 20+ years of slavery...

5 stars! And on to the next in this amazing reading marathon

Elena says

5 stars! Oh, Mat..... :(

Mat cleverly but willingly comes back to Nikolai's mansion... He hopes to save his brother **Dougie** but also to hit the Cartel as hard as he and **Nate** can and take down as many of its *associates* as possible. Most of all, he burns for revenge against the monster who whipped him, treated him like a dog and forced him to fight in life-and-death combats...

But first, Mat has to survive the worst tortures from the hands of bounty hunters and then...

And then again hold on in Nikolai's clutches...

A very good, emotional instalment!

JustJen "Miss Conduct" says

A review by The Blogger Girls.

I am really happy that things are moving forward at this point in the story. At this point, Mat has agreed to be the bait in order to take down the Cartel in order to save Dougie and all the other slaves, current and future.

When he is finally “picked up” by the bounty hunters, he is both relieved and worried beyond belief at what he will now have to endure before the feds can make their move. He thinks he can handle it after what he has already experienced, but he goes through quite a bit more before he even gets to Nikolai.

Meantime, Dougie has been gone for twenty-five days. For every day he has been gone, Allen has sent a photo of Dougie to Nikolai in various stages of torture, promising to continue until he gets Mat returned to him. He plans to take this out on Mat in order to break him for good, starting with twenty-five injections, one for each day.

The tables are turned when the feds step in, and Nikolai is forced to help them take down the Cartel by giving them names, locations, etc., with the finale being a party with everyone involved in attendance when he turns Mat over to Allen.

Mat is struggling. He knows he needs to put on the performance of his life, but getting into that headspace is proving difficult with Nate thrown into the mix.

This continues to prove an engrossing story, and I’m still gobbling up the pages. I want to get to the end to see what happens when Dougie is recovered, as I have many questions and thoughts as to how that is going to go down. So much is up in the air where he is concerned, but I feel we are close to seeing that play out. This series is very well written, never without wonderfully cringe worthy details. As with the others, I cannot wait for the next installment.

Therese says

Much like #14, this has a different feel to it. The extremely (for me) hard-to-read scenes have mellowed into something softer, something more manageable, and I find myself glued to every word.

This is most likely because I am, essentially, a romance lover, and as brilliant and well written the earlier episodes have been (Nikolai!), they were for me a somewhat uncharted territory.

In #15, I find myself back on track:-)

Mat. Oh my Mat.

I love this character. He has slowly but surely made his way up to the top 3 of my Hero-list...

He was a fighter, or he was nothing. [...] He'd earned the beating, but that didn't mean he could throw the match. So he fought on.

*„You left him alone with a monster“, Nikolai replied. „You valued your freedom more than his safety“.
„My freedom is our freedom.“ Mathias glared up at him, tightened his grip on Nikolai’s wrist.,*

And poor Doug...he did not really have a nice time with Allen during these 25 days...I’m kind of happy his POV is not included here.

I loved how the whole SWAT section was written. In this series, I always feel right in the middle of the action, never outside looking in. Which of course so far has made it a very gut wrenching read, but now I could relax and really appreciate this.

Mat/Nate:

The chemistry between Nate and Mat is mouth watering:-P

All Nate/Mat interactions are just so heart-breaking, how they are both kind of tiptoeing around each other. Both wanting to, in a way, but both being hindered mentally and physically.

I found it really interesting to read how and what both the characters think of each other, and how difficult it will be for them both. Nate, because of his position, and what Mat has been through, which makes Nate feel like a pervert for even considering Mat in a sexual way.

And Mat, who isn’t mentally there yet, is not really ready, but wants to prove to himself that he has not been beaten by the cartel/Nikolai.

And who knew? Maybe, when this was all over, he’d let himself have what Nate had once so shyly offered, before Mat had ruined it with Nikolai’s poison. Maybe he still could have that. Maybe it’d be one more thing he’d march in, guns blazing, and take back from them.

I am really looking forward to see how their relationship will progress.

I love Nate’s sweetness and protective nature, which is exactly what Mat needs. Mat, who has had to be the fighter his whole life, with no one to lean on.

There are so many beautiful moments between them in this book, it almost (well, not really) made me forget all the horrible things that has happened to Mat:

Not really spoilers, but long quotes.

(view spoiler)

cue Therese choking up... (hide spoiler)]

And the basement scene, *panting* ...

(view spoiler)

And Nikolai...

When reading this series, I thought that the training episodes were too many, too extensive. It was such a

tough read, with no way to go but down.

However, having got this far, I really think they were needed. If I would not have had to follow so closely Doug's descent into darkness, I would not have seen Nikolai's growing „love“ for him. Now, I totally bought everything in this episode. Really, what is his motivation for helping the FBI? Nikolai explains quite well why he wouldn't have to, and he is probably right.

Why would Nikolai want to give up everything he has worked for his whole life?

In my opinion, he hasn't really been working **towards** any goals, this is who he IS, what he was raised to do, all he knows in this world.

And the ONLY redeeming quality this asshole has, is that he has some sense of honor, or loyalty towards his "trainees". Much like a dog owner would try to prevent anything bad happening to his precious dogs, Nikolai wants to protect his slaves. And for that, he now needs the FBI:-)

(view spoiler)

I can't wait to see what will happen next!

Em says

I never thought I'd say it but things are almost moving along too fast for me to take in. There are some great moments in this book, things that have been a long time coming. This is seriously the best installment so far and I can't wait for the next!

Chappy says

[I can't believe that Mat is finally free!!! He was able to swim to shore and he was found naked and unconscious. Thankfully Nate gets the call and is able to bring him under FBI protection. They make a plan to go after Nikolai and get all the names of his contacts. The goal is still to rescue Dougie from Allen. (hide spoiler)]

Shile says

25 days of freedom for Mat!??

25 days of Hell for Douglas!??

Nikolai! yes! finally let him get what he deserves.

On to the next!

JaHy?Hold the Fairy Dust says

**** 4.5 "ITS ON LIKE DONKEY KONG"STARS ****

..... Awesome start to season 5. Is it May 5th yet?

Fabi says

I feel a little crazy right now because, after struggling so hard through this series, I don't want it to end.

Kristie says

Absolutely the best of the series so far. The very best. Some moments are particularly enjoyable. Like, shouting and cheering moments with Nate that I'll never forget. And Mat, he's so brave. I can't describe the feelings I have for him. He's a hero.

I can't even begin to imagine how the last few episodes will turn out, but I do know that the wait for the final four is going to be harder than ever.

This episode? So deserving of all the stars. All of them.

Elaine says

5 no messing... revengeful... stars

Mat has escaped for **25** days. Dougie is being tortured for **25** days.

Theres no time to waste...

With the FBI now involved, Mat now needs to get himself kidnapped again to free Dougie and bring him home.

But he needs the help of Nikolai.

So with a new plan of action, they wait to bring down the Cartel once and for all..

First things first.. Mat needs to get strong in his mind and body if its stand any chance of working.

My thoughts....

Oh yes revenge is sweet so they say.

Loved everything about this episode. The only thing I don't like is waiting now for the next one. Can't wait to see how the final series pans out...

Lucy says

[I really miss Dougie. Even though he annoys the shit out of me I actually miss his "voice" and seeing what he is up to. I hope the next episode has Dougie in it. Mat continues to be awesome and I was so damn happy Nikolai got what is coming to him. (hide spoiler)]
