



May Flowers

Happy May, friends! I wanted to give you a brief update. April was a quieter month for me, for one because I experienced a bit of burn-out, and two because I've had several non-writing things occupying me. Nonetheless, I have a couple of things to report!

IN THIS ISSUE:

- New review!
- We made it to Japan!
- *Nectar for Wasps* update!
- Apply for my Creative Team!

We've hit ten reviews!

I'm super excited to have reached my next review benchmark. Courtesy of Ashlyn T., *Stone and Flesh* now has ten reviews to its name! Thank you so much for the five-star praise, Ashlyn! The full review can be found [here on Goodreads](#).

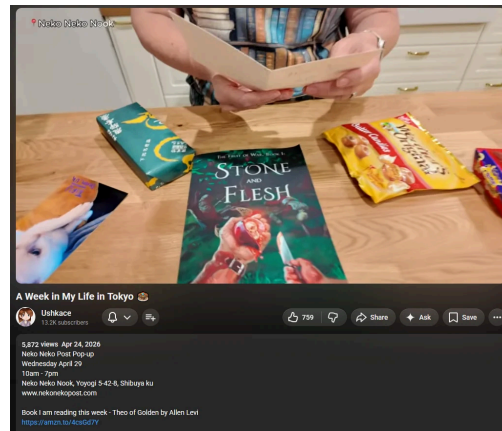
As of the time of writing, this puts *Stone and Flesh* at a 4.73/5 average rating on Goodreads, [4.63/5 on The StoryGraph](#), [4.5/5 on Pagebound](#), and [5/5 on Fable](#)!



I was hoping to hit the twenty-reviews benchmark at the end of April, and though that didn't quite work out for me, I'm hoping May will fare better. To that end, please, if you've read *Stone and Flesh* and enjoyed it, consider leaving a rating and review – even a quick "I loved this!" helps more than you know. And as always, spread the word however you can!

On the subject of reviews and spreading the word, a special shout-out to Ami for being the review cross-posting queen!

***Stone and Flesh* arrives in Japan!**



Courtesy of Natalie C., a copy of *Stone and Flesh* has made its home in Tokyo! I'm absolutely green with envy at Natalie's trip with her family, which meant my book got to visit before I did, but so thankful for her thoughtfulness.

This copy now resides at [Neko Neko Nook](#), a lovely rental property owned and managed by the lovely Ushka. You can watch her v-log that mentions it [here, around the eight-minute mark](#). I can't wait to visit in person. If like me you're interested in travel to Japan, I heartily recommend Ushka's charming videos about life there.

The joy of *Nectar for Wasps*

It's tricky at this juncture to know how to balance talking about what I'm currently working on – if you're new here, hello! I'm referring to Book 2! – with avoiding spoilers.

Stone and Flesh ends both as a complete narrative arc in its own right, but also on the first step into another, and sharing anything to do with its sequel is rife with potential spoilers for those of you still reading. With *Stone and Flesh* I was reluctant to share things like quotes, snippets, and so on and I don't see that changing for *Nectar for Wasps*, but I think come Fall – ideally when I commission its cover! – it will be safe for me to give you fuller glimpses.

At any rate, in April I added about 20,000 words to its wordcount! Will all of them last to the final draft? Possibly not. Additionally, the scope of this book has opened itself up more to me, which is both good and bad. I've had the entirety of its plot 'itemized' for a few months, albeit with the full understanding that it would likely change as I wrote, and now that I'm really getting into the meat of it, I'm worried about length. *Stone and Flesh*

was already longer than I originally intended. In order to best balance length and a solid narrative, it's possible my end-point may be sooner in that itemized plot point list than I thought! This means a possible two "Book 2s" rather than just one.

Last issue I wrote that *Stone and Flesh* is a lush meadow, that by its end you are approaching the treeline of a forest, and that *Nectar for Wasps* is when you step into that forest. I've stepped into the forest. I've spent time with four new characters (including a new villain), entered a completely new setting, and explored new Éga (magic) abilities.

Likewise, I'm weaving in threads laid down in *Stone and Flesh*, tightened the bonds between Fîeron and others, and am readying a deeper exploration of warlocks and their mysterious motives.

All in all, for as much as I was feeling the burn-out of March, writing *Nectar for Wasps* went a long way to recovering the joy I feel in crafting this story for you and I. I'm excited to get it into your hands when the time is right.

And on that note...

Now seeking Creative Team members!

I will be forever grateful for (and brag about) my ARC Team, who have been vital to my success as a debut indie author. Now I'm looking to expand my broader Creative Team for *Nectar for Wasps* and beyond!

If you're interested in working with me, see below for the three roles for which I'm seeking members. The buttons will take you to my site, where you can find out more information and apply.



Beta Team

"I want to see Tamara's new books at the early stages, before they're



ARC Team

"I want to see Tamara's new books in the run-up to publication, once



Street Team

"I love Tamara's work! I want to be part of her street team so I can help

publication-ready, and
offer private feedback and
proofreading."

they're polished, and
leave early public
reviews."

drum up excitement about
it online and offline!"

PS – *Stone and Flesh* ARC Team members, if you haven't completed your exit survey yet, please do so! Check your inboxes for an email from me on April 8th titled "*Stone and Flesh* needs your help!". Let me know whether you want to be involved again.

That's all for now!

Thank you as always for taking time out of your day to read my updates and my books. Every email opened, every link clicked, every page read makes my dream a reality. I hope to hear from you soon, whether that's replying to this email, reaching out on my social channels, or [asking me a burning question about *Stone and Flesh* on Goodreads](#).

Or, y'know, if you have a spare penecta, that works too.

Uushbaht ru'onrel – be safe as you go. With love and gratitude,

Tamara S. Harber

PS – Don't forget to click [here](#) to download your **free** copy of *The Hidden*, a prequel novella focusing on the infamous *Hidden Company* led by *Iknais*, set some eighteen years before the events of *Stone and Flesh*.

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Tamara S. Harker

hello@tamarasharker.com

www.tamarasharker.com

13625 Damon Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70816
USA



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