



# Twenty One

*E.S. Carter*

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## **Twenty One** E.S. Carter

Fate kept placing Emma Campbell and Jake Fox in each others paths.

Fate also kept putting overwhelming obstacles in their way.

What fate didn't realise is that Jake and Emma share a connection that is stronger than circumstance.

An intense bond that threatens everything they thought they knew about themselves, one that is only made stronger by a perfect day.

A perfect day where they both surrendered to the force of their feelings for one another.

A perfect day that ended in darkness and tragedy.

Jake is missing.

Emma is lost.

Lost in grief; lost in hopelessness.

Will fate finally grant them a chance to be together or will it tear them apart?

This is the second part in the "Love by Numbers" series and is a continuation of the story that began in "Nineteen".

It is not to be read as a standalone.

\*Suitable for readers 18+ due to scenes of a sexual nature\*

## **Twenty One Details**

Date : Published July 2015 by E.S.Carter

ISBN :

Author : E.S. Carter

Format : ebook

Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance

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# From Reader Review Twenty One for online ebook

## Selena Robins says

TWENTY-ONE picks up where the previous book in the series (NINETEEN) left off. I recommend you read NINETEEN before reading this novel.

As with NINETEEN, E.S. Carter blends the alternating point of view from the heroine to the hero, adding a unique flavor to her storytelling.

Jake and Emma's journey picked up momentum immediately; never wavering in its intensity, and especially in their passion for each other. Every love story has its conflicts, and challenges, and Emma and Jake have had more than their fair share. It is in their point of view where we understand their fears and joys, and it is in the well-written love scenes where we understand their deep passion for their own goals and for each other.

With a solid plot-line, the characters are taken in a direction you hoped they'd be taken in after the trials, tragedies, and emotional roller coaster they endured in the first book. Where some challenges ended for them in the first book, they are again faced with disloyal family member, people from their past, and hurtful tribulations that threaten their new-found connection to each other. It is in these conflicts that is the strength and beauty in the storytelling.

The book is consistently pieced together, flowing at a good pace as you are privy to Emma and Jake's thoughts, hopes, dreams and fears. The endearing quality of these characters and the novel's theme has the reader flipping pages in sweet anticipation to see where the story and its main characters will go, and how they (individually and as a couple) will overcome the obstacles thrown at them.

I enjoyed the entire dynamic of TWENTY-ONE, as their journey not only involves their love story and the loops they must jump through to reach happy resolutions; the story also embraces their friendship with each other, their families, and their connections with their tight knit group of friends.

The supporting characters were as much part of the story as the main characters, however, their presence in Jake and Emma's lives never stole their spotlight.

At the heart of this charming romance is an overall theme of how two people, even at their young age, can form deep, emotional attachments to not only each other, but with themselves and not allowing the negativity they've endured to define who they are, especially in Emma's case. In Jake's case, it shows how experiencing injury (life threatening) and digging deep within oneself, and realizing and accepting one's mistakes and past, and resolving his issues, can change a person for the better with an optimistic point of view.

I really appreciate E.S. Carter sticking to her UK roots in her expressive style.

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## reading the sheets says

This is book two in the love by numbers series it is not a standalone and you must read nineteen first.

Wow where to start I absolutely loved this book, this is ES Carters second book and as with the first she blew me away I was so caught up in Emma and Jakes story I never wanted it to end!! I read this book in one go I just couldn't get enough!!

After the cliffhanger of Nineteen we start book 2 where Nineteen finished and that's all im going to say because if you haven't read Nineteen then you need to !! You need to experience the rollercoaster ride of Jake and Emma and how they get to where book 2 starts. What I can say is this book will thrill you, ES weaves her magic taking you one way then bam its all change!!! It will make you laugh and make you cry. It deals with a sensitive issue also which ES handled delicately and sensitively, theres a few twists and turns, a bit of heartbreak and sadness lots of hot loving and friendships that will last a lifetime. ES is a brilliant writer, her words touch your soul, she writes with such passion its hard to believe this is only her second book. There is a fantastic cast of secondary characters too all with their own stories to tell in the future I hope. I loved the different friendships they all shared, the closeness and bonds I almost felt I was there in the story with them. That again is down to ES's brilliant I read this book in one go I just couldn't get enough!! I thought Nineteen couldn't be topped but I was wrong twentyone was fabulous I cant wait for ES to release her next book!!!! Brilliant writing. These two books are amongst my top fav reads of 2015 ..just brilliant!!!

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## Alexandra says

I'm still trying to get my emotions under control before being able to come up with at least a mediocre review to do this incredible book justice. I LOVED it, hard!!!!

***"I choose to love you and I could never walk away."***

I can't say a lot about this book without giving away spoilers so I'll try to be brief. *Twenty One* is the follow up to Nineteen - and we all know how that ended - it follows Emma after the events from Ibiza. Jake is missing and she's grieving, hoping, praying that the man she ended up carrying so much for is still out there somewhere.

What can I say about *Emma* that I haven't said before. She's one of the reasons I love this series - she's young, yes, but mature beyond her years, she's fierce - knows what she wants and goes for it - she's the true embodiment of '*the girl next door*' but with a warrior's soul. She fights for what she wants and doesn't care who gets in her way. She's trusting, she listens to every side of the story before making a decision that involves her and the ones she loves. In *Twenty One* she gets to travel, one of her passions, that we learned about in Nineteen - and while she's doing this she's surrounded by friends and family. It was interesting to see her in the center of this group of 'mates' all wanting to help her, but at the end of it all she's the one who's '*saving*' them.

Another thing I adored about *Twenty One* is the friendships, old and new, that are explored in this story. It's a good thinking point for the readers - who is your 'true' family - blood relatives, good friends you've made along the way, or both. Here we get to see Emma - the solitary girl - encircled by people who aren't related to her but who'd move mountains to help her. We see Liv being welcomed into a new family. We see H having the people who care for him, support him through hard times. I cannot wait to see how all these friendships will develop throughout the *Love by Numbers series*.

Told in a dual POV, *Twenty One*, still follows the pattern started in *Nineteen*, with the header of each narrative mirroring one another. ES Carter's writing improved so much from the previous book, which I loved - it's even more poetic, witty and fun - when needed - with incredibly vivid descriptions of exotic places and not only. She took me on a journey which I never wanted to end and she made me fall in love with some of the most amazing characters I've read about.

\*All I can say right now is bring on Liam .... Harry . . .and whoever else shall follow!!!

\*\* Also LOVE HEARTS - that was one of my favorite scenes!!!!!!!!!!

\*\*\* My poor boo H ;)

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### **Carol-Ann says**

A fantastic read a real page turner beautifully written and created a great story straight from the heart, I really adored the character's of Jake and Emma with fantastic chemistry between them both, An Author who definitely knows how to keep her reader's entertained and write straight from the heart! I loved book #1 and book #2 didn't disappoint me either I would definitely recommend the two books not to be missed! I can't wait to see what else E.S. Carter has in store for her reader's a very talented writer with a great imagination and character's that reader's can relate to and not only like them but take them straight to there heart's and live there lives with them! There are some books you read that you never forget and these books and character's are definitely right up there with the best of them!!

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### **Jenny - TotallybookedBlog says**

*Spoiler free dual book review. Both books are to be read in order.*

*“...you have it all wrong. You overwhelm him because he feels things for you that he has never felt before. It's scaring the shit out of him.”*

We were first introduced to E.S. Carter's Fox-William clan in Three, Liam's story, and it was here we relished the camaraderie and the deep family bond between the five Fox-William brothers and their parents, not to mention the heartfelt romance between these men and the women who consume their hearts, leaving us with a big desire to know more!

*“I bloody knew it. My little brother, the man whore, has finally found someone he has feelings for, well fuck me.”*

We had read Three as a 'standalone' and whilst we enjoyed every moment of Liam's story, we did feel as though we were 'missing' out on something. There were characters and storylines in Three that were

interconnected from Nineteen and Twenty One, particularly the close friendship between Emma (Jules) and Liam and Emma and Jake's romantic relationship which was explored in Nineteen and Twenty One.

Knowing that H's (a close friend of the Fox-William brothers) was due for release this month, we decided we wouldn't proceed any further with the story until we had a chance to catch up and explore Jake and Emma's story and we're so glad we did. In a strange way, to have already experienced the point at which Emma and Jake were at in Three, the man Jake had become helped us relate more to his character in the preceding books and we didn't feel as though the story had been spoiled in any way as there was so much we didn't know going into these books that wasn't touched on in Three.

***“I fucking know that Nate, but she keeps running and every time she does, she takes a piece of me with her, it hurts Nate...It fucking hurts.”***

Jake is a very different man to the one we met in Three. He's a tart and makes no apologies. He has an insatiable sexual appetite and has no qualm in fulfilling his needs with whatever pretty thing takes his fancy. Now, we know there are readers who don't like the thought of their hero getting all hot and bothered with anyone other than the heroine but we appreciated the way E.S. Carter had us experiencing Jake's roving ways first hand because it made the moment he realised his feelings for Emma, and the confliction he was feeling, all the more believable when it did eventuate.

**‘I only play with women like me, women who know all I'm offering is a few hours to escape into a haze of sex and lust, nothing more.**

**The Emma's of this world are not made for a man like me.’**

Jake and Emma couldn't have been more different. Jake the conceited cock who found it very hard to express his emotions and Emma the sweet girl who wore her heart on her sleeve and was riddled with self-doubt were right for each other in so many ways. On the surface, they shouldn't have been attracted to each other, but there were certainly not only sparks, but something between them that went soul deep.

**‘Love is one soul, living in two bodies, beating in two hearts, making them whole.’**

For Emma and Jake the timing couldn't have been worse. Jake's TV career was starting to take off, his star was on the rise and his bad boy persona was perfect fodder for the paparazzi. Emma was coasting along, looking for a change in her life and life was about to change in the blink of an eye for her in the most heartbreaking of ways.

**‘How can you follow your heart if it's even more confused than your head?’**

Emma and Jake had to part ways, one needing to reaffirm and restart their life and one coming to terms with feelings that couldn't be explained, however fate has other ideas!

We did have a bit of an issue with Nineteen and Twenty One which was the retelling of the story in alternative points of view. Reading the same story by Emma and Jake did become a little tiresome and had the effect of slowing the story down at times, however on the upside there were times hearing the scene in a different voice added to the moment and expanded on what had occurred, though we feel a sporadic alternative POV would have been something we would have enjoyed more.

The essence of the Love by Numbers series is friendship, family and love and on that account E.S. Carter has delivered a rich and beautiful series. We thoroughly enjoyed Jake and Emma's story and whilst it didn't

allow us the level of emotional impact nor the focus on family we loved so much in Three, Jake and Emma's story still managed to pull at our heartstrings and allowed us that perfect romantic escape we cherish, making this a series we'd recommend in a heartbeat!

## **THE LOVE BY NUMBERS SERIES**

**Our Review for Nineteen - Book One**

**Our Review for Twenty One - Book Two**

**Our Review for Three - Book Three**

**Our Review for Thirteen - Book Four**

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### **Mary says**

Twenty One is the sequel to Nineteen and the second book in the Love by Numbers Series by ES Carter.

Nineteen ended on a CH which I loved but it also left me on the edge of my seat, so I was really excited to finally get my hands on Twenty One and find out what happened to Jake!!

WOW! OMG! it was worth the wait Twenty One has just blown me away!!

ES Carter has weaved her magic again and I found myself consumed by her words and characters. I honestly feel like they could all be my friends, I especially love Emma and Liv's friendship it definitely shows that family isn't always blood related.

For those of you that haven't read Nineteen I don't want to give anything away so I'll just say this about Twenty One..... ES Carter has stepped it up in her sequel, she has made it unique with a fantastic and believable storyline, it has humour but also the right amount of heartache and difficult issues which set this book apart from others. The attention to detail shows that ES writes with depth and a passion that makes me want to live inside her stories.

I really hope that you all give this series a try, because you won't be disappointed.....

"Love is one soul, living in two bodies, beating in two hearts, making them whole."

I can't wait to see what ES has in store for us in her next book <3

A massive 5\* <3

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## **Rebecca says**

After the heartbreaking cliffhanger in Nineteen, I have been waiting impatiently to finally see what would happen with Jake and Emma. Would Jake be found? If so, was he injured? Could Jake and Emma have chance finally find a little happiness? I was hanging on every single word of the first few chapters. My heart ached for sweet Emma. While I won’t spoil the plot of Twenty One for readers, I promise you won’t have to read long to have some of these questions answered. I appreciated that Ms. Carter did not needlessly torture her readers as to Jake’s fate.

*I’m done waiting; it’s time to find my path.*

*It’s time to live my life and to stop wasting precious time trying to figure everything out.*

*Time to stop letting my future be stolen by an unchangeable past.*

This book is almost impossible to review without spoilers, so I will focus on the writing style and my feelings as I read. The first chapters were quite intense as Emma and Jake’s future literally hung in the balance. Emma made quite a journey to finally trust her feelings and emotions. Many questions I had about her family were answered in this installment. Her character continued to amaze me with her charm and wit. I am impressed this is only the second published book from Ms. Carter. The entire book flowed so well and I was riveted until the final page.

As much as I adored the main characters, this book would not have been the beauty it was without the supporting cast. I loved Liam in Nineteen and my heart continued to ache for him. H was a shining light in all his sarcastic glory. He brought much needed humor and fun to a serious storyline. Liv and Emma's friendship was heartwarming. Liv was the rock Emma needed and she never wavered in her love and support. I cannot wait to read the next book in this series!

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### **Nance says**

This was one magnificent find! Ohhhh, I just loved Jake and Emma! They were exquisite main characters! And, their story was so romantic!

**Full review to be written soon...**

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### **E.S. Carter says**

Twenty One is LIVE!!

I'm so excited to share the continuation of Emma's story with you all <3

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### **Laura Nelson (Tangents and Tissues) says**

I finished this book yesterday but had to give it a day to collect my thoughts as I wanted to do this review justice. Anyone who knows me, knows I normally avoid cliff-hanger books like the plague, unless I can get the sequel straightaway, because impatience thy name is Laura! However, I made an exception for Nineteen as a friend recommended it to me and I was not disappointed. So as you can imagine I was on tender hooks for the release of Twenty One and it was everything I could have wanted and more.

Yes, our couple face yet more problems than you can shake a stick at but we, as readers, are there rooting for them along the way to triumph over adversity, any and all obstacles thrown in their way. Liv puts it so succinctly:

“Live for now, not the maybes or the what ifs.”

Words we should all put into practice, don't you think?

Jake and Emma's love is so tangible in this book. I experienced all their emotions and more reading this book. ES's writing took me away so I was completely absorbed in their story so much so I was completely oblivious to my surroundings.

Jake – that boy has some moves ;-) and his words stole my heart! I had so many passages highlighted, but this is one of my favourites:

“You are my bliss and I want you with me now and always.”

Emma is such a role model for women everywhere and she really touched me with these words:

“People hurt the ones they are supposed to love on a daily basis; I’ve learned that I cannot control their actions but I can control my reaction.”

You go girl!

I am in love with ES’s writing and can’t wait for the release of Liam’s story Three.

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### **Cynthia says**

This book picks up where Nineteen left off and if you remember it had a huge cliffie, so I could not wait to see how and where ES Carter would continue the story. The authors writing style has developed so much from Nineteen and the words she places within the pages of her book will not disappoint pick it up and get to experience them for yourself.

I will try to not spoil the book because it is one you must read and fall in love with yourself.

The beginning had me anxious and biting my nails I wanted the book to just have a HEA and honestly I didn't know if we would get one but the story was gripping right from the start. ES CARTER sure was able to get my attention.

Emma continues to find herself and find the strength within herself to live and love life to the fullest even though she knows that deep in the corners of her mind she is struggling to move on with her past. Her strength and outlook in life is what I love most about this book, being able to relate to the main character was amazing! I love EMMA and if you are looking for a character who is brave and fearless she's your gal.  
<3

The amazing guy that is in Twenty One could not be anything less than one of my ultimate favorite book boyfriends. This guy is kind, sweet, gentle and so loving with EMMA but most importantly he is patient. Page by page he will have you sighing and falling in love. He deals with his own inner demons but that does not stop him from knowing that this sweet girl he has needs him and he is willing to fight to make her forget the past. The question is will he have what it takes to make her see that she is worth fighting for?

He literally will have you swooning throughout the whole book!

BTW this guy is totally delicious this was me when reading with a big 'O smile on my face lol

Together Emma and her guy will have to overcome different obstacles but love is always worth it right? Or is it better to just move forward without one another?

Emma and ? = WILL IT BE LOVE?

I love all the side characters ES Carter has incorporated into her story and I am really happy that we will continue to see them as the Love By Numbers Series continues.

This is the last full book for Emma and while I am sad to see her go I know she left with strength and love even though life took her for a crazy ride she managed to sail her vessel.

#TEAMEMMA

Thank you ES CARTER for another great and beautiful ride.

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## **Dawn says**

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Wow where to start I absolutely loved this book, this is ES Carters second book and as with the first she blew me away I was so caught up in Emma and Jakes story I never wanted it to end!! I read this book in one go I just couldn't get enough!!

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cast of secondary characters too all with their own stories to tell in the future I hope. I loved the different friendships they all shared, the closeness and bonds I almost felt I was there in the story with them, that again is down to ES's brilliant writing. I read this book in one go I just couldn't get enough!! I thought Nineteen couldn't be topped but I was wrong twentyone is fabulous I can't wait for ES to release her next book!! These two books are amongst my top fav reads of 2015 ..just brilliant!!!

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### **Madiha J Bookblogger says**

This is one of those stories that stay with you for a long time.

I mean wow.... There couldn't be a better sequel to Nineteen. I love how the story built and how the author managed to continue this series without making it even a bit boring or lengthy.. I honestly Loved Nineteen, and I loved Twenty One even more.

ES Carter has undoubtedly done an amazing job once again by bringing these lovely characters to life.

I really loved this book. The characters and their relationships are very well defined in this book and make them feel more real to us. specially I loved the character of H..

I am not fond of giving away story in my reviews so you should grab this book to know where ES Carter lead us with this heart touching story...

oh I loved it sooo much

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