



Ties That Bind

Pippa DaCosta

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I am fire. I am destruction. I will be their nightmare.

The veil fell. Demons are here. Muse knows she can stop the slaughter, but to do so, she must return to the battle-scarred streets of Boston and face the cold, hard, truth. Her old life is ashes. Her love, turned to dust. But all is not lost; a spark of hope remains. A spark from which an inferno can blaze.

To stop the demons claiming Earth as their own, Muse must unite those capable of repairing the veil. The Dark Court, led by her Prince of Lust father, seek to recruit her to their cause. They want the veil destroyed for good; for chaos to reign for eternity. She will need to manoeuvre around their deadly intentions, and enlist the King of Hell's help, before it's too late.

For Muse to succeed, she must survive her father, save her soul, resurrect her love, forgive her enemies, and betray a trust. She must be everything she can be—demon and human. She must be their nightmare.

Ties That Bind Details

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Author : Pippa DaCosta

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From Reader Review Ties That Bind for online ebook

Gavin says

I'm not entirely sure how I feel about this final book in The Veil series. I found the story engaging and exciting, but was also a bit unhappy with some of the happenings! That is actually how I've felt about almost all the books in this series. It is rare that I find myself so engaged by a tale where the main characters manage to infuriate me so much.

There was plenty happening in this final book in the series. The Veil has finally fallen and demons are bleeding over onto the streets of Boston. As well as finding a way to restore the Veil Muse finally has to deal with her evil demon father. I was happy enough with the story, but not happy at all by the way some of it concluded.

I did like the way a bunch of story arcs concluded.

-The Akil/Muse/Stefan love triangle - I was surprised by how well this played out. I still wish Muse had ended up with the other guy, but I was satisfied with how well this worked out for everyone.

-Muse's battle with her father - I was happy with the way this concluded. He proved a worthy villain for the final book.

-Muse and the Institute - Muse had plenty of battles with Adam and the Institute over the course of the series so I was surprised by how happy I was by the way things ended in this story arc.

-The Demon Invasion - I liked how this concluded even if I hated the methods!

-Adam - They guy had it rough in this one, but got to show a few more facet of his personality.

-The Prince of Pride - What an awesome addition to the cast this guy proved to be.

There was also a few happenings that I really hated!

-Dawn - This is the second time I've been left aghast and disgusted by how she was treated in this series. I'm especially disappointed by the choices Muse made regarding her overall fate.

-The Epilogue - This actually only resulted in leaving me a bit unhappy with Akil!

All in all I did enjoy this despite some of the happenings driving me nuts. The series was a bit bleak at times, but did mix in a bit of humor and the story was definitely engaging.

Rating: 3.5 stars.

Audio Note: Hollie Jackson did a good job with the audio narration.

★Moonrise Books says

5 STARS!

This final installment in the Veil series is action packed, and takes us on a journey through Boston and the netherworld, where Muse faces one of the most challenging battles in the series. As a half-demon, her life has been most unconventional. And now things are really starting to heat up! Still discovering her true nature, and where she fits in between worlds, Muse is reunited with the beloved (yet formidable) half-demon, Stefan. And we finally discover the great mystery behind the Prince of Greed, Akil -- many surprises in store!

"I am the same man you loved to hate.' He stood still, like the demon he was."

I was thoroughly impressed with the way the story came together. It was bittersweet, no stone was left unturned, and it felt like the entire series led up to this point. Where some series fall short in the conclusion, Ties That Bind was refreshingly complete. And although it was sad to see the series end, it felt like it couldn't go any other way. I laughed, I cried, and I read all through the night.

So, does Muse finally achieve the freedom that has eluded her her entire life? All I can say is there are heart wrenching moments, plenty of surprises, and some sighs of relief... some. And after I finished reading, I thought about all the moments in earlier installments that suddenly made perfect sense.

"Forget your emotions. I think you'll find it liberating."

Urban fantasy fans will love this exciting and original tale. The high quality writing, well placed plot, and fully developed characters combine to make each story in this series spellbinding and engaging. A must read!

Note: This book was provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.

To read more, visit: <http://www.moonrisebookblog.com/2015/...>

Robin (Bridge Four) says

Full review later when I'm less emotional.

How I feel about Akil

How I feel about Stefan

This was never going to go well for me.

I'm going to give Pippa huge props for doing things a little different, a little dark and twisting up my emotions into a raging mess. I want to say I loved the ending but I'm still pouting a little so at this moment in

time I can't. But, I respect where she took the story and I will say that I cried for a Demon and maybe a little girl too.

I was so emotional at the end of this that I had to make up an idea for a new book series for Akil just so I could fall asleep. This doesn't happen to me very often (the last time was after I finished Crooked Kingdom) so huge props to Pippa for making me care so much.

DO NOT READ UNLESS YOU HAVE FINISHED THE BOOK

(view spoiler)

pre review

Shhh....I'm supposed to wait until tomorrow to read this with the BB&B UF group. But alas I can't....wait....one....second....longer.

Choko says

***** 4.44 *****

A buddy read with the ladies at the MacHalos! We are always ready for some demons!

Holy one winged demon f@#k!!! Well, the way the series was going, we should have been prepared for a hard and bloody ending... But you can never truly prepare for the way Ms. DeCosta chooses to deal with her characters and you can never count on her going about things the easy way. Nope. It has to be tough, we have to lose folks we love or love to hate, and we have to get our emotional roller-coaster on! The lady has no mercy and I think she might be a representative of the half demon secret society herself... She makes a good argument for their existence, she wants them to share our space on this planet, she probably wrote this as a promotion campaign to prepare us for the time they come out of hiding, so we could greet them with open hearts and hope they protect us from the real demon assholes... Yep, it sounds like a good preemptive grassroots movement in order to secure their self-preservation... I see what you are doing, Ms. DeCosta and I am going to follow this covert invasion very doggedly and hold you personally responsible when some misguided demon accidentally catches my house on fire. It would most probably happen when I try to bake something... Yes, and the fire will somehow start in the kitchen, or more precisely the stove, i am sure of it!!!

Note for my Monday to do list - check if we can insure the house against demon invasion...

But what am I saying - no demon invasion would ever succeed when we have the Institute, Muse, Stephan, and Akiel on the job - those hardened protectors of humanity can never go wrong!!! All of them are paragons of virtue and one can always count on their honesty and always doing the right thing!!! What? Did I read this wrong? Deceivers, you say? Backstabbers?? Chaos inducers??? NOOOO!!! But I thought that they are are only hope!!! So we have to send R2D2 to fetch Obi-Wan "Ben" Kenobi again? One of those has to be our hope, our one and only, last hope.... *dramatically faints*

"...“We are their gods, their angels, their devils, and their dreams. We could rule them.”...”

Seriously, the world is in peril. Ask the people in Boston - they are getting the brunt of all this Demon invasion and the Veil has fallen, and the minor demons are stomping about looking for food and shelter, and the big wigs are burning everything... It is horrifying!!! Some of the Princes are hot, but they are also literally HOT, like burn you up if you touch them hot, and what is the point of them being so good looking then, if you can't take advantage of the situation, kind of like the last hurrah before the end of the worlds as we know it and all... I wish I had some of that sex magic Muse and her family seem to have in spades, maybe then... No, no, best stay away from the gorgeous demons if you don't have life insurance for your family to fall back on after you indulge in such fancies...

Obviously I am just babbling, but you guys did not expect me to actually tell you what happens in the last book of the series, do you??? Hahaha! That is funny - I will torture you by just saying, it was GOOOOOOODDDDD!!! Go read it! Ans start form the first book in order - it is five books you would totally thank me for reading!!! Pippa D. does not let you down!

I wish you all Happy Reading and please make sure you take precautions for the "invasion", just in case!:(:):)

Heather the Queen of (Smut)Books says

THIS.SERIES.IS.FUCKING.EPIC!!!

It's not often you find those books that grab you and take you for a ride. But when you do, you bend over, grab your ankles and ask for more. And say please. It gave me all the feels and hit all my buttons. I cried, I cursed, I scoffed (I sure did), I applauded, I snickered, I bitched and moaned, and the sexual frustration, grrrrrrrr! I really felt this book. I feel emotionally wrung out. The characterization, the world building, the plot, the dialogue.....absolute fucking chaos and I loved every minute of it. I mean what you did there at the end.....what kind of fuckery was THAT shit?!? I don't know what to do now, I don't think anything I can read will measure up. With a name like Pippa you expect fluffy, gushy, lovey dovey, CRAP. Yeah, whats that saying about assumptions? Fuck Bieber fever. I have Dacosta....errrrrr so I'm not clever but you get my point. You are brilliant and I am girl crushing. I love how your mind works.

But come on couldn't we have had some freaking nooky...especially right there. It was so close. Geez.

Jen Davis says

I've got to say, so much has happened over the course of this series –so much build-up in so many storylines– I wondered how Pippa DaCosta was going to pull it all together with a satisfying ending. But somehow, she did it. At least, it satisfied me. Folks who really hoped for a different HEA may be unhappy, which is always the risk when your story has a love triangle. But for readers like me, who were conflicted, the resolution felt a little bittersweet, but... right.

The conclusion of book four really set everything up for the beginning of the end of the series. If you're not up to date on the series, stop here. I don't want to spoil book 4 for you. Go back and start this series from the beginning and do it spoiler free. The twists are part of the magic. — Anyway, Akil is dead. Stefan is missing. And it's finally time for Muse to face off with her father. It's been coming for a long time. Now, Asmodeus is ready to move in to claim his half-blood daughter and Muse has no choice but to face the challenge head-on.

This book tackles every lingering thread. The demon princes. The King and Queen of Hell. Adam. Stefan. His mother. Dawn. Ryder. Everyone. Everything. And what I appreciated about how DaCosta did it, was there were no bait and switches here. All the previous books made us question who these characters really were. As the series draws to a close, I feel I know the answer. And it makes sense.

Muse has come so far. Seeing the fragile thing she was at the beginning of the series, I was convinced she would grow into something powerful. And boy, did she. She burned the world, just like I'd hoped — but she did it while still staying true to herself. The Dawn storyline, in particular, really showed us that the Muse of book 1 is still inside her. It's her dual nature that makes her such a powerful heroine and a character so easy to root for. But as strong of a character as she is, the secondary characters add such richness to the story. The love interests, of course, captivated me with their mysteries and glimpses of their raw emotions. But even lower tier character like Jerry and the Prince of Pride kept me glued to the page.

Simply put, this is good storytelling. It made me feel. It kept me engaged. If you try book 1 and it doesn't wow you, at least give the series through the second installment to get you hooked. I'm so glad I kept reading. I burned through this series like a wildfire, but it was a captivating ride while it lasted. Would recommend to fans of urban fantasy.

Rating: B+

Naomi 🐨 says

Loved this series from beginning to end ♥?

Lanie (Lanies Book Thoughts) says

Normally, I would say something about each character and their development but with this one , I just can't. I don't want to give anything away to those who follow this series or wanna jump into it. What I am gonna tell you though is these characters are completely different. Throw away any preconceptions about what's going to happen. because you will be wrong.

I've actually been lucky enough to join and follow along on this journey from start to finish with Pippa DaCosta. I read about Muse when she first came to light, as she trudged through the darkness and demon infested worlds to come through on the other side as this unique individual who holds two very different monsters in her heart. It's been exciting, exhausting and a nail biting time for me as this series progressed.

"Ties That Bind" was just an insane read. It was brutal, beautiful and bold. I feel like DaCosta is a total tease when she writes books because she gets you to this point where you're sure your favorite character is safe, and then BAM! She creates an explosion which emotionally destroys you for a few days. This is probably why this book was so fantastic yet devastating at the same time. I loved the story, there was so many twisted elements going on that saying farewell to Muse seemed impossible, however at the end I felt like I could let go without regrets. I was satisfied this is where the story ended, however the tidbit at the end gives me hope eventually someone else in this story may get their own series.

As I've said before, this is a must read Urban Fantasy that easily stands apart from others in this genre. Call me bias if you want, but I love this series and recommend it to anyone interested in taking a walk on the darker side of paranormal. I really don't think you gonna find another heroine that'll grip your heart like Muse does while tugging you along on her adventures, at least I haven't.

18+ This is for more adult readers with sexual themes and violence.

XX Sarah XX (former Nefarious Breeder of Murderous Crustaceans) says

? **This is IT, the Last Instalment and My Mission Here is Done the Pippa Cult Now Boasts a Few New Members Muahahahaha Muahahahaha Muahahahaha MacHaloistic Buddy Reread**
(TiItLIaMMHiDtPCNBaFNMMMMMMBR™) ?

Previous rating: 5 stars.

New rating: 10 stars.

► **And the moral of this reread is:** boom. I'm dead.

Bloody shrimping hell. How did I survive reading this book the first time around? I barely made it through this reread, even though I knew what to expect. **Damn.** You are one hell of an evil woman, you evil Pippa you. You slightly **squished** the tiny little heart that I don't have, somewhat **chopped** into tiny little pieces, and then lightly **stomped** on it for good measure (with much glee and elation, I'm sure). It was **pure, orgasmic bliss.** So thank you and stuff. I shall be eternally full of grate. And shall dutifully pursue my mission to **unleash this series and your general greatness upon the world.** Watch out, innocent bystanders barnacles, here I come. You thought I was fangirling before? Believe me, my Tiny Arthropods, **you ain't seen nuthin' yet.**

🔪 **Prequel:** Wings of Hope ★★★★★

🔪 **Book 1:** Beyond the Veil ★★★★★

- ✂ **Book 2:** Devil May Care ★★★★★
- ✂ **Book 3:** Darkest before Dawn ★★★★★
- ✂ **Book 4:** Drowning in the Dark ★★★★★
- ✂ **Short story & bonus scenes:** One For Sorrow ★★★★★

Original review (April 2015):

Disclaimer: this will not be an actual review for this book so much as a declaration of my love for the greatness that is The Veil. You have been warned. And no, there will not be silly fangirling involved. Because this series is beyond that. And yes, I will probably be repeating here what I already said in my reviews for previous instalments in this series. Deal with it.

I can review this book. Sure. No problem. At all. I can do this. Absolutely. **Oh I'm such a crappy liar.** There's no way I can do this. How am I even expected to do this? This is just **too awesome for words**. Okay, I'll try. This book deserves it. This series deserves it. And Pippa DaCosta certainly deserves it for creating **such an amazing world**.

“I am fire. I am destruction. I will be their nightmare.”

This is it. The end. The last one. **Muse is gone.**

There is no way I can tell you what this book is about. There are too many things going on in the series at this point. The story is too complex. And I wouldn't be able to do the book justice anyway. Because it's all about emotions. **You don't read The Veil. You feel it.** Believe me when I tell you you've never experienced anything like this before. I certainly haven't. That's why it's so hard to let Muse go. Reading The Veil made me feel alive in a way no other book ever did. **Pippa DaCosta, you're a magician.**

“I was the Mother of Destruction. I was every demon's nightmare. I had the Prince of Greed wrapped around my heart **and a lifetime of emotional fallout** to shore up my conviction. My father would not beat me. No demon would beat me down ever again. **I was fire, and I was hungry”.**

Muse: one of the greatest characters ever created. Half-human. **Half-demon. Mother of Destruction.** Daughter of Lust. Emotional wreck. She's seen too much. **She's been through too much. She's lost too much.** Over and over again. Now she's on a mission to **destroy them all.**

“Bring it on, netherworld. You wanna fuck with me? Here I am.”

Do not, under any circumstance, trust Pippa DaCosta: this goes beyond expecting the unexpected. DaCosta is clearly insane. **She has no mercy. On her characters. On her readers.** Nothing is ever what it seems. Everything can and will be undone. Or not. It's no use trying to figure out what could happen next. **DaCosta will get you. Every. Single. Time.**

The emotional roller coaster. Rage, despair, love, hate, vengeance, lust, sadness, joy, excitement, madness, violence, obsession, peace, heartbreak, sacrifice, loss, happiness, betrayal. **And hope.** Expect to be emotionally exhausted by the time you finish reading **any instalment in this series.**

Ties that Bind is the amazing conclusion to **one of the most amazing UF series ever written:**

- ✓ **Truly original** world building.
- ✓ **Fantastic writing.** Make that **mesmerising** when it comes to the netherworld.
- ✓ **Amazing characters.** Damn I'm going to miss you all so much. **This is heartbreaking.**

This was The Veil. Read it.

ARC kindly provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.

Feminista says

What an unsatisfactory end to what could have been a great story.

By this stage, I was skim reading because there was a lot of thinking going on that got no where. The protagonist was so confused. I could have handled that if it was just that. But she kept on getting betrayed by the same people and not doing anything about it. How many times had she said she was finished with Adam. She never did. She was so stupid. I mean learn from your mistakes.

I mean that guy was torturing children. In the third book, she was too busy running around with her two love interests to even summon the interest to go find those kids. She happens upon them because Akhil is imprisoned. She basically just goes along with what is in front of her. She refuses to take control. I mean with those kids, she was a kid once who was imprisoned and tortured, how could she stand by and let such injustice go unpunished.

Sarah says

You know that feeling when you love a book so much you can't get your thoughts organised enough to write a proper review? Well, that's the problem I'm having with **Ties That Bind** so you're just going to have to forgive me. I fell in love with **Pippa DaCosta's** Veil series when I read the prequel novella and that love has only grown with each and every instalment. The series really does have it all: fantastic complex and three dimensional characters, jaw dropping action and a plot that is full of more twists than a bowl full of noodles. You honestly never know what you're going to get and I love that about it.

Ties That Bind is completely packed with action, so much so that I devoured it in one sitting. Muse will be

forced to betray someone she loves while she protects one of her enemies, she'll have to face off against her father and the remaining princes, she'll meet an exciting new character (please oh please someone tell me that Li'el is going to be the star of the spin off series because I'm already half in love with him!) but never be quite sure which side he is on and she'll finally have to pick where her future lies - with demon Akil or half-demon Stefan.

This series doesn't shy away from the dark, in fact it welcomes it in with open arms. Muse has been through so much and it's changed the way she sees things but she has never lost hope that the world can be saved. She may think she doesn't deserve her own happily ever after but she is determined to put a stop to the princes and to close the veil so humanity can be saved. She's the kind of character you root for from the beginning, she's strong, smart and completely badass and I love her for it. I've also enjoyed seeing the pull the two men in her life have on her, don't panic and think this is another of those series with a terrible love triangle because it really isn't but both Stefan and Akil have a piece of her heart and it hurts to see her have to choose between them.

I don't really know what else to say about this book other than to say how gutted I am that the series has come to an end. I'm excited that there will be a spin off but I'm going to miss Muse and her crew so I'm hoping we'll at least see a few cameo appearances. Either way I'm looking forward to spending more time in this world, I'm sure there is a lot more story for **Pippa DaCosta** to tell and if it's half as good as this series then it's going to be awesome. If you haven't started this series yet then I honestly don't know what the hell you're waiting for - it's one of the best new urban fantasy series I've discovered in a long time & I think everyone should read it!

Cathryn says

I'm very mad at this book but I still enjoyed it if that makes any sense.

Jeanny says

Well, to those that know me on a more personal level it comes as no surprise I am a massive fan of this series (hell I begged you guys to pick it up & for the record BOO-YA) & so I became a stalker. Waiting & watching (I'd like to say patiently but that be a blatant lie) for its release. I was happy to see a cover reveal & release date, emails rapidly followed between my GR friend Marianne who told me Pippa was offering arcs to fans. I was so excited I emailed Pippa asking really begging for a copy of the arc. I kept all fingers crossed & had faith I'd receive an arc & not arthritis. Mad giggles consumed me when she replied I was on "the list" & she'd extend a copy to me. Shortly after I received the arc in my inbox & about passed out due to excitement. I swear Hallelujah (oddly enough it was Shrek's version) was singing in the background as I jumped up & down refreshing my inbox to be sure I wasn't hallucinating. I'm officially a believer (in Pippa). All that to say this arc was provided to me by the (amazingly talented & equally generous) author (I didn't even need to give her my first born!) but really it doesn't matter I'd have purchased it regardless bc read sentence one above I am a stalker I mean fan. *Grin

So now that we've established Pippa is awesome imho to her fans & the necessary disclaimer has been included let's move on to the recap & review portion of this shall we.

Recap: The thin veil that separated Earth from the Netherworld has faltered & all but permanently failed. Demons have successfully encroached on the human world & have declared war on Boston soil. The human Adam (imho the evilest "bad guy" in the lot) has obtained the child Dawn & successfully used her to "unmake" several demons including The Prince of Greed Mammon/Akil who steps in front of Muse to protect her from Dawn's vengeance (if I'm not mistaken) & possibly The Prince of Wrath/Stefan. Muse the Mother of Destruction felt heart wrenching pain at the demise of her Prince & unleashed massive destruction upon Boston. Adam successfully retreats with Dawn & Muse is carried away by friends. The devastation is horrid & Muse needs to regroup emotionally & physically.

The Plot: Muse agrees to return to Boston & continue making progress towards her ultimate goal of repairing the veil & keeping the separation between humans & demons secure. Early into the plot she developed a new & equally important goal the resurrection of Akil. She decides she requires demon assistance/knowledge to do so. However, she's not the only "heavy weight" with goals (some similar some completely at odds with hers). Although Adam, The Institute, & The King of Hell Baal are working towards the same goal of securing the veil thier plan of attack may not be one Muse can get behind. Muse's father The Prince of Lust (not trying to spell that name i'd easily fail) is obsessive about his need to acquire his daughter The Mother of Destruction & add her to his arsenal. He's determined to dispose of the veil altogether, permanently inhabit Earth, enslave the human race, & dethrone the King of Hell Baal. Seems everyone has some hefty goal eh? So what now? Well, as us disposable minuscule unimportant humans are well aware of not all goals come to fruition. To know who is manacled, disposed of, sacrificed, is a victim of subterfuge, was manipulation, caused the manipulation, was victimized, lusted after, betrayed, & over all successful you have to read the book.

My thoughts: This is amazing urban fantasy with a fantastic overall arc. The character development in this series was absolutely sublime. The action was well written & served to move the plot forward. The wrap up was almost all consuming so no lose threads with one exception. I read so often I unfortunately have a tendency to guess the motivations of the characters & resolutions in the story prior to the end of a book. Infact trying to unravel the threads & determine the mystery or solution prior to each books ending is half the fun. My friend finds it truly amusing 70% into this book I was so (happily) exasperated I both tweeted Pippa & commented on my progress/updates "This book is riddled with convoluted plots, subterfuge, & manipulation. High five Pippa" ,
Overall a satisfying read.

Do I recommend it? I do however, I recommend you read the series in order starting with Beyond The Veil (The Veil Series, #1). As an added bonus it is available in audible & is currently free on (Amazon) Kindle.

Rating: I rate this a 4.5 star book. * -.5 only bc my hero did not win the girl* I'm of the opinion (& have always been of the opinion) the guy who won the girl had a shallow relationship with the girl. The reasons given for why the winner was by far the better choice wasn't substantial & could have easily been resolved. Wasn't the question of "longevity" brought up while speaking of the Queen & explained away as something easily resolved by joining with the King resulting in near immortality? In the end though self-sacrifice is a human emotion as is regret & the epilogue was proof the decision made for Muse by someone other than Muse was one said decision maker was fiercely regretting. I'm being obtuse on purpose to prevent from giving away anything spoiler-y.

Hopes: As I end this series & say good bye to Muse I can't help it's not the end. Mayhap Pippa will take pity on us & writes a book from Akil's POV. I'm sure i'm not the only one that finds him both mind boggling & brilliant resulting in one fascinating demon. I'm sure we fans would benefit from MORE from the Prince of Greed.

I look forward to following along with Li'el as he revisits L.A.

As a treat I'll leave you with five of my fave quotes.

“Child, you are perhaps thirty-something human-years old, and already, you know everything. How wonderful for you.”

“Sexy guy, sexy suit, the smooth tongue, the lies. Mix it all together. Voila.”

“I’m fine. I survived my owner, survived the netherworld, survived going nuclear. If the whole goddamn world ends, I’ll survive like a cockroach. It’s the only damn thing I’m good at, so quit with the sad eyes.”

"Fail me, and I'll use your ashes for seasoning."

"Come back, you lying bastard. Come back, and face me. Good or bad, truth or lies, come back and answer to me, Prince of Greed, of Lies, Mammon, death does not absolve you."

Maria Dimitrova says

Buddy read with the Wednesday UF Group of BB&B. Because we all love Akil!

When I first read this book I was overwhelmed. All that happened, all the emotions, they just shut my brain off and I never really processed it all. I knew I loved it and that was pretty much it. During this reread I realised how many details I've forgotten or even completely skipped the first time around!

As most of my fellow buddy readers I was team Akil throughout the series not only because he is hotter but because I genuinely believe that he cares more for Muse than Stefan ever could. His actions at the end proved that and (view spoiler) is one of the reasons why reading this is as painful as it's sweet.

When I first read the series I could buy into the Muse/Stefan ship. And even now I understand why she wants to be in love with him - the only one that promises a chance at humanity. But as the series progressed and I could take a step back and savour the story (the first time was a bit rushed) it became painfully obvious that the depth of feeling she has for the Winter King pales next to her feelings for the Prince of Greed.

I love Muse but there are times when I want to smack her. She puts too much stock in her humanity when sometimes her demon has a much better perspective. And as we all saw with this humanity has it's own monsters. They just don't have fangs and don't spew hellfire. Speaking of monsters of the human variety I have to mention Adam who makes me feel ashamed of sharing a species with. Kudos to Ms. DaCosta for writing so convincingly that she made us hate one of the technically good guys. So when Yuki Ona (view spoiler) I was cheering her on! You know something must be really broken in a man that a demon is the better parent.

And while we're on the theme of demon parenting I have to say that Muse has the worst luck ever. If you thought that Val was a sick bastard, Asmodeus is worse. That psycho gives me the creeps and makes me really glad this world is a fictional one. Damien was a monster but in a more conventional way. It was easier to understand him than the Prince of Lust.

One of my favourite characters showed up for the first time here. And since he plays a major role in the sequel of this series Chaos Rises I feel I must at least mention the Prince of Pride. Some of the best scenes in this book featured him and he is the most human of the Princes. Li'el is a charming snake and oh so delicious. So if you liked this series give the sequel a try. I promise, if nothing else Li'el will make it worth it.

Before I finish I want to take the time and thank my fellow buddy readers for another wonderful experience and the chance to better process the events of the series as a whole thanks to our wonderful discussions. I love you all!

Original review:

Buddy read (sort of) with the MacHalos. I forgot to comment on the thread. Again.

An explosive end to one of the best series I have read. Like ever! There isn't that much that can be said about the book. You just have to read it to understand. In the end you just want to plunge back into this world and never, ever leave. It sets its hooks into your heart. And it gives you one hell of a high! My poor heart almost didn't make it through this with all that adrenaline pumping in my system. I shed a few tears for all the pain and misery Muse and company had to go through. I laughed and screamed and generally made people around me doubt my sanity. It's that kind of book. And while it was a perfect ending to this incredible series I can't help but feel disappointed that there won't be more Muse books. Because I'm greedy, just like a certain Prince of Hell ;)

Pippa DaCosta says

Ties That Bind is the last book in the epic Veil Series, and holy-smokin'-demons, it's been one hell-of-a-ride.

We've witnessed Muse, Akil, and Stefan kill to protect those they hold dear:

We've seen them lose their minds:

Try and burn the world:

Try and freeze the world:

Find love:

Lose love:

Discover Muse might just be the only half-demon woman capable of stopping this:

And now, in Ties That Bind, we witness how it ends.

Steel yourselves, folks. The netherworld doesn't take prisoners.
