



## Agony

*Susan Kaye Quinn*

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**Agony** Susan Kaye Quinn

**Urban Fantasy with a Cyberpunk Twist**

\*\*\*second episode of the nine-part serial\*\*\*

## **What's your life worth on the open market?**

In this gritty urban fantasy, debt collectors take your life energy and give it to someone more “worthy”... all while paying the price with black marks on their souls.

**Agony is approximately 11,000 words or 44 pages**, and is the second of nine episodes in the first season of The Debt Collector serial.

Lirium tries to forget Apple Girl, but a rough collection finds him spiraling deeper into the abyss. He faces a one-way ticket to The Retirement Home for debt collectors, until his psych officer offers a way out.

Contains mature content and themes.

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2014 Semi-Finalist in Science Fiction in the Kindle Book Awards

It is recommended that you start with the first season, but each season is a complete story for that debt collector and can serve as an entry point to the series. There are five planned seasons in the Debt Collector series, the first four each from the perspective of a different debt collector with the fifth season bringing all four together.

## READING ORDER

**Season One** – Lirium - COMPLETE

Episodes 1-9: Delirium, Agony, Ecstasy, Broken, Driven, Fallen, Promise, Ruthless, Passion

**Season Two** – Wraith \*\*available for pre-order\*\* releases 12.15.14

Episodes 10-18: Wraith, Specter, Menace, Temptation, Shattered, Penance, Judgment, Corruption, Atonement

## Agony Details

Date : Published March 25th 2013 by Susan Kaye Quinn

ISBN :

Author : Susan Kaye Quinn

Format : ebook 44 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Short Stories, Cyberpunk, Fiction, Fantasy, Dystopia, Urban Fantasy, Novella

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## From Reader Review Agony for online ebook

### Feminista says

Rating: 4 out of 5.

In a world where the debts collected are life forces, debt collectors are seen as Grim Reapers. Pariahs of the society unless someone has need of one.

Lirium is a debt collector with a secret. After having done a mercy hit in the last episode, wherein debt collectors dig in to their own life forces to give to others, he is starting to spiral downwards.

The concept behind this novel is refreshingly different. I also thought the protagonist's character had developed well since the last episode. I also like where the plot is going with the next episode.

All in all, a short and sweet episode.

ARC Courtesy of NetGalley and All Night Reads

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### Brooke (The Cover Contessa) says

Sue has done it again! OMGosh this story has me hooked. I cannot get enough of this. I want more NOW! I hate that I have to wait. It's like taking a book one chapter at a time, one week at a time. It's agonizing and excruciating to wait for the next episode! But I'm not mad about it, on the contrary I am chomping at the bit to see where it goes.

Blurb from Goodreads:

Agony - EPISODE 2 of the Debt Collector serial. Contains mature content and themes. For young-adult-appropriate thrills, see Susan's bestselling Mindjack series.

What's your life worth on the open market?

A debt collector can tell you precisely.

Lirium tries to forget Apple Girl, but a rough collection finds him spiraling deeper into the abyss. He faces a one-way ticket to The Retirement Home for debt collectors, until his psych officer offers a way out.

Agony is approximately 11,000 words or 44 pages, and is the second of nine episodes in the first season of The Debt Collector serial. This dark and gritty future-noir is about a world where your life-worth is tabulated on the open market and going into debt risks a lot more than your credit rating. Episode 3, Ecstasy, releases 4/3/13. For more about the Debt Collector serial, see [DebtCollectorSeries.com](http://DebtCollectorSeries.com)

Once again we meet up with Lirium, just after he has had his encounter with Apple girl and been moved to a new apartment. We get to meet his psych officier, Candy, who is, I must say, a piece of work. And Sue introduces us to a new character, Ophelia, who I liked immediately. She's slick and confident and is willing to take a chance to teach the guppy, Lirium, a thing or two. But in the midst of it all, things get complicated (of course I won't reveal why) and Lirium finds himself in a bit of a pickle.

Quinn leaves us with just the tiniest bit of a cliff hanger at the end, one that wraps the story up enough that you're not dying, but definitely leaves you wanting more more!

I really liked this story, although not as much as the first until the end. It was shorter than the first episode,

but it truly left me wanting more. And Sue's writing, ugh, it's so great. She just has such a way with words. I will read ANYTHING she writes for sure!

Well done Ms. Quinn! I look forward to Ecstasy!

5/5 stars from me!

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### **Hanna Elizabeth says**

I loved this latest installment of Debt Collector. If I had to sum this up in just one word it would be, MORE! Not only do I want more (can't wait until next week) but we also got to see a bit more of Delirium's world which is a bit more twisted than even he knew.

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### **D. Robert Pease says**

Agony ramps up the tension Susan Quinn started in the first book, Delirium. I pushed through exhaustion, after a long day, to finish this before going to bed. I just had to. There was no way I wasn't going to find out what happened to our hero. It was so worth the loss of sleep. A couple new, very creepy, kind of sexy, characters added a level of excitement to the story that left me wanting more. Can't wait till the next episode!

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### **Jessica Bell says**

I have to say, that I haven't been so excited about reading something in ages. After reading the first in the series, Delirium, and absolutely LOVING it, I couldn't wait for the next installment. And I wasn't disappointed. The characters introduced in this episode are amazingly vivid. Susan's imagery is superb, and story-telling to die for. I am on the edge of my seat at the end of every paragraph and chapter. This episode will give you shivers. I can't wait for episode three!

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### **Monica Millard says**

This is the second in the Debt Collectors series. I can't believe how quickly I was sucked in, in the first book. I loved the first in the series and loved Lirium! I was afraid in the second episode that we'd lose the redemptive trajectory that Lirium had hit on in the first, especially with the beautiful and sort of wicked seeming Ophelia, but was again pleasantly surprised to find Ophelia was more than the stereotype I imagined. Also, that Lirium was just as root worthy as he was in the first, moreso even.

I had an early day the next day, but reading this second episode made me want to stay up all night reading all the episode... as it was I stayed up later than I should have.

This episode was great and sucked me deeper into Lirium's world and made me fall a little further in love.

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## **Lola says**

After reading the first episode I couldn't wait to read this one. Luckily I only had to wait a week before the second episode was released and this episode is as good if not better than the first episode.

The story takes off pretty soon after the first episode ended. It is not going good with Lirium and his psych advisor is going to try and help him. A lot of things happen in this episode and changes what I thought I understood. The reader learns new things about the world, the story and the characters and there is so much mystery already. And again there is an ending that nicely end this episode, but also leaves me wanting to read more. I can't wait till I can buy episode 3 next week.

Two new characters are introduced in this episode and I really am curious what their role will be in the rest of this series. The characters are really interesting and I have the feeling there is so much more to all of them and I want to know more. Lirium develops a bit and learns new things and I am really starting to like his character.

The world building is mostly introduced in the first episode, but there is so much more in this episode. Things I thought I understood are changed and it's really interesting finding out more about this world. I really like the world and want to know more.

To conclude: this is a great sequel. I actually find myself enjoying a series like episodes, the episode are short enough for a quick read and the wrap up nicely and looking forward to the next episode. New characters are introduced in this episode and there is some world building.

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## **Laurisa Reyes says**

Loving this book.

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## **Sara says**

Good. I liked Ophelia, but it seems short lived. I'll have to read the next part to see if we ever hear from her again this one brought up many questions about what Candy is up to. And Lirium seemed younger than the last book.

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## **Cherie says**

Loved, loved, loved this newest episode in Debt Collector series! Can't wait for episode 3! Proper review forthcoming!

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## **Veronica of V's Reads says**

In this second installment of The Debt Collector serial, readers get a fast paced tour through Lirium's existence. In this world, Lirium's job is to collect the life energy of those who have accrued more material debt than they can repay--and transfer that energy to High Poenttials--valuable members of society who pay to stay alive.

The opening features a tense collection, followed by a confrontation with Lirium's psych officer, Candy Kane. She assigns Lirium a mentor to train him to better cope with the strain of debt collecting. Within pages Lirium's fighting for his life and swearing vengeance.

Gotta catch the next episode!

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### **liirogue says**

You must read the first book before starting this one. Think of this series of novellas as one large book that's been broken into bite sized pieces.

The first bit seemed a little slow, and I was already mourning the lose of what I had hoped would be a great series. It quickly shifted from okay to amazing. I couldn't put it down and had to jump immediately into the next!

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### **Debbie says**

The plot thickens, you might say, with episode 2. Two new characters appear and are very well portrayed, a rare thing in such a short work. I definitely like Ophelia, and suspect Candy's motives. The more I read about Lirium, the better I like him, too. How did a nice boy like him end up where he is now?

I find the world depicted in this series to be fascinating, in a dark way. I'd venture to say that it's a unique idea, which is a lot of fun to read. Looking forward to more!

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### **Leigh Moore says**

From the opening sentence, "I hear the screams as soon as the elevator doors open," to the last, this is the best, hands-down serial out now.

I LOVE it!!!

AGONY picks up where DELIRIUM leaves off with Lirium on the run. But in this one we meet Ophelia, who is smart and tough, stronger than Lirium, sexy--totally my new favorite book hero!

LOVE it, and #3 just released this week~

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### **Ellie says**

Serial or episodic fiction is a totally new way of reading fiction for me, but as soon as I saw Quinn was writing it I knew I'd soon be addicted. I'm a huge science fiction fan and coupling it with noir had me intrigued from the outset. Each 'episode' from season one is roughly the length of a novelette and readable in one sitting, something I have found I like. The drawback is that you have to wait two weeks until the next episode, but much like a television series you love, this only heightens the anticipation. You can of course wait until all nine episodes of season one have been published, but I wouldn't.

This episode, Agony, introduced new characters and showed another side to the lead character, Lirium. It also left us on a cliffhanger and me gasping for more.

Make no mistake - this is adult fiction. The story itself is set in a cold and cruel future. The characters are gritty and hardened. But that only makes you love them even more. Season one hasn't finished yet and I'm already wishing for season two.

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