



## Love Bites

*Adrienne Barbeau*

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**Love Bites** Adrienne Barbeau

*With her customary wit and dead-on satire, Barbeau skewers Hollywood and vamp lit alike, casting the paparazzi as werewolves and certain Hollywood "monsters" as the genuine article*

Ovsanna Moore is a Hollywood siren, horror film legend, and cut throat producer. She also happens to be a 450-year-old vampyre. In the follow-up to the much acclaimed *Vampyres of Hollywood*, Adrienne Barbeau paints a wonderfully sly portrait of cinematic vampyres, as well as the nature of celebrity, and the entertainment industry. Her "Scream Queen" credentials make her the only author who could combine such a fastpaced, edgy plot with tongue-in-cheek references to the inner workings and vanity of Hollywood. A whirlwind of action, *Love Bites* is a clever take on vampyres readers will never forget.

## Love Bites Details

Date : Published August 31st 2010 by Thomas Dunne Books (first published August 24th 2010)

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Author : Adrienne Barbeau

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## From Reader Review Love Bites for online ebook

### Terisa says

I downloaded this from Amazon as either a free read for a limited time or a discounted price. I don't recall which one. I thought that with all of the high star ratings that it would have been better but I thought it had too many tangents that went off the story line to explain things and bit enough about the story itself.

I'd like to say that I read this one without reading book one so that may have had something to do it I believe that if I had read it though and it was written the same way that I would have liked it even less.

It had great potential with a 450 year old "original" vampire that was born and not changed, passing herself off as a Hollywood 3rd generation movie star. In this case the owner of her film studio with a clan of vampires. Many of these are past Hollywood actors that were thought to have been dead for years. As I said it had too many filler type tangents that took away from the story though. If it weren't for those, I'd have rated it a lot higher but ad it was I could only give it 2-3 stars tops so I'm going with a 2.5.

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### Julie H. says

Once you get beyond the fact that famous stars of the Hollywood Screen (e.g., Charlie Chaplin, Mary Pickford, Tyrone Powers, and Orson Welles--to name a few) are vampyres with a "y," you've gotten the basic set-up. In other words, much of the talent are members of the undead. As such, we learn that in addition to immortality, vast wealth and the problems that accompany failure to age, that what the passage of time inflicts on these individuals isn't freedom or guilt. Instead, it's boredom.

*Love Bites* is the follow-up to *Vampyres of Hollywood* and tells the story of the aftermath and revenge wrought against Ovsanna Moore, Chatelaine (as in first arrival) of the Clan Dakhanavar in Hollywood, CA, after a battle fought in the previous book in Palm Springs. It is also the tale of her burgeoning relationship with BHPD's Det. Peter King. What's most intriguing about the story are the bits of Hollywood history that are dropped throughout the story as well as the author's sense of humor. An example of the latter: "But I couldn't hear the intruder. Maybe I had Marcel Marceau in my yard" (p. 3). Also clever, the chapters alternate between Ovsanna's voice and perspective and Peter's. This is nice, as we get both the human and the supe take on things. It's also welcome as it doesn't privilege any one vantage point.

I enjoyed the book more for its California and Hollywood/Beverly Hills history tidbits than for any new wrinkle on the vampire formula. If writers are counseled to "write what you know," than author Adrienne Barbeau is off to a good start writing about a town and industry with which she has great familiarity.

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### Erin says

The Vampyres of Hollywood are lead by Ovsanna Moore- and she's got a lot going on right now. Not only is there a serial killer on the loose, but someone has a personal vendetta against her. Can the handsome police detective keep her safe or will he just get in her way?

Fun story, but not having read the first book of the series, I felt a little behind. There was a lot of old school actors being name dropped which was slightly boring to me. Also, too many overly described bloody battles

with limbs and organs being ripped out and eaten... for my taste.

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## **Conan Tigard says**

I was very excited to read Love Bites, the second book in the Vampyres of Hollywood series by Adrienne Barbeau. I wasn't sure what happened to Michael Scott, as he co-wrote the first first book in this series, but I think I missed him. Michael Scott has written a ton of Fantasy and Horror books for both Adults and Young Readers, and I think that his missing talent was something that slightly hurt this book.

I found the continuing sexual tension between Peter King and Ovsanna Moore to be something I really wanted to read about. I really liked both of these well-thought out characters and couldn't wait for them to get together. As the story progressed, I was frustrated that outside events always seemed to keep them apart. As I was reading the book, I seriously wondered whether I was going to have to wait for the third book in this series for these two exciting and interesting characters to get together. Luckily, that was not the case.

With the first book in this series, there was a lot of tension in the story because of the horrific murders, and that kept me heavily involved. Whereas, with the second book, the story focuses more on the relationship between Peter and Ovsanna, while the werewolf story takes a back seat. I think I was a little disappointed in this. To me, this book started to feel more like a romance book rather than a detective, paranormal book. I guess I was expecting a book more like Vampyres of Hollywood with a lot of action and massive murders with Peter and Ovsanna working together to solve.

Another thing I was disappointed in was the abrupt conclusion of the big battle at the end of the book. Here I was thinking, "Ahh, Ovsanna is finally going to attack the bad guy. I cannot wait to read this!" And then it was over. The fight was one paragraph long. That is not to say there wasn't a lot of battling going on around her with other creatures and some of the Vampyres of Hollywood, but I expected the final battle to be a little more climactic than it was. I know that the movie Van Helsing wasn't a very successful movie monetarily, but at least the final battle between the vampire and the werewolf was pretty frickin' awesome. I wanted that kind of explosive conclusion to the final battle in this book, but it just wasn't there.

Still, even though his book wasn't exactly what I had hoped, I had a wonderful fun time reading it. It was great witnessing the relationship between Peter and Ovsanna grow and change as the book progressed. The story involving Maral and DeWayne was fascinating and ended the way I hoped . . . but I'm sure it isn't over yet. As for the werewolf part of the story, that seemed to reside on the back burner to the relationship part of the book came to a full boil.

Overall, Love Bites is a great story and a nice addition to the Vampyres of Hollywood series. I am looking forward to seeing what will happen in the third book in this terrific series. I'm sure that it will be bloody delicious.

I rated this book an 8 out of 10.

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## **John S Roth says**

**Loved It!**

Funny, supernatural, romantic, a bit snarky and all full of mayhem, murder, jealousy and a touch of sex. I mean, who could ask for more? Loved you in the movies, but a whole lot more in your writing!!!

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### **Robin says**

I usually love quirky books but this one was just outside my zone. More silly and eye roly than fun.

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### **Marge says**

Loved it!!

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### **Charles Ray says**

I've been an Adrienne Barbeau fan ever since I saw her as the daughter in the TV show Maude. I was amazed, though, to discover that she's as good as a writer as she is on screen.

Love Bites, the second in her Vampyres of Hollywood series, is a funny, scary, tense thriller that demonstrates that Barbeau is more than just a pretty face. Beverly Hills homicide detective Peter King met writer/producer/star Ovsanna Moore during the investigation of a string of brutal murders dubbed the Cinema Slayer case. During the case of that investigation in which they vanquish the killer, Peter learns that Ovsanna is a 400-year-old vampire named Ovsanna Hovannes Garabedian, and is the top vampire in Tinsel Town. Things get a bit complicated, however, when they develop a more than casual interest in each other. Now, someone wants Osvanna dead, and that someone is not human. Peter quite literally has his hands full as he juggles his feelings for Osvanna, the need to keep the relationship a secret from his boss (since, Osvanna is still a suspect in the Cinema Slayer case because the killer was a vampire, and Peter can't tell his boss that they've already killed her), the jealousy of Osvanna's personal assistant and lover, Maral, and the challenge of staying getting a jump on a pack of inhuman (meaning non-human) killers before the body count becomes unmanageable.

Barbeau nails the Hollywood scene as only an insider could, but she does it with a skill with words that few performers, accustomed to speaking words written by others, possess. The wittiness is as biting as a vampire's fangs, and the action's nonstop.

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### **Trudy Gleason says**

This was better than expected. I am not a big fun of vampires books but this was entertaining. I was to go back and read the first one in the series.

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### **Emma says**

This is the second book in the Vampyres of Hollywood series by Adrienne Barbeau. I enjoyed it even more than her first book. Ovsanna, a Vampyre actress and producer in Hollywood, and Peter King, a detective

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with the Beverly Hills police, are well-rounded characters. The story kept me involved and wanting more.

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### **Susan says**

Love Bites is the second installment in Adrienne Barbeau's Vampyres of Hollywood series, and let me just tell you, this series gets better and better with every new book. Barbeau is a fantastic and imaginative writer, breathing new life into my favorite of all genres - paranormal novels. The crime/detective side of the story reminds me of the spirit of the original Anita Blake novels by Laurell K. Hamilton, and the realistic characters are a bit like the Sookie Stackhouse novels by Charlaine Harris, but Love Bites is truly original and thoroughly entertaining.

You never know how a sequel is going to work out in a series, but this one is a real winner. Love Bites is every bit as clever as its predecessor, and manages to add a new level of suspense to the series. The mystery aspect in Love Bites will keep you turning pages well into the night, while the appearances of famous actors and references to vampire lore and well-known movies is delightful. These books are so much fun - I recommend them highly for anyone looking for a unique spin of the traditional vampire stories.

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### **Joanne says**

Osvanna Moore is a 500-year-old Vampyre and owns Anticipation Studios in Hollywood. She is the Chatelaine of the Vampyres of Hollywood, whose members include Charlie Chaplin, Orson Welles, Mary Pickford and many others, some alive to us and others dead to us.

Osvanna is becoming involved with Detective Peter King, who helped her face some evil other-beastly creatures in Palm Springs. It was during that foray that the detective learned of the other-worldliness of Osvanna.

Peter is currently coming upon some cases that are leading him to believe that he is coming up against other creatures and so needs to involve Osvanna in them to help him solve them.

I had not read the first story in this series, but didn't feel too lost, as Adrienne Barbeau explains a lot of what went on and I did not feel lost.

You really do root for the characters, they are very likeable. The story dragged a little, but there was always something going on irregardless.

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### **Amanda says**

Very Impressed with this Author. She has style!!!!I would recommend this to friend...

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### **Sandra E says**

#### **Enjoyable**

This was an entertaining read, however it was a bit far-fetched even for a vampire novel. The old movie stars were just a little over-the-top for me. The primary characters were amusing and entertaining but other than that not so much

## John says

In addition to being a love letter to Hollywood, LOVE BITES is also a trashy romance, a trashy mystery, and a trashy vampire novel. It's a testament to Ms. Barbeau's skills as a writer that the book works as well as it does... In someone else's hands, the book would be, well, trash.

With so many elements at play, LOVE BITES is sure to both please and annoy just about everyone.

Personally, I could have done without all the lusty moments between the main characters. There's nothing I hate more than reading about some guy's sculpted chest and chiseled abs... Because, in true Harlequin fashion, the young police detective just happens to look like a Calvin Klein model.

On the other hand, women who pick up this novel hoping for an adult version of TWILIGHT might not appreciate all the blood and gore. For whatever reason, Ms. Barbeau seems to enjoy ending her novels in a blood bath.

The mythology of this series, while cute, is also rather hokey. I find it hard to believe that such a great percentage of Hollywood royalty just so happened to consist of vampires in disguise: Tyrone Power, Mary Pickford, Orson Wells, Charlie Chaplin...the list goes on and on. It's an interesting plot conceit, but one I have a hard time suspending my disbelief for.

LOVE BITES contains lots of references to people Ms. Barbeau has had close relationships with in real life. She often references her own films, and several characters in LOVE BITES were obviously inspired by Ms. Barbeau's movie and TV roles. Part of the fun of this book is that it's so steeped in Hollywood trivia. If names like John Carpenter, Joe Eszterhas, Tom Atkins, and Bruce Campbell mean something to you, you'll probably enjoy this book a whole lot more.

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