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In episode four of *The Flesh Cartel*, Mat and Dougie Carmichael begin their training with their new master, Nikolai, where they both learn the meaning of servitude . . . and of consequences for their choices.

For Mat, destined to be trained but not broken—to always fight but never win—life with Nikolai is suffering stacked on suffering. Nikolai pushes him to the edge but not over; he must never lose the hatred in his eyes. Dougie, on the other hand, is fated to love and crave service. For that, Nikolai must teach him the pleasures of a pampered sex slave, but training a straight man to revel in his gay captor's touch is no easy feat.

As if the challenges Mat and Dougie face aren't difficult enough, one last complication remains: before either brother can submit fully to Nikolai, they must first give up their strongest, most powerful loyalty: their dedication to each other.

Reader discretion advised. This title contains the following sensitive themes: Non-consent

Consequences Details

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From Reader Review Consequences for online ebook

Debra says

In this episode Nikolai ratchets up the mental manipulation of the brothers as the physical abuse continues.

Realizing that the loyalty shared by Dougie and Mat is the one thing that Nikolai needs to break in both of them, he begins planting the seeds of doubt in their minds, trying to play one against the other. Dougie knows what is going on thanks to his background in psychology and is scrambling for a way to keep himself from breaking, yet his fear of pain keeps him submitting. He is also not so sure that Mat can ever forgive Dougie for what happened at the auction, and Nikolai is all too happy to foster that belief. After being drugged, Mat tells Nikolai that regardless of what his brother has done or will do, he will do anything required to save Dougie, but that if it were for Mat alone, he would happily die before submitting any further.

There is also the spark Nikolai is feeling towards Dougie. Whether Nikolai will ever be able to let Dougie go to another master is certainly in question now as well. The mental tug of war here is fascinating. While Nikolai has the upper hand, there is no guarantee that he will be successful with either man. Can't wait to move on to the next chapter.

Fabi says

I liked it better than the last one. But I still don't like the BDSM aspect. So 3.5 stars and on to the next.

Shile says

OMG! ??What the fuckity fuck is this series ???

In this episode Matt and Dougie are in the care, torture of Nikolai.

Nikolai! Nikolai! this guy is worse than Madame, he uses mind games. He is manipulative and not the Laurent kind.. his methods are straight out of purgatory. He is sick, he is a psycho, and delusional.

Nikolai is trying to drive a wedge between the brothers.. and he is succeeding. To torture Matt he uses drugs and for Dougie, he uses rape ???telling himself it is love making. Like i said the guy is cuckoo. I wanted to kill him but first torture him.

Atleast Matt is fighting but Dougie! damn! the guy is has somehow given up:

Just going to leave this here..

"I . . . I think I'm ready. I don't know, I've never done this before. I don't know. I'm sorry. Please, I'm just tired of hurting."

"Shhh. I know. I'll never hurt you again if you don't give me cause, Douglas. I want to love you, remember?" Douglas nodded shakily, and Nikolai reached down, removing the boy's hand from his hole. Massaged his sides in slow, soothing circles. Thought of taking him like this, but no. It should be face-to-face. He gave the boy's ass a gentle swat to get him moving. "Roll onto your back. Now

"You see?" he murmured, nipping kisses across the boy's collarbone, into the hollow of his shoulder. "No pain, correct? It feels good?"

"No, sir," Douglas said, watery and weak. He sniffled, sniffled again. No doubt as

But Nikolai had taken that away. "No pain. It's . . . I wouldn't call it good, sir. It's just . . . it's full." And then, once he'd realized the insult in his words, "Please don't punish me, sir! I'm sorry. You told me not to lie."

"Especially with a boy as beautiful as you, I like to watch. When I take you from behind I may record you, or put you in front of a mirror, or maybe have someone else fuck you so I can savor

"Should I hurt you now, Douglas? Or will you grab hold of your pleasure?"

"Please don't,"

"What did I tell you," he growled, "about coming without permission?"

He thrust harder, faster, sped up his hand over Douglas's deflating cock to match. The boy whimpered, then moaned, then shouted. Writhed beneath Nikolai, but he couldn't escape. "Please," he finally managed between desperate, panting breaths. "Please . . . s-stop, God, stop!"

"Be quiet, boy. This is why you ask permission. How dare you take your pleasure before your master's? And then compound your offense by asking me to stop?"

"I'm sorry!" Douglas cried, hands pushing at Nikolai's shoulders—no doubt subconsciously.

"I'm sorry! Please! Please stop please please please please . . ."

"Not until you're hard again. Not until you come—or not—on my terms, with my permission." Douglas was full-on crying now, not merely tears but big sobs, ugly sniff..

Nikolai

Em says

Another dark and delicious episode! Question...is it wrong of me to find Nikolai sexy!

Dreamer says

Too short... needing MORE right NOW, this serialization is killing me! The hateful Nikolai continues his mind fuck of brothers Mat and Dougie. I feel just so involved with these characters..

'Nikolai thought on that for a moment - Mathias's fear had returned, but fear for his brother or fear of the needle? Both, most likely. A fine line indeed he was walking. The trick would be discovering how to keep him there, hateful but pliant, without pushing him too far again.'

Barbara says

The brothers!
So much suffering ...

But Nikolai he is so ...

Intriguing!!
NEXT please...

Alice says

Whoo! We're on the rise!

There are no spoilers from Consequences, but there will inevitably be some from Auction, Captured and Choices. (Contains cussing and explicit scenes.)

3.5 And what if it's not pretend? What if you're just a coward? stars.

(My fucked-up brain likey!)

Nikolai Petrovic is a man of refinement. He collects fine art, enjoys gourmet cuisine, and trains boutique sex slaves for some of the wealthiest—and most morally dubious—men and women in the world.

Me: I didn't crap my pants!
Book: Well, gee, I'm fucking sorry.
Me: Should be.
Book: *hmph*

Dougie has finished half his degree in behavioural studies, he knows how the mind works. Nikolai can't work his way in without a fight, or so he thinks.

Mat's suffering is never ending.

Yay! I enjoyed this episode more than #3, why? I don't know! If I enjoyed it so much, why does it have the same rating as #3? Well, it does and it doesn't, this is a 3.5-would-have-been-four-if-the-characters-didn't-merge and #3 was 3.5-would-have-been-three-if-the-characters-merged. So, see!?! This one was better, although the division of the characters became less clear, and the author(s) seemed to be getting mixed up themselves. For example Dougie has been told to get into bed;
But at last Douglas ground out,
“Yes, sir.”

Nikolai smiled, tapped Roger once on the shoulder—his signal to rise. “Very good. Now then, finish your food. And then get some rest—in the bed, if you would. You must keep your strength up. You’ll need it for what’s to come.”

and then... Mat's getting out of bed after being told? When did you get told to do that, huh?

Mat quickly stooped to snatch up the towel.

“Don’t dawdle in there,” Nikolai called after him. “You can’t avoid this forever.”

Avoid what? What have I done this time?

God, he was going crazy. Turning into a beaten dog. His mind went over the last twenty-four hours, trying desperately to come up with an explanation, a reason why he could be punished. He’d slept in the bed like he was told.

I read some of the spoilers because I thought it was the beginning, oops! Kinda ruined it a little bit though. I really recommend skipping them and not reading the blurb.

Dougie, you are redeeming yourself, I didn't like your brother this episode! Bless your adorable submissive soul. Keep up the mental blocks!

“Sir?” he asked, clearly unsure of what he was looking at, but smart enough by now to be wary of it. “I said I’d teach you the true value of my kindness,” Nikolai explained. “I intend to keep my promise. Now come here, boy.” Douglas obeyed.

Dougie, tread carefully, Nikolai knows!

Surely he was drawing on his knowledge, his case studies, his academic expertise to protect himself from Nikolai’s influence. But what the boy didn’t know was how different the classroom was from the real world. The classroom was safe, controlled, an intellectual exercise. The real world was real pain, real fear, real pleasure, real needs and desires and thoughts and feelings.

Nikolai you creepy fuck

“Rescued, if you ask me. From a life of aimless, needless suffering. From a world of animal cruelty. From a loveless existence, Douglas. Everyone you’ve ever loved has left you. But I won’t, Douglas. And I’ll always love you, if you let me.”

[To see my previous reviews and my next review for The Flesh Cartel please click the links below.](#)

Capture (The Flesh Cartel #1) - [HERE](#)

Auction (The Flesh Cartel #2) - [HERE](#)

Choices (The Flesh Cartel #3) - [HERE](#)

Wins and Losses (The Flesh Cartel #5) - [HERE](#)

Paula says

**This is a serial series, part four of six installments. Part five releases in March!*

The Flesh Cartel #4: Consequences nearly emotionally and mentally broke me. In this episode, Mat and Dougie are now under the ‘care’ of their trainer, Nikolai, where they are being trained to be perfect servants for their new masters. Nikolai must learn to train two very different slaves who require two very different things. Nikolai must find a way to break these men, but he is finding this job to be more challenging than any other slaves he’s trained in the past.

Nikolai’s job is to break Mat down into a submissive – a submissive who fights but never wins. He is to be

broken but not so broken than he doesn't show some resistance towards his master's demands. But he is to never rebel against his master. While Dougie is supposed to be the pretty boy servant who serves his master in every way possible – love him, bow down to him, lick his boots, crave his master's every sexual need, crave to serve.

This story starts out as a physical domination but now has turned into mental domination. Nikolai, master of manipulation, is trying to find holes in Mat and Dougie's loyalty to one another. He is planting doubts in both Mat and Dougie's heads about each other. Breaking their brotherly bond is the way to achieving his goal of creating the perfect slaves. What he never expected is for Mat to be as complicated to break. Mat's loyalties lie within taking care of Dougie. He would do anything, *anything* for Dougie even if Dougie betrays him. He would give up his life for Dougie. Mat's love, devotion, and loyalty for Dougie is infinitely stronger than any physical or mental pain Nikolai will put him through. And this is not something Nikolai has ever had to deal with in the past.

Mat's deep felt words when was forced to confess his feelings moved me to the point that I felt like my heart had shattered. Mat is the one that I feel like is holding the cards in this game. I can't see him giving up on Dougie. He still has a lot of fight and determination left in him that will keep his head above water and ahead in the game. Nikolai may have met his biggest challenge yet in Mat.

Dougie is a different story. He has doubts Mat will forgive and fears losing his brother's love. And these doubts and fears all stem from Nikolai manipulating him, planting thoughts into Dougie's head to make him more susceptible to submitting to Nikolai. Nikolai wants Dougie to crave his love and to crave servicing him. Dougie is a smart thinker. He is trying to stay one step of Nikolai, but I don't think his intelligence is going to win in the battle against Nikolai. And Nikolai proves his point to Dougie just how much control he has over him in a scene that made me cry with anger. When it was over, I had to mentally shake myself out of my stupor. It was almost too much for me. Which is strange considering everything these two men have been through up until now.

This episode definitely shook me up. Along with Dougie, I started to have my own doubts. And Mat's heartfelt confession absolutely crushed me. I cried on more than one occasion in the short amount of time I read this episode. Like I said, I felt mentally and emotionally broken this time around.

When I first started this series, all I could think about was Mat and Dougie getting their revenge against these people. And because I couldn't stop thinking about these two men and what's in store for them later down the road, I decided one of the questions I MUST ask Miz Hamiowitz and Miz Belleau in an interview I hosted with my co-blogger, Letitia. We asked them if these two get a happy ending. Do they get their well-deserved revenge?

They replied:

Heidi: I don't want to promise anything specific, especially this early in the game, but I will say this: the story will end with Dougie and Mat as free men. Our intention is absolutely to give due care and attention to how they recover from this ordeal and repair their relationship with each other.

Rachel: I don't know how much revenge there's going to be, per se, but Heidi and I have talked a lot about where the boys will end up—free, as she said, and trying to repair themselves and their relationship—and I suspect that part of that process of growth and recovery will result in revenge not being such an important thing for them anymore.”

So, there could be hope for Mat and Dougie after all. I hope.

Rating: B+

-- A Romantic Book Affairs Review

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ARC kindly provided by authors.

Monique says

Weaving a web of deceptions, tangled in the branches of lies and blowing in the wind of whispers... in other words, a complete MIND FUCK and I LOVED IT!

I have spent the last few months anticipating the release of The Flesh Cartel Episodes and since the start of my journey with Mat and Dougie my emotions and anxiety levels have been put through the wringer! However... this episode see's us moving on from the debasement and torture and we have firmly landed in the realm of MIND FUCK!

We find the brothers as we left them in the last episode, Dougie the pampered pet and Mat the bullied guard dog still writhing in pain from his last punishment! With the formidable Nikolai now at his best or should that be worst? ...Mmm!! On home ground revelling in the challenges he faces with our boys, calculating, manipulating, his mind a constant thought process while he dominates the proceedings like a chess master, anticipating every move and Mat and Dougie... mere pawns in the grand scheme of things. He truly is an enigma and I so want to hate him, but again I am hoping that the *minuscule* glimpses of compassion, will lead to something good rather than the alternative!

Nicolai is pleased with Dougie or Douglas... as Nikolai refers to the boys by their full names, yet another subtlety to show his superiority. Dougie is intelligent and tries to anticipate his masters requirements, without instruction. How would he want his pet to behave? He was in fear of performing any task not to the required standard, but not knowing what to expect was worse because he feared the *consequences...* Were they all tests? Was he being watched? Was the whole point to humiliate him? or just another mind fuck!!!

Dougies mind is still running through his text books, analysing and debating with himself, he knows what Nikolai is trying to do... fill his mind with truths and half truths, smothering the lies peppered between... he wants to alienate him from his past, his home and more importantly for Nikolai his Brother. But can Dougie the student hold out against the experience master manipulator Nikolai? ...arggg!

For Mat... Dougie is the only reason he has to stay alive, and the only thing that will make him submit, or at least do as he is told! Both brothers see the other as the strong one... Dougie see's Mat's strength in the way he still stands up for himself despite the futility of it. Nikolai will never take away Mat's pride it is his last thread to sanity! Yet Mat's see's Dougie as strong, because he *will* comply, and do so willingly to save himself only Dougie constantly berates himself for his cowardice! and Nikolai is slowly sowing the seeds of doubt, skilfully manipulating the proceedings subduing Dougie and restraining but not fully taming the beast that is Mat!

This episode was definitely easier on the heart but trickier on the brain. Gone were the throwing the Kindle on the couch, shouting expletives and stomping, the whole process on a loop until finished. Now... we have a change in the plot, instead of stomping I too found myself analysing, brows drawn together tight in a furrow squinting in concentration mode, trying to figure out just who was in control of who and what mind

fuckery we are going to have next... then when you think you have it... blow me! something different happens!

Yet again another excellent instalment from our favourite writing duo... you have brilliantly changed the game! Not allowing us to become complacent for a minute! Episode #4 another master piece but for different reasons... you are now messing with our heads!!!

Note to self - *do not play cards with these authors*

Season #1 ~ Damnation

The Flesh Cartel #1 ~ Capture

The Flesh Cartel #2 ~ Auction

Season #2 ~ Fragmentation

The Flesh Cartel #3 ~ Choices

The Flesh Cartel #4 ~ Consequences

The Flesh Cartel #5 ~ Wins and Losses ~ 04th March 2013

The Flesh Cartel #6 ~ Brotherhood ~ 01st April 2013

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Lisa Henry says

Holy crap.

So now we're into the training phase. Stupid me, this is where I thought that Dougie, at least, would begin to find -- well, not comfort exactly, but maybe an end to terror. And I know that I shouldn't be thinking "Well, when he gets Stockholm Syndrome he'll be happier" but, seriously, at this point it seems like Dougie's best option. **This story twists all my logic up and completely fucks me over.**

So, yeah, Dougie. I'm screwed up enough that I want for Dougie what Nikolai wants -- I want him to be a happy slave. Except watching Nikolai driving doubt into Dougie's mind -- doubt that Mat can respect him for taking the least line of resistance, doubt that Mat can forgive him for what happened at the auction, doubt that Mat even *cares* -- is horrible. Necessary, but horrible. A part of me just wants Dougie to give in, to accept what Nikolai is offering, because he's not going to be able to think his way out of this.

(Note to everyone: you probably don't want me beside you in a hostage situation. I don't think I would be very good for morale.)

At least Mat wasn't being tortured as much in this episode, I thought foolishly. Because, hell, that scene when (view spoiler) was intense. And shattering. (view spoiler) For me, this was the episode where I really started to understand Mat better. I understand why he can't stop fighting, why he needs to resist even though he can't possibly win.

And Nikolai? Well, watching him is like watching a high wire act. How the hell is he doing that? How the hell can he keep his balance ? I hate Nikolai, but he is **fascinating**. On one hand he's a monster, of course he is, but -- if this is a situation the brothers can't escape from, and it sure looks that way -- he's also their only hope of survival. He's showing them the rules to this new life. He's torturing them, but he's also teaching them how to stay alive. Make no mistake, I want Nikolai to end up with a bullet in the head, but at this point he's **necessary**.

I don't know if this series with have a happy ending. I don't know if that could be in any way possible, or if I even want it. But I can't stop reading now. I'm invested now, and I need to know where this is going.

I hate The Flesh Cartel. I love it. I hate it. I love it. And around and around I go...

Lisa Arbitrary - AttentionIsArbitrary M/M Blog says

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Per Riptide Publishing:

Reader discretion advised. This title contains the following sensitive themes: [non-consent]

Fair warning, this is NOT MM Romance. This is a psycho-sexual thriller which includes rape and torture. Please proceed with that knowledge in mind.

### **THE WRITING**

So here's the thing. You're not only reading about the characters being controlled; YOU are being controlled. Many times throughout this series I've found myself thinking, "ah ha, I see what's going on here," only to find I was being played. Damn authors! Just know, if you're reading these books you're offering yourself up for manipulation. If you're willing, it's sublime.

### **THE CHARACTERS**

Nikolai -

*We'll practice everyday, Nicolai had said. To comfort him? Threaten?*

Dougie -

"But...but he doesn't know what I've done here. Does he?" Such sweet insecurity.

Mat -

"Please," Mathias grunted out. "No more lessons today."

## **THE STORY**

In this episode Dougie is his own worst enemy. Mat is just so fucked. And Nikolai is, ughhhhh, indescribable.

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This is a serial release:

First Season - Damnation

The Flesh Cartel #1: Capture

The Flesh Cartel #2: Auction

Second Season - Fragmentation

The Flesh Cartel #3: Choices

The Flesh Cartel #4: Consequences

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**I want to thank Riptide Publishing for providing me with an advanced copy (eARC) of this book in exchange for an honest review.**

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Take a look at my Male/Male Romance Book Blog:

<http://www.attentionisarbitrary.blogspot.com>

Dia says

5 DARK stars

This review has been posted on Dirty Books Obsession.

This series is addictive! It is really hard to put down each and every book. The story makes you read and read and don't want to stop until the end, hoping it's going to be easier for Mat and Dougie, but knowing their suffering haven't reach the highest limit.

In Consequences, Nikolai tries to break them both, but the lessons they are given are so different.

They must obey and learn the hard way what are the **consequences** of their **choices**.

Rach says

OMFG Mind f@ck is beyond what this amazing book is

COMPLETE REVIEW TO COME

I loved EVERY SINGLE WORD OF IT- yes you will have to forgive me! But that is how it was!

BUT it did make me want to

Elena says

A rape with mind-f**king pep talk is still a rape! Oh, how I hate this sick perv!
And Mat and Dougie are so different... I can't wait to see their "transformation" - how will it work? How will it be different?

Silkeeeeereads says

Okay, well first off I have to quote Larry The Cable Guy - "Lord please forgive me and may God bless the Pygmies in New Guinea" -Larry The Cable Guy

I'm afraid I'm more like Mat. I want to kill somebody. There is no sense in me re-inventing the wheel with the synopsis. You all do a much better job at that than I.

I'll just go with feelings and right now I'm just in an irritated state of pissed off. I hate anyone or anything that has so much control. I guess I can forget ever being someone's sub. All that being said, I am on steroids and I can guarantee it will take me a bit to get the rage off.

As usual, and oh so like Mat and Dougie, I just settle into the read and BAM, it's done. Yes, I can definitely say there are two sadists writing this book. Though they are brilliant at it, they also seem to be brilliant at keeping even the harder bunch of us tightly in their grip. Just saying! LOL.

Oh, and for the romantics here, the only HEA I expect and hope for are a bunch of people bloodied up and under the control of Mat and Dougie. Anything else is just not acceptable. There's my two cents. Now I need a drink.
