



Three Vampire Tales: Dracula, Carmilla, and the Vampyre

Tamar Sheridan Bergman (Editor) , Bram Stoker , J. Sheridan Le Fanu , John William Polidori , Tamar Sheridan Bergman

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This collection of classic vampire tales not only features three of the most important works in the genre, but also a historical analysis of vampire stories.

Three Vampire Tales: Dracula, Carmilla, and the Vampyre Details

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Author : Tamar Sheridan Bergman (Editor) , Bram Stoker , J. Sheridan Le Fanu , John William Polidori , Tamar Sheridan Bergman

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From Reader Review Three Vampire Tales: Dracula, Carmilla, and the Vampyre for online ebook

Chloe says

I found this book of collected works from my favorite thrift shop in Cambridge, and as I had yet to own a copy of Dracula or read Carmilla, I decided it would be desirable to purchase the lot! And I'm pleased to own it - the additional short stories, poems, and information provided were good background material for reading the three main titles. The Vampyre was pretty awfully written, even if I was rather taken with the Lord Ruthven (aristocratic vampire and promiscuous scoundrel? where do I sign up?). Carmilla was better! It could have been more lesbian, but it was pretty gay as it was, so I was satisfied with that. And Dracula, although not all that great of a novel in its own right, is still a classic of horror/vampire literature, and worth owning.

Mohr says

this book contains three stories, and one short story. i read Carmilla by Sheridan La Fanu. The story portray the theme of an unsuspecting person walking toward what he sees as innocent but is actually wicked. Carmilla takes place during the 18th century France. the story revolves around an unsuspecting family that took in a vampire. the family's neighbor had sent the family a letter to explain what had happened to him and his daughter. the letter ran "The fiend who betrayed our infatuated hospitality has done it all. I thought I was receiving into my house innocence, gaiety, a charming companion for my lost Bertha. Heavens! what a fool have I been!". this quote demonstrate that people who are to open and are to naive are going to get killed

Renee says

I used the audio to go along with these stories. All the stories were good in their own. I liked the Camilla story line a lot but seeing so many modern day stories along these same lines kind of ruins all the stories in a way. It's kind of like you've already read the story before. Seeing the movie based on Bram Stoker "Dracula" really made it less enjoyable to read. That & I wasn't thrilled with the writing style/story told through many letters. I'm glad I read it, as it's a classic, but wouldn't read it again.

Debra says

Excellent compilation of 3 great vampire stories, with Dracula being my favorite. The book also includes interesting tidbits on the history of vampires in fiction.

Julian says

The first two stories, Vampyre and Carmilla were excellent stories, each with a driving narrative that kept me reading. Dracula was so much of a choppy mishmash that I could not possibly stay interested. The idea of Dracula is great but the execution is terrible. I have so much that I want to read that I will never again let one book fester and nag at the back of my reading list for as long as this did. If a book puts me to sleep, as Dracula did, it cannot be so very horrific...

This collection got 2 stars on the merits of Vampyre and Carmilla alone, two very good stories, with Dracula dragging the entire thing down.

Shelli says

Oh, how I love thee, dark creature of the night.

Vampires, really, are too good. Deliciously enticing and frightening at the same time. I'm surprised how much I liked reading Dracula, despite being WILDLY melodramatic. But it really is a page turner.

The other vamp stories & essays are quite good also. Good creepy but not keep the light on while you sleep creepy.

Jean says

Reading Carmilla for Victorian Lit.

Kirsten says

Eh.

I think I enjoyed Carmilla the most.

Dracula was nearly unbearable every time Van Helsing opened his mouth.

Erin says

Interesting reading- I had to read this for a course I am taking but I thought the essays included were wonderful.

Andrew says

"Carmilla", Sheridan Le Fanu:

A Delightfully chilling short story, for lovers of Gothic fiction - its terror, fear and melodrama. It's a shame I read this on a breezy, summer afternoon rather than a black, winter evening.

I love to see what different authors bring to the vampire mythos (S. Meyer excluded) and what I really liked

here, were Fanu's descriptions of an "amphibious" vampire, sleeping in coffins filled with seven inches of blood. Not to be confused for actual 'aquatic' vampires, but I thought it was a nice touch!

Billy Ceely says

I read this for Carmilla and The Vampyre. The Vampyre was good, but not great in my opinion. I liked Carmilla a lot more.

Heather says

This is a great collection of vampire texts that help to contextualize Dracula. Plus both Polidori's "The Vampyre" and Le Fanu's "Carmilla" are both well worth reading in and of themselves.

Judyy says

I recently guided my Victorian Lit class through a reading of *Carmilla.* I read it years ago and on this re-reading found it richer than I'd understood on my first reading. Imagine the Victorians' horror not so much at the ways of the vampire, but at the female power and solidarity displayed in these pages. The story starts slowly, moving as languidly as Carmilla herself, but builds to a more lively pace with a classically inconclusive ending. I highly recommend it. Also, if you're interested in *Dracula*, read *Carmilla* as its precursor. Stoker wrests the power away from the women and puts it firmly back in the hands of the men--a thoroughly Victorian move.
