

Draculas Guest And Other Victorian Vampire Stories Michael Sims

Bram Stoker is a leading figure of gothic literature, having not only written 'Dracula', but also other groundbreaking horror stories, featuring Egyptian Mummies, grisly monsters and haunting encounters. This enormous eBook offers readers the unique opportunity of exploring the prolific writer's work in a manner never before possible. This is the complete FICTIONAL works of Bram Stoker, with many bonus texts for gothic lovers to explore. (Current Version: 3) * illustrated with many images relating to Stoker's life and works * annotated with concise introductions to the novels and other works * ALL 12 novels – even Stoker's rare novels like THE PRIMROSE PATH and THE MYSTERY OF THE SEA – first time in digital print * BOTH versions of the Mummy novel THE JEWEL OF SEVEN STARS – compare the original grisly ending to the revised happy ending! * each novel has its own contents table * images of how the novels first appeared, giving your eReader a taste of the Victorian texts * ALL the short story collections, with rare uncollected tales * separate chronological and alphabetical contents tables for the short stories – find that special story easily! * EVEN includes Stoker's rare biography of Sir Henry Irving – explore their interesting lives and unique relationship * boasts a special VAMPIRE SOURCES section, with five works examining Stoker's influences in writing DRACULA * SPECIAL BONUS texts including the first ever vampire story in English -THE VAMPYRE by Henry Colburn * also includes the mammoth Penny Dreadful novel that caused a sensation in Victorian times – VARNEY THE VAMPIRE BY JAMES MALCOLM RYMER * EVEN includes CARMILLA BY JOSEPH SHERIDAN LE FANU – the haunting female vampire novel that influenced Stoker's work * scholarly ordering of texts into chronological order and literary genres, allowing easy navigation around Stoker's immense oeuvre Please visit www.delphiclassics.com to browse through our range of exciting titles The Novels The Primrose Path The Snake's Pass The Watter's Mou' The Shoulder of Shasta Dracula Miss Betty The Mystery of the Sea The Jewel of Seven Stars — 1903 Version The Jewel of Seven Stars — 1912 Version The Man Lady Athlyne The Lady of the Shroud The Lair of the White Worm — 40 Chapter Version, 1911 The Lair of the White Worm — 28 Chapter Version, 1925 The Short Story Collections Under the Sunset Snow Bound: The Record of a Theatrical Touring Party Dracula's Guest and Other Weird Stories Uncollected Short Stories The Short Stories List of Short Stories in Chronological Order List of Short Stories in Alphabetical Order The Vampire Sources Der Vampir by Heinrich Ossenfelder The Giaour by Lord Byron The Vampyre by Henry Colburn Varney the Vampire by James Malcolm Rymer Carmilla by Joseph Sheridan Le Fanu The Biography Personal Reminiscences of Henry Irving

Although Bram Stoker is best known for his world-famous novel Dracula, he also wrote many shorter works on the strange and the macabre. This collection, comprising Dracula's Guest and Other Weird Stories, a volume of spine-chilling short stories collected and published by Stoker's widow after his death, and The Lair of the White Worm, an intensely intriguing novel of myths, legends and unspeakable evil, demonstrate the full range of his horror writing. From the petrifying open tomb in 'Dracula's Guest' to the mental breakdown depicted in 'The Judge's House' and 'Crooken Sands', these terrifying tales of the uncanny explore the boundaries between life and death, known and unknown, animal and human, dream and reality.

Includes the short story "Dracula's Guest," thought to be the omitted first chapter of Dracula. Dracula is Bram Stoker's classic gothic tale of Count Dracula, one of the most famous characters ever created in fiction, his relationship with Jonathan and Mina Harker, pursuit by Professor van Helsing and ultimate destruction in the name of love. Intent on immigrating to England, Count Dracula enlists the services of

Jonathan Harker to arrange the purchase of a suitable residence. Intrigued by the young Harker and his beautiful wife, Mina, Dracula sets in motion a series of events that threatens the sanity of all. Recognized today as a horror classic, at the time of its publication in 1897 Dracula touched on and challenged such contemporary themes as the role of women in Victorian England, sexual conventions, and colonialism. Using historical and regional folklore as a basis, Stoker defined the modern vampire, and his definition continues to influence current depictions of vampires across all forms of media. Widely believed to be the deleted first chapter of Dracula, "Dracula's Guest," taken from Bram Stoker's collection of short stories, follows an Englishman, presumed to be Jonathan Harker, on a visit to Munich en route to Transylvania. Despite warnings from his hotelier, the Englishman leaves the safety of his carriage and wanders towards an abandoned "unholy" village. "Dracula's Guest" was originally published and introduced as the "excised chapter" in Dracula's Guest and Other Weird Stories by Stoker's widow, Florence. HarperPerennial Classics brings great works of literature to life in digital format, upholding the highest standards in ebook production and celebrating reading in all its forms. Look for more titles in the HarperPerennial Classics collection to build your digital library.

From Mary Shelley to H.G. Wells, a collection of the best Victorian science fiction from Michael Sims, the editor of Dracula's Guest. Long before 1984, Star Wars, or The Hunger Games, Victorian authors imagined a future where new science and technologies reshaped the world and universe they knew. The great themes of modern science fiction showed up surprisingly early: space and time travel, dystopian societies, even dangerously independent machines, all inspiring the speculative fiction of the Victorian era. In Frankenstein Dreams, Michael Sims has gathered many of the very finest stories, some by classic writers such as Jules Verne, Mary Shelley, and H.G. Wells, but many that will surprise general readers. Dark visions of the human psyche emerge in Thomas Wentworth Higginson's "The Monarch of Dreams," while Mary E. Wilkins Freeman provides a glimpse of "the fifth dimension" in her provocative tale "The Hall Bedroom." With contributions by Edgar Allan Poe, Alice Fuller, Rudyard Kipling, Thomas Hardy, Arthur Conan Doyle, and many others, each introduced by Michael Sims, whose elegant introduction provides valuable literary and historical context, Frankenstein Dreams is a treasure trove of stories known and rediscovered. The Judge's House Bram Stoker - In the story, a student arrives in a small town looking for a quiet place to stay while preparing for his examination. Making light of the local superstitions, he moves into an old mansion where a notorious hanging judge once lived. He is comfortably settled and engrossed in his work when, in the middle of the night, he is visited by an enormous rat with baleful eyes. As soon as the giant rat appears, other rats that infest the old house fall silent. When the great rat returns on the second night, the student begins to feel uneasy. He soon learns why the locals fear the Judge's House.

Presents a collection of horror tales, including "Dracula's guest," "A gipsy prophecy," and "The burial of rats" along with notes, a chronology, and Florence Stoker's original preface.

On top of the tomb, seemingly driven through the solid marble - for the structure was composed of a few vast blocks of stone - was a great iron spike or stake. On going to the back I saw, graven in great Russian letters: The Dead Travel Fast' In this rich collection of thirteen macabre tales, Bram Stoker, creator of the Gothic masterpiece, Dracula, and one of the greatest exponents of the supernatural narrative, presents us with a weird and chilling variety of unsettling stories. Stoker's dramatic scenarios, from the opening tale of vampires, Dracula's Guest, which was omitted from the final version of Dracula, will thrill and engage the modern reader. In these pages you will encounter the devilishly dangerous haunted room in The Judge's House, the fatalistic tragedy in The Burial of the Rats, the terror of revenge from beyond the grave in The Secret of Growing Gold and the surprising twist in the tail in The Gypsy's Prophecy, amongst other strange and frightening

episodes. This unique collection of Stoker's short fiction provides a feast for those who like to be unnerved as well as entertained.

Winner of the 1997 International Association of the Fantastic in the Arts Best Non-fiction Book In 1897, Archibald Constable & Company published a novel by the unheralded Bram Stoker. That novel, *Dracula*, has gone on to become perhaps the most influential novel of all time. To commemorate the centennial of that great novel, Carol Margaret Davison has brought together this collection of essays by some of the world's leading scholars. The essays analyze Stoker's original novel and celebrate its legacy in popular culture. The continuing presence of *Dracula* and vampire fiction and films provides proof that, as Davison writes, *Dracula* is "alive and sucking." "*Dracula* is a Gothic mandala, a vast design in which multiple reflections of the elements of the genre are configured in elegant sets of symmetries. It is also a sort of lens, bringing focus and compression to diverse Gothic motifs, including not only vampirism but madness, the night, spoiled innocence, disorder in nature, sacrilege, cannibalism, necrophilia, psychic projection, the succubus, the incubus, the ruin, and the tomb. Gathering up and unifying all that came before it, and casting its great shadow over all that came and continues to come after, its influence on twentieth-century Gothic fiction and film is unique and irresistible." from the Preface by Patrick McGrath

Bram Stoker (1847-1912) is known the world over as the author of *DRACULA*, one of the Victorian era's most celebrated novels, certainly one of the horror genre's foundational works. It was not, however, his only work; Stoker also wrote at least eleven other novels and novellas and any number of short stories, none of them as widely known or celebrated as his masterwork. *DRACULA'S GUEST*, often titled *DRACULA'S GUEST AND OTHER WEIRD STORIES*, collects the title piece and eight unrelated stories. The story concerns an unnamed traveler, possibly Johnathan Harker, who is traveling in Germany on Walpurgis Night, and very foolishly leaves his coach to stroll down a lane of unsavory reputation.

'it was butcher work...the horrid screeching as the stake drove home; the plunging of writhing form, and lips of bloody foam' Bram Stoker's 1897 Gothic shocker introduced Count *Dracula* to the world, an ancient creature bent on bringing his contagion to London, the very heart of the British Empire. Only a handful of men and women stand between *Dracula* and his long-cherished goal, but they are vulnerable and weak against the cunning and supernatural powers of the Count and his legions. As the horrifying story unfolds in the diaries and letters of young Jonathan Harker, Lucy, Mina, and Dr Seward, *Dracula* will be victorious unless his nemesis Professor Van Helsing can persuade them that monsters still lurk in the era of electric light. The most famous of all vampire stories, *Dracula* is a mirror of its age, its underlying themes of race, religion, science, superstition, and sexuality never far from the surface. A compelling read, rattling along at break-neck speed, it is a modern classic. This new edition includes Stoker's companion piece, 'Dracula's Guest'. ABOUT THE SERIES: For over 100 years Oxford World's Classics has made available the widest range of literature from around the globe. Each affordable volume reflects Oxford's commitment to scholarship, providing the most accurate text plus a wealth of other valuable features, including expert introductions by leading authorities, helpful notes to clarify the text, up-to-date bibliographies for further study, and much more.

This exploration into the development of women's self-defence from 1850 to 1914 features major writers, including H.G. Wells, Elizabeth Robins and Richard Marsh, and encompasses an unusually wide-ranging number of subjects from hatpin crimes to the development of martial arts for women.

A Study Guide for Bram Stoker's "Dracula's Guest", excerpted from Gale's acclaimed Short Stories for Students. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust Short Stories for Students for all of your research needs.

Beyond Dracula represents an important critical departure from the customary psychoanalytical approach to the writings of Bram Stoker. Reading Stoker as a participant in Victorian and Edwardian cultural life, the volume examines the breadth of Stoker's novel-length fiction, as well as his journalism, biographical writings and short fiction. In its considerations of questions of religion, censorship, gender and medicine, the volume will interest not merely readers of the Gothic but those involved in the study of Victorian and Edwardian culture.

This volume in this exciting new series provides a detailed yet accessible study of Gothic literature in the nineteenth century. It examines how themes and trends associated with the early Gothic novels were diffused widely in many different genres in the Victorian period, including the ghost story, the detective story and the adventure story. It looks in particular how the Gothic attempted to resolve the psychological and theological problems thrown up the modernisation and secularisation of British society. The author argues that the fetishized figure of the child came to stand for what many believed was being lost by the headlong rush into a technological and industrial future. The relationship between the child and horror is examined, and the book demonstrates that far from a simple rejection or acceptance of secularisation, the Gothic attempts to articulate an entirely different way of being modern.

Having discovered the double identity of the wealthy Transylvanian nobleman, Count Dracula, a small group of people vow to rid the world of the evil vampire.

Vengeful ghosts, ravenous rats, gypsy curses, and the walking dead await you in *Dracula's Guest & Other Tales of Horror*, a collection of the best short macabre fiction of Bram Stoker, author of the immortal vampire classic *Dracula*. Written in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the twelve tales and one full story-cycle reprinted in this volume shine a light on the shadowy side of Victorian fancy.

From the notable emergence of orphan figures in late eighteenth-century literature, through early- and middle-period Victorian fiction and, as this book argues, well into the fin de siècle, this potent literary type is remarkable for its consistent recurrence and its metamorphosis as a register of cultural conditions. The striking ubiquity of orphans in the literature of these periods encourages inquiry into their metaphoric implications and the manner in which they function as barometers of burgeoning social concerns. The overwhelming majority of criticism focusing on orphans centres particularly on the form as an early- to middle-century convention, primarily found in social and domestic works; in effect, the non-traditional, aberrant, at times Gothic orphan of the fin de siècle has been largely overlooked, if not denied outright. This oversight has given rise to the need for a study of this potent cultural figure as it pertains to preoccupations characteristic of more recent instances. This book examines the noticeable difference between orphans of genre fiction of the fin de siècle and their predecessors in works including first-wave Gothic and the majority of Victorian fiction, and the variance of their symbolic references and cultural implications.

The Jewel of Seven Stars is a horror novel by Bram Stoker. An Egyptologist, attempting to raise from the dead the mummy of Tera, an

ancient Egyptian queen, finds a fabulous gem and is stricken senseless by an unknown force. Amid bloody and eerie scenes, his daughter is possessed by Tera's soul, and her fate depends upon bringing Tera's mummified body to life.

A scintillating new collection of the best Victorian ghost stories, as suspenseful and entertaining as anything written today, by the editor of *Dracula's Guest* and *The Dead Witness*

Bram Stoker's initial notes and outlines for his landmark horror novel *Dracula* were auctioned at Sotheby's in London in 1913 and eventually made their way to the Rosenbach Museum and Library in Philadelphia, where they are housed today. Until now, few of the 124 pages have been transcribed or analyzed. This painstaking work reproduces the handwritten notes both in facsimile and in annotated transcription. It also includes Stoker's typewritten research notes and thoroughly analyzes all of the materials, which range from Stoker's thoughts on the novel's characters and settings to a nine-page calendar of events that includes most of the now-familiar story. Ample annotations guide readers through the construction of the novel and the changes that were made to its structure, plot, setting and characters. Nine appendices provide insight into Stoker's personal life, his other works and his early literary influences.

Dracula's Guest is a film that was written and directed by Michael Feifer. It was released direct to video in August 2008 and is loosely based on Bram Stoker's short story *Dracula's Guest*. The story opens showing a young man finding a young woman he knows behind bars, having been imprisoned and raped. He swears to get her out and the scene cuts to six months earlier. The young man is Bram Stoker and he has a relationship with Admiral Murray's daughter, Elizabeth in Victorian England. He works in a real estate company and has just given his career a boost by finding a home for the firm's new client.

Before *Twilight* and *True Blood*, even before *Buffy* and Anne Rice and Bela Lugosi, vampires haunted the nineteenth century, when brilliant writers everywhere indulged their blood thirsty imaginations, culminating in Bram Stoker's legendary 1897 novel, *Dracula*. Michael Sims brings together the very best vampire stories of the Victorian era-from England, America, France, Germany, Transylvania, and even Japan - into a unique collection that highlights their cultural variety. Beginning with the supposedly true accounts that captivated Byron and Shelley, the stories range from Edgar Allan Poe's *The Oval Portrait* and Sheridan Le Fanu's *Camilla* to Guy de Maupassant's *The Horla* and Mary Elizabeth Braddon's *Good Lady Ducayne*. Sims also includes a nineteenth century tour of Transylvanian superstitions, and rounds out the collection with Stoker's own *Dracula's Guest* - a chapter omitted from his landmark novel. Vampires captivated the Victorians, as Sims reveals in his insightful introduction- In 1867, Karl Marx described capitalism as 'dead labour, which, vampire-like, lives only by sucking living labour', while in 1888 a London newspaper invoked vampires in trying to explain Jack the Ripper's predations. At a time when vampires have been re-created in a modern context, *Dracula's Guest* will remind readers, young, old and inbetween of why the undead won't let go of our imagination.

This comprehensive bibliography covers writings about vampires and related creatures from the 19th century to the present. More than 6,000 entries document the vampire's penetration of Western culture, from scholarly discourse, to popular culture, politics and cook books. Sections by topic list works covering various aspects, including general sources, folklore and history, vampires in literature, music and art, metaphorical vampires and the contemporary vampire community. Vampires from film and television--from Bela Lugosi's *Dracula* to *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *True Blood* and the *Twilight Saga*--are well represented.

Gothic Britain is the first collection of essays to consider how the Gothic responds to, and is informed by, the British regional experience.

Acknowledging how the so-called United Kingdom has historically been divided on nationalistic lines, the twelve original essays in this volume

interrogate the interplay of ideas and generic innovations generated in the spaces between the nominal kingdom and its component nations and, innovatively, within those national spaces. Concentrating upon fictions depicting England, Scotland and Wales specifically, Gothic Britain comprehends the generic possibilities of the urban and the rural, of the historical and the contemporary, of the metropolis and the rural settlement – as well as exploring uniquely the fluid space that is the act of travel itself. Reading the textuality of some two hundred years of national and regional identity, Gothic Britain interrogates how the genre has depicted and questioned the natural and built environments of the island of Britain.

"The Burial of the Rats" by Bram Stoker. Published by Good Press. Good Press publishes a wide range of titles that encompasses every genre. From well-known classics & literary fiction and non-fiction to forgotten?or yet undiscovered gems?of world literature, we issue the books that need to be read. Each Good Press edition has been meticulously edited and formatted to boost readability for all e-readers and devices. Our goal is to produce eBooks that are user-friendly and accessible to everyone in a high-quality digital format.

This is an entertaining look at the vampire phenomenon. Beginning with a full-bodied history on the appearance of vampires in early literature and moving on to more modern film and television iterations, including Twilight, True Blood, and even Count von Count on Sesame Street, this book takes a bite out of vampire lore to show how readers and theatergoers have always been fascinated by these creatures of the night. It also explains how vampires have changed physically over the years?a major feat for an undead creature. The resource ends with a filmography that gives details on most major vampire films.

Some literary historians believe that Dracula's Guest is an excerpt excised from the original manuscript of Bram Stoker's masterpiece Dracula by an overzealous editor. This short novel recounts the travels of an unnamed Englishman who crosses paths with a foreboding wolf-like creature on his way to Count Dracula's castle. The story is currently being developed into a television series that is slated to air on the CW network in 2010. A must-read for lovers of vampire lit. This edition also includes these short stories: The Judge's House, The Squaw, The Secret of the Growing Gold, The Gipsy Prophecy, The Coming of Abel Behenna, The Burial of the Rats, A Dream of Red Hands and Crooken Sands. This Pivot examines a body of contemporary neo-Victorian novels whose uneasy relationship with the past can be theorised in terms of aggressive eating, including cannibalism. Not only is the imagery of eating repeatedly used by critics to comprehend neo-Victorian literature, the theme of cannibalism itself also appears overtly or implicitly in a number of the novels and their Victorian prototypes, thereby mirroring the cannibalistic relationship between the contemporary and the Victorian. Tammy Lai-Ming Ho argues that aggressive eating or cannibalism can be seen as a pathological and defining characteristic of neo-Victorian fiction, demonstrating how cannibalism provides a framework for understanding the genre's origin, its conflicted, ambivalent and violent relationship with its Victorian predecessors and the grotesque

and gothic effects that it generates in its fiction.

Blood, gore, murder, and sin—Victorian literature’s darkest horrors await you. The penny dreadfuls were cheap nineteenth-century English stories that featured gothic, lurid, disturbing, and tantalizing content. These horror serials cost a penny per issue, hence their name: penny dreadfuls. The penny dreadfuls often paid homage to—and even inspired—many of the more famous narratives of the horror genre. This book pairs three obscure yet influential penny dreadfuls with three of the most notorious literary giants of the nineteenth century: Dracula, Frankenstein, and Dorian Gray, all in one authentic collection of the best Victorian gothic horror ever written. Originally published at a time when dramatic scientific discoveries sparked a cultural fixation on the paranormal, these stories remain timeless in their uncanny ability to prey upon our primal fear of that which is strange, violent, and unknown. This book contains a total of six haunting tales: • Dracula by Bram Stoker • Dracula’s Guest by Bram Stoker (Dracula’s original first chapter, not published until after Stoker’s death) • Frankenstein by Mary Shelley • Wagner the Wehr-Wolf by George W. M. Reynolds • The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde • Varney the Vampire by Thomas Preskett Prest Curl up with The Penny Dreadfuls on a dark, moonless night and rediscover these chilling classics. Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Arcade, Yucca, and Good Books imprints, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in fiction—novels, novellas, political and medical thrillers, comedy, satire, historical fiction, romance, erotic and love stories, mystery, classic literature, folklore and mythology, literary classics including Shakespeare, Dumas, Wilde, Cather, and much more. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

Even in the twenty-first century, the undead walk among us... Before Twilight and True Blood, vampires haunted the nineteenth century, when brilliant writers indulged their bloodthirsty imaginations, culminating in Bram Stoker's legendary 1897 novel, Dracula. Acclaimed author and anthologist Michael Sims brings together the finest vampire stories of the Victorian era in a unique collection that highlights their cultural variety. Beginning with the supposedly true accounts that captivated Byron and Shelley, the stories range from Aleksei Tolstoy's tale of a vampire family to Fitz James O'Brien's invisible monster to Mary Elizabeth Braddon's rich and sinister widow, Good Lady Ducayne. Sims also includes a nineteenth-century travel tour of Transylvanian superstitions, and finishes the collection with Stoker's own Dracula's Guest - a chapter omitted from his landmark novel. Vampires captivated Victorian society, and these wonderful stories demonstrate how Romantic and Victorian writers refined the raw ore of peasant superstition into a whole vampire mythology of aristocratic decadence and innocence betrayed.

Bram Stoker, *Dracula* and the Victorian Gothic Stage re-appraises Stoker's key fictions in relation to his working life. It takes Stoker's work from the margins to centre stage, exploring how Victorian theatre's melodramatic and Gothic productions influenced his writing and thinking.

Sex and Death in Victorian Literature is a landmark collection of 13 previously unpublished essays on nineteenth-century British poetry, fiction and prose by the most important English and American scholars in the field. The volume observes the subject from an unusually wide variety of viewpoints, including historical, sociological, psychoanalytic, feminist and mythological. There are works central and peripheral to the traditional Victorian canon discussed in *Sex and Death*; as such the essays present an unprecedented perspective on the shifts and movements of nineteenth-century literature. By grouping the essays under the aegis of sexuality and morality, the volume allows the authors to explore the most important aspects of the works they discuss.

The best Victorian detective stories, now in a scintillating new collection by the acclaimed editor of *Dracula's Guest*. This study of Bram Stoker focuses on Stoker as a Gothic writer. Identified with *Dracula*, Stoker is largely responsible for taking the Gothic away from medieval castles and placing it at the center of modern life. The study examines Stoker's contribution to the modern notion of Gothic and thus to the history of popular culture and demonstrates that the excess generally associated with the Gothic is Stoker's way of examining the social, economic, and political problems. His relevance today is his depiction of problems that continue to haunt us at the beginning of the twenty first century. What makes the current study unique is that it privileges Stoker's use of the Gothic but also addresses that Stoker wrote seventeen other books plus numerous articles and short stories. Since a number of these works are decidedly not Gothic, the study puts his Gothic novels and short stories into the perspective of everything that he wrote. The creator of *Dracula* also wrote *The Duties of Clerks of Petty Sessions in Ireland*, a standard reference work for clerks in the Irish civil service, as well as *The Man and Lady Athlyne*, two delightful romances. Furthermore, Stoker was fascinated with technological development and racial and gender development at the end of the century as well as in supernatural mystery. Indeed the study demonstrates that the tension between the things that can be explained rationally and the things that cannot is important to our understanding of Stoker as a Gothic writer.

Traces the changing nature of *Dracula* film representations, from the early silent adaptations to recent popular dramas such as Francis Ford Coppola's *Bram Stoker's Dracula*.

Please note that the content of this book primarily consists of articles available from Wikipedia or other free sources online. Pages: 25. Chapters: The Historian, Count Dracula, Anno Dracula series, Little Dracula, Alucard, Batman & Dracula: Red Rain, Dracula Cha Cha Cha, The Bloody Red Baron, Dracula's Guest and Other Weird Stories, Bloodline,

The Revenge of Dracula, Sword of Dracula, The Book of Renfield. Excerpt: The Historian is the 2005 debut novel of American author Elizabeth Kostova. The plot blends the history and folklore of Vlad epe and his fictional equivalent Count Dracula. Kostova's father told her stories about Dracula when she was a child, and later in life she was inspired to turn the experience into a novel. She worked on the book for ten years and then sold it within a few months to Little, Brown and Company, which bought it for a remarkable . The Historian has been described as a combination of genres, including Gothic novel, adventure novel, detective fiction, travelogue, postmodern historical novel, epistolary epic, and historical thriller. Kostova was intent on writing a serious work of literature and saw herself as an inheritor of the Victorian style. Although based in part on Bram Stoker's Dracula, The Historian is not a horror novel, but rather an eerie tale. It is concerned with history's role in society and representation in books, as well as the nature of good and evil. As Kostova explains, "Dracula is a metaphor for the evil that is so hard to undo in history." The evils brought about by religious conflict are a particular theme, and the novel explores the relationship between the Christian West and the Islamic East. Little, Brown and Company heavily promoted the book and it became the first debut novel to become number one on The New York Times bestseller list in its first week on sale. As of 2005, it was the fastest-selling hardback debut novel in US history. In general, the novel received mixed reviews. While some praised the...

The story opens showing a young man finding a young woman he knows behind bars, having been imprisoned and raped. He swears to get her out and the scene cuts to six months earlier. The young man is Bram Stoker and he has a relationship with Admiral Murray's daughter, Elizabeth in Victorian England. He works in a real estate company and has just given his career a boost by finding a home for the firm's new client, Count Dracula. The Admiral is not impressed with Bram and insists he and Elizabeth observe a year's separation to test their love before he'll give his blessing to their marriage. Bram accepts and leaves to begin his year but Elizabeth is rebellious and runs off, presumably to find Bram in Scotland. She gets waylaid by the Count at the train station where he abducts her to his home in Transylvania.

In this internationally bestselling novel, the author of The Swan Thieves has 'refashioned the vampire myth into a compelling...late-night page-turner' - San Francisco Chronicle Late one night, exploring her father's library, a young woman finds an ancient book and a cache of yellowing letters addressed ominously to 'My dear and unfortunate successor'. Her discovery plunges her into a world she never dreamed of - a labyrinth where the secrets of her father's past and her mother's mysterious fate connect to an evil hidden in the depths of history. In those few quiet moments, she unwittingly assumes a quest she will discover is her birthright - a hunt for the truth about Vlad the Impaler, the medieval ruler whose barbarous reign formed the basis of the Dracula myth. Deciphering obscure signs and hidden texts, reading codes worked into the fabric of medieval monastic traditions, and evading terrifying adversaries, one woman comes ever

closer to the secret of her own past and a confrontation with the very definition of evil. Elizabeth Kostova's debut novel is an adventure of monumental proportions - a captivating tale that blends fact and fantasy, history and the present with an assurance that is almost unbearably suspenseful - and utterly unforgettable. 'Quite extraordinary....Kostova is a natural storyteller....She has refashioned the vampire myth into a compelling contemporary novel, a late-night page-turner' - San Francisco Chronicle 'Filled with fascinating details of archaic vampire lore, the splendours of the Ottoman Empire and the beauty of the Romanian countryside' - Times Literary Supplement

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