



## Flesh and Stone

*Vickie Taylor*

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## **Flesh and Stone** Vickie Taylor

In the dazzling novel Carved in Stone, the Gargoyles, an extraordinary ancient race of shape-shifting immortals, was introduced. Now, a woman used to protecting others finds sanctuary in the arms of a brooding guardian, who could be the man of her dreams--or her worst nightmare. Original.

## **Flesh and Stone Details**

Date : Published February 7th 2006 by Berkley

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Author : Vickie Taylor

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# From Reader Review Flesh and Stone for online ebook

## Aideeeee says

Normal que te prestan (~~obligan a leer~~) un libro y resulta que es una segunda parte. Supongo que el individuo no lo sabía.

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## Judith Galaviz says

this book was pretty good it really caught my attention I recomend it but just to warn you it has some sexual parts in it.

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## Cindyg says

This one was better than the first one. Conner and Mara work together almost from the start, at least to free the captives. What they have for each other is another story.

This book kept a good pace, had action and some tender and not so tender loving.  
Recommend it to PNR fans.

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## Mary says

I actually liked this one better than Carved in Stone. The story is different from most paranormal. I love good characterization and this book definitely has that with all of the characters.

I have to say to date Mara is one of my favorite female main characters. She works from her past and has it help her in this situation.

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## Lillie Roberts says

Mara has had a hard life, nearly raped at 17, she kills her would be rapist. But, she's just a girl from the wrong side of the tracks and the judge doesn't see it that way. She's incarcerated, locked up for protecting herself. After eight years of incarceration and time to think of what's important, she runs a women's shelter, helping others. Until Angela, her one true friend disappears. Mara follows the breadcrumbs and meets the same foul end, kidnapped for whatever reason, she has no idea what's going on.

Connor Rihyad has been sent on a mission. Someone has tried to steal Chicago's Gargouillen children, this cannot happen, the children are the Gargoyle congregation's life blood. Minnesota is where he has been led. The Brethren there aren't willing to protect humanity, they want to use it, abuse it, murder it if they have to. Just to gain entrance, he'll have to do the unimaginable, kill another Gargoyle and just not any Gargoyle, but an old friend and sometime rival, Nathan.

But an ancient evil exists in coldness of Minnesota, and it's haunting the Chicago Gargoyles. Rachel and Teryn can sense it and soon it will be coming for them all.

Flesh and Stone, Book Two of the Gargouillen Series by Vickie Taylor is the continuing story of the Gargouillen from Carved in Stone. Connor Rihyad is Nathan's rival in Carved in Stone. When Nathan is excommunicated, it's Connor that takes his place. When Nathan is returned to the congregation, there's no room at the top for two leaders, so Connor accepts the mission to Minnesota to see what has gone wrong and why. The Gargoyles from Minnesota are like nothing Connor has seen before. They're not interested in protecting humanity, but raising an army, an army of Gargouillen. But why are these Gargouillen so different from all of his past memories? What has changed to cause them to no longer hold with the values of old? And what's worse, a dark evil is echoing through his body that can be felt all the way back to his roots in Chicago. Rachel, our heroine from Carved in Stone, has been searching for her long lost brother for years with no success until Teryn helps her focus her abilities, but the dark evil again seeps into the visions. Mara, our heroine, tries to help Connor in his quest to find out what has gone so terribly wrong in Minnesota. She's tough as nail and she's trying to keep herself and the group of women detained with her alive. While searching for her friend Angela, she and her group were kidnapped and sent to the despicable miscreants living in Minnesota. Her friend, Angela, disappeared after applying for a job. And the same thing has now happened to her. Living with men more animal than human, she bides her time all the while, hoping for news of Angela. When Connor enters the scene, he'll either be her savior and her ultimate downfall, only time will tell.

When I first met Connor Rihyad in Carved in Stone, I wasn't sure I was going to like him. He's unwilling to change with the times, he wants the Gargouillen to remain the same as they have been for centuries. But, this is a different time, a different place than he has ever existed in before. The times have change and the Gargoyles need to change with it or die out. It's hard won knowledge for our alpha hero, Connor has to grow. When Mara enters his life, his beast comes to life, begging him to take what he wants, daring him to give what she needs.

Flesh and Stone is an exciting conclusion to the story which began in Carved in Stone, without spoilers ruining the tale, I can't say much more. The story continues with Levi's story yet to come in Legacy of Stone, the long awaited third book in the Les Gargouillen Series. Flesh and Stone was very quick read for me. It was begging to be read after Carved in Stone. Connor's story was waiting to unfold and I needed to see how he had changed or if he could change. Again, I wasn't disappointed. Another fun read from Vickie Taylor, an excellent addition to the Urban Fantasy/Paranormal Romance genre.

I picked up this book for my own pleasure (Anna from Anna's Book Blog sent me this one as well). All opinions I expressed are my own.

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## **Paranormal Romance says**

The hero is willing to surrender himself to darkness in order to infiltrate the rogue group of his kind- well, he'll at least pretend to surrender. He had to fake the murder of his friend to gain access and now that he's in, he's got to appear like he's on board with the bad stuff these people are doing. Including kidnapping, enslaving and raping women for the purpose of begetting an heir on them and securing their reincarnation. But the hero refuses to do this. Instead, he claims for his own one very strong and very beautiful woman. The heroine herself is a spy. Infiltrating this bunch of nut jobs was easy but getting out is going to be a bitch, especially with 8 other pregnant women. When the newcomer sets his sights on her, at first she is horrified

by the prospect of warming his bed. Then furious over the injustice. But when she realizes he is in fact a good man, she willingly becomes his partner in crime. Together, under the guise of sexual late night meetings begin to plot and scheme their plan to save these women and bring down the organization on a whole. They may start their relationship as pretend lovers but that doesn't stop the real and intense chemistry that does in fact exist between them. The hero is very protective of her and with the childhood she had growing up, she's not used to others caring for her. He comes to mean a great deal to her in a very short period of time not just because he is her ticket out of this mess but also because he's become dear to her heart. Their plans for escape are cut short when the whole household is summoned to the main hideout where the hero is to be introduced to the leader- finally. It's there that the heroine is introduced to a whole farm of pregnant women, in the same predicament as herself. She's startled and unnerved by the discovery of her own pregnancy because the hero made it clear his people do not accept females into their group. The female child and the mother will be left alone while the male is taken and raised as Gargoyle. No matter how badly she wants the hero and no matter how indecisive he is between his peoples customs and his own love for the heroine, it seems they are destined to part.

I've got to say, I quite liked this book. Once again this is a series that I don't recall much of from the first read but I found this book enjoyable and unique enough to capture my attention. The cultish setting, the mythology of Gargoyles and the characters intense and immediate bonding all came together to create a book that was memorable. From the start, the hero and heroine became a very trusting and dedicated pair. They worked together well and hardly disagreed other than the hero not wanting the heroine to put herself in dangerous situations. The chemistry was great and the hero was super sweet to the heroine when she didn't know a lot of tenderness growing up. He walked a fine line between his mission and rebellion. He disagreed with things his group was doing so at times it made him capable of faking his dedication to the rebels. He was a convincing liar and could plan his way around issues with a good deal of confidence. The heroine was a strong woman who sacrificed herself for her friend. She became a slave to save this other woman but in the process, became a source of strength for all the others who have been enslaved with her. She could rally the troops and project a confident self when needed while being able to play shy little slave when required. I really really liked these characters and their easy and comfortable relationship. Perhaps a bit too easy? I couldn't rate it a 5 star because sometimes the plot and scenes were a bit slow or rushed depending on the topic and I wanted the ending to be a bit more drawn out. That was when the hero had to decide whether to uphold tradition and let his woman go or fight for his love. I wanted more from that that I got. Still a good book though.

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### **Andrea says**

I loved it, it was the first book I'd read about Gargoyles and I'm looking forward to all the books in this series!

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### **Janet Robel says**

Another enjoyable entry into the world of gargoyles. This is a very good series and loved having the recurring characters from the previous book be a part of it. Connor and Mara's book is so much fun.

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## **Anita says**

Book 2 of a trilogy

I'm completely shocked that this book turned out to be good. I put off reading it because a gargoyle love story seemed too silly an idea; I couldn't imagine anything good coming of it. Fortunately, the author is a lot more creative than I, and she did a very good job crafting a story that is interesting with exceptional character development.

The premise of this trilogy is that gargoyles are similar to weres - humans that change into fantastic creatures at will. A magically spell initially created them over a thousand years ago and gave them the mission to protect people, which they now interpret to mean killing human psychos. (The stone gargoyles on buildings were based on the living gargoyles as a token of reverence back in the day.) Only males inherit the ability to change, but they can do so from a very early age, so the men have formed small congregations where they raise their sons and teach them to manage the beast inside. Unfortunately, this requires taking sons away from mothers, who the men are certain would not understand children sprouting horns. Any gargoyle who produces at least one son is later reincarnated, so many of the gargoyles have memories dating back hundreds of years.

In this book, Conner infiltrates the group of corrupt gargoyles who burned down his congregation's headquarters and tried to kidnap children. The Minnesota-based nutjobs have set up a kidnapping ring where they kidnap single women who won't be missed, then rape them until they conceive, then keep the babies. They are trying to build an army of evil gargoyles. While taking the operation down, Conner falls in love with Myra, a spunky woman who wants to take them down to save her best friend.

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## **Jodz says**

I really enjoyed this book. As a devoted reader to paranormal romance it was good to read something a little different to the rest!

Who knew gargoyles could be as delicious as hunky vampires =)!

Mara the main female character is a little different to the general female in distress...she is strong willed, bold and daring - She is definitely one of my fav characters!

only 3 stars because while i really did enjoy this book it was a once only read, i don't see myself reading it again...

It's one of those books you have to read just the once and that's enough (To me anyway)

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## **sunsetsylvia says**

Solid quality paranormal romance.

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### **TINNGG says**

This series is just interesting enough to make you want to follow it, but not to make you wanna keep for future rereads.

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### **Cindy Roa says**

Un libro divertidísimo, que solo hasta que lo abrí en Goodreads descubrí que era una segunda parte, pero por fortuna para mí, la novela en sí no necesita de haber leído el libro 1 para entender la trama, en ningún momento me sentí perdida, por el contrario, me topé con un balance genial entre literatura erótica y fantástica, con personajes bastante interesantes y una propuesta mitológica sólida, que explica el porqué de las gárgolas y sus poderes ¡nada mal nada mal!

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### **Laura B says**

I didn't think that I would like this book, because I didn't really like Conner in the first book. But it was just as good as the other books!

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### **Laura Brzeski says**

Enjoy the whole idea of gargoyes. Good plot. Summer Reading pick

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