



## The Nymphos of Rocky Flats (Felix Gomez, #1)

*Mario Acevedo*

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**The Nymphos of Rocky Flats (Felix Gomez, #1) Mario Acevedo**

**The first and only vampire book to be declassified by the federal government . . .**

Felix Gomez went to Iraq a soldier. He came back a vampire.

Now he finds himself pulled into a web of intrigue when an old friend prompts him to investigate an outbreak of nymphomania at the secret government facilities in Rocky Flats. He'll find out the cause of all these horny women or die trying! But first he must contend with shadowy government agents, Eastern European vampire hunters, and women who just want his body . . .

Skewering sexual myths, conspiracy fables, and government bureaucracy, The Nymphos of Rocky Flats reveals the bizarre world of the undead with a humorous slant and a fresh twist.

### The Nymphos of Rocky Flats (Felix Gomez, #1) Details

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Author : Mario Acevedo

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## From Reader Review The Nymphos of Rocky Flats (Felix Gomez, #1) for online ebook

**Sharon Schafer bennett says**

### **I tried to like it**

I tried to like this book. It has everything I like in my paranormal urban fiction. Vampires, check. Humor, check. Murder, not necessary, but check. Mystery, check. Well written and edited, check. All the boxes checked. But this was the most tedious thing I've plowed through since some of the required reading in my college literature courses. All of the elements for a good read are here, but it just did not hold my attention. I doubt it is the author's fault. It is probably mine. I can't recommend it, and I won't be reading anything else in the series.

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**Vince Darcangelo says**

<http://archive.boulderweekly.com/0504...>

This review originally appeared in the BOULDER WEEKLY

Of vamps and vampires

by Vince Darcangelo

Nothing comes easy for private detective Felix Gomez when investigating strange goings-on at the former Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant. His old college roommate, who hired him for the gig, is acting quite suspicious, as are the women he questions regarding a recent outbreak of nymphomania among plant employees. (The infected women disrupt Gomez' interrogations by aggressively attempting to seduce him, of course.) Meanwhile, Gomez has fallen head over heels in love with a sultry forest sprite with a well-endowed ex. Oh, and if he wasn't feeling insecure enough already, a team of Romanian vampire hunters is trying to kill him.

Felix Gomez learns quick that it's not easy being a vampire in Colorado.

Easily the best-titled book released this year, *The Nymphos of Rocky Flats* is the debut novel from local author Mario Acevedo, part one of a trilogy centered on Gomez: private eye/vampire/Gulf War veteran. But though this is his first published novel, Acevedo is no rookie. *The Nymphos of Rocky Flats* is the seventh book he's written. As he tells it, it just took him a while to find his voice.

"At one time I wanted to write really serious books," says Acevedo. "Over the course of time the people in my critique group would tell me, 'You know Mario, you're not as smart as you are smart ass. That's your strength. Write to your strength.' So I did that."

The result is *The Nymphos of Rocky Flats*, a humorous, irreverent tale of vamps and vampires that bridges the dark absurdism of Christopher Moore and Wes Anderson and the gratuitous camp of *Army of Darkness*.

Acevedo likens his book to another equally absurd film.

"I studied the movie The Big Lebowski because I loved the way they used humor when dealing with some really dark subjects—the violence, the kidnapping and all that," he says. "They were able to use humor to have levity, but at the same time it didn't diminish the darkness of the story."

It's a winning formula, for underneath all the comedy is the dark cloud of Gomez' past and how he came to be a vampire. The book begins with Gomez as a soldier fighting in the current war in Iraq. He and his men mistakenly ambush a family, and, guilt-ridden, Gomez asks for punishment and is turned into a vampire following the attack. The account is based on an incident Acevedo witnessed when serving in the first Gulf War—minus the vampire part.

"It just really traumatized everybody," he says. "I was at this MASH hospital, just visiting. That's when they brought this little girl in. All these nurses and doctors were just really upset. It was just a horrible thing. And this little girl, her family is gone, she's all by herself, she's with people who don't speak her language. That episode stuck in my head."

Following the Gulf War Acevedo worked at Rocky Flats. As a result, the government needed to review and approve *The Nymphos of Rocky Flats* prior to publishing.

"If you write anything about Rocky Flats, if you worked there, you have to submit what you wrote to the Department of Energy," says Acevedo. "It's the first and only vampire book to have to get reviewed and declassified by the federal government. Your anti-terrorism dollars at work."

Acevedo says that the DOE didn't change any parts of the book, and he even includes the official approval letter on the opening page. He also claims to have no knowledge of classified information about Rocky Flats, such as the plausibility of the premise of *The Nymphos of Rocky Flats*. But as longtime Front Range denizens can attest, this fictional account isn't any more outlandish than some of the actual goings-on at the controversial nuclear weapons facility. And this one is a lot more fun.

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## **Kayla says**

A very "meh" read for me. The plot didn't seem terribly coherent, and I swear the author must have the mind of a teenage boy, considering how just about every page had the male protagonist describing female characters' breasts/hips/butts and thinking about sex. Actually, come to think of it, *most* of the characters were obsessed with sex. I will not be reading any further in this series.

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## **Carolyn F. says**

With this great title I was expecting to love the book which I didn't. Felix Gomez is an ex-military man who was made a vampire and now is back in the States doing PI work. Vampires can get diseases from humans so they're very careful with human blood and drink a lot of animal blood. Felix doesn't drink human blood because of what happened in the war. He's also worried about germs and is always talking about calming himself down after being scared he was exposed to something. He talks about sex a lot but again is afraid of whatever so he declines a lot at the same time telling people what a stud he is (although he does mention his penis is average size - FYI). I didn't care for the book and struggled to finish it. I'm not planning on reading any more books by this author. I have a male author phobia. Except for a few, I rarely enjoy their books. This one didn't change my mind.

## Amanda says

I need to add a shelf called "dudelit" to counteract the whole "chicklit" thing...because let's face it...there really are some books that will be more enjoyed by the male species than the female species.

Even though "Nymphos" was what I consider to be "dudelit" I still really liked it.

Felix Gomez comes back from the Iraqi war a changed man...meaning he's now a vampire who takes on a new occupation as a private investigator. When his friend offers him \$50,000 to take on a really strange case, he can't refuse. The case? Find out what has caused several women workers at a facility to have acquired hardcore nymphomania.

With the help of a secret organization of vampires, a female dryad and self proclaimed nympho, and his own vampiric powers, Felix not only manuevers through his case, but he also manages to dodge a group of vampire slayers and fight with his own demons that keep him from drinking human blood.

The story was interesting and parts of it were pretty funny. Some of it not so much went over my head as went through it since I kind of got bored with it. Overall though, "Nymphos" is a fun read...even for chicks!

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## Angela says

Despite having a title like *The Nymphos of Rocky Flats*, there's surprisingly little actual sex in this book. Which isn't terribly surprising. I went in expecting humor, and that's pretty much what you get with the first of Mario Acevedo's Felix Gomez novels. Sure, it's sex-related humor, but it's fairly clean all the same. And the schtick wasn't entirely unfamiliar, anyway--not when my partner owns a copy of *Bimbos of the Death Sun*. ;)

So, yeah. Felix Gomez is a vampire, and I give Acevedo points for giving his vamp hero an unusual and pertinent-to-current-day backstory: he's a vet of the Iraq war who accidentally kills an Iraqi girl. Horrified by this, he lets himself be turned into a vampire by way of everlasting penance. He refuses to drink human blood because it gives him flashbacks to killing the girl.

Fast forward to his post-discharge, vampiric existence. He's a private detective now, and he's called to Rocky Flats to investigate why all the women employees of the facility there have been struck with an outburst of nymphomania. At the same time, he gets to contend with the disdain of the local vamps over his refusal to touch human blood, a band of vampire hunters with your standard hate-on for vamps, a dryad who doesn't need nymphomania to be interested in him--and even hints that what he's investigating may be tied into Roswell and Area 51.

It's a pretty lightweight read, all in all. Plenty of urban fantasy these days is way more sexually explicit than this book is; what violence is here, with the exception of Felix's backstory in Iraq, is fairly comic-booky. The disparate parts of this plot are all familiar tropes, though they do coalesce nicely at the end. Points to Acevedo, too, for having the love interest be a dryad; that's one of the under-used creatures in urban fantasy, that's for sure. My only beef with the story, really, is that Felix's refusal to drink human blood is resolved too easily. The rest of it, though, is fun. Three stars.

## **Jenny says**

Bookcrossing - <http://www.bookcrossing.com/journal/6...>

This was a great book! I liked that it wasn't serious all of the time because that is somewhat boring to me. The Felix character is great! Really interesting. I want to know more about this character!

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## **comfort says**

Felix Gomez is a returned soldier turned detective also turned vampire. After a horrible mistake when he and his troop killed a civilian family, Mario is taken-in by (unbeknownst to him) a vampire, who commences to turn Felix before he is shipped home.

An old friend calls on Felix to find out what is causing the outbreak of nymphomania in the little town of Rocky Flats. This may seem humorous at first, but it is pulling apart families and wrecking jobs.

In the context of his investigation it becomes apparent that something/someone has been used to turn these women, it also becomes apparent that Rocky Flats and Area 51 are connected.

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## **Stan Pedzick says**

Over the years I have received several copies of this book because I use to work at the Flats.

Good to see a former worker do good and pursue his writing dream.

The book is a light weight read, amusing but not profound, the book equivalent of a Sunday afternoon matinee.

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## **Ana says**

This book was entertaining enough for me to finish but that's about it. I mean the main character, Felix Gomez, left for war in Iraq and returned a vampire. Now, he makes his living as a private detective and receives a case about a nymphomania outbreak in a military compound. Yes, it's as ridiculous as it sounds. And, initially, I was drawn to this book precisely because of this. I found the premise hilarious. Unfortunately the delivery falls short. The descriptions were vague, there's a lot of telling instead of showing and I never really warmed up to Felix. I don't expect my vampires to be strong all the time but...Felix is a poor excuse for a vampire. His attitude sucked (sorry) and he was a bore to read. So, overall, I didn't hate it but I don't plan to keep reading the series either.

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## Wicked Lil Pixie (Natasha) says

Rounding up from 3.5

The Nymphos of Rocky Flats is the first book in Acevedo's Felix Gomez series, which centres around the ex-soldier who gets turned into a vampire while on active duty in Iraq. Felix and his company, accidentally kill a group of innocent civilians and the ultimate punishment for Felix was being turned. Because of the guilt he still feels, he refuses to drink human blood instead surviving on animal blood. Which begins to take a toll on his powers. Now a Private Investigator Felix's old roommate Gilbert asks for Felix's help after an outbreak of nymphomania ("the sickness") at the Department of Energy in Colorado. What starts out as a simple assignment (find the cause of the nymphomania), turns into a huge mess that turns out not to be so simple.

From Government conspiracy, UFOs, Roswell, Vampire Hunters, Dryad's to Felix's inner struggle with drinking human blood this book is action packed from beginning to end. The ending totally throws you for a loop, you just won't see it coming. Acevedo has a very unique twist on vampires with Felix Gomez. Felix can go out in the sun, but only slathered in sunscreen and a ton of make up. There were some laugh out loud moments with lots of snark, my favorite being:

"No mistress of the dark, she looked more like a matron of the refrigerator"

For a book about nymphos, there was very little sexual interaction. Few scenes of Felix being come onto by those infected, but again no sex scenes. The Nymphos of Rocky Flats has so many different story-lines going on, sometimes I felt it a little hard to follow but overall it was pretty good, more Christopher Moore than a straight up Urban Fantasy novel, it's worth a read. It's definitely different that's for sure and in a good way!

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## Marfita says

I'm not sure what I expected from this ... why I expected the solution to this to be any less silly than the premise. It was a light, frothy read, if "light, frothy reads" can have so much blood in them. I realize that the lead character is a vampire detective b-b-b-but this could have been more ... serious. The beginning lead me to believe that vampire thing was going to be merely incidental (or maybeeeee more a metaphor). Acevedo, I think, is capable of more weighty efforts. He seems quite capable of writing a searing indictment of something. His description of the second Gulf War demonstrates that. Here and there are glimmers of actual opinion, but when you get right down to it, it dissolves into fluff. And that was actually fine for me. I don't enjoy reading Important Fiction. I enjoy Fluff. I whizzed through this book in a very pleasant evening's entertainment.

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## Amy says

It was the opening lines that drew me in to reading this: "I don't like what Operation Iraqi Freedom has done to me. I went to the war a soldier; I came back a vampire." That the book didn't live up to my expectations is not the author's fault. I expected a bit more humor a la Carl Hiaisen or something. What I got was a decent enough mystery, with a bit of the paranormal thrown in. It is unique if in only that this is probably the only vampire mystery to have been reviewed and declassified by the US Department of Energy.

So basically Felix Gomez, after returning from the war, fresh in his vampireness, becomes a P.I. His current job involves investigating some outbreaks of nymphomania at the US Department of Energy's Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Station in Colorado. Acevedo has given some nice twists to the vampire lore/ability to exist in the modern world. There's a bit of the supernatural, a Latino flare, some paranormal, some UFO/space alien mystery, a touch of area 51, a little romance and, of course a basic Who-dun-it.

Not bad, but as I said, not what I was expecting. I kept reading just to see how the author's mind worked to wrap this up. If another book of his came my way, I figured I'd read it to see how his writing had developed, but I wouldn't necessarily seek him out. However, going to his website (which was kind of interesting in itself, because his other passion is art) I see that he has a book with Felix called *Werewolf Smackdown* and the blurb says: "Detective-vampire Felix Gomez is trapped between rival werewolf clans in Charleston, SC in a rumble that could doom the supernatural world."

Charleston is a werewolf smackdown? That's mighty hard to resist.

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### **Paul Eckert says**

I was intrigued with the premise of this book: a soldier gets turned into a vampire and then comes back as a private detective who is now investigating a case of nymphomania.

This premise is interesting, but I feel the book fails to deliver a whole package. Acevedo's descriptions are weak, and at no point did I feel myself drawn into the story, like I was feeling what it was like to be a vampire detective. The narrator was very nonchalant about his powers and there was little, if any, description about the way his vampire powers felt to him. He just says things like "I used my vampire power to hypnotise them." Very plain, not visceral at all. Lots of telling without showing.

Despite the sensory deprivation of the narrative, Acevedo does add some interesting new twists on the vampire legend. Now vampires can turn into wolves, hypnotize, hover, wear sunblock, and cause memory loss in people. At the same time, some of these new powers made the narrator's quest a bit too easy at times. Need to get out of a jam? Make them lose their memory!

Aside from having vampires and vampire hunters, this is a standard mystery novel. Given, the plotline is funny it involves government conspiracies and nymphomania, but it offers nothing new from your typical dime-a-dozen mainstream mystery plotline. The ending comes as no surprise.

In summary:

With more sensory details and concentration on making characters come alive (instead of flimsy plot devices) this could have been a better story. As is, it's your standard mystery with two-dimensional vampires as characters that never strike home

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### **Lori Whitwam says**

I bought this on impulse (I should not be allowed in book stores). It sounded quirky and funny. Imagine, if you dare, an outbreak of nymphomania among female employees of Rocky Flats, a nuclear weapons research

facility near Denver. Felix was an Iraq war veteran, and was turned into a vampire while serving. Now he's a PI, and an old college friend at Rocky Flats asks him to come uncover the cause of this nymphomania.

By the time Felix arrives (and hooks up with the local vampire community), the outbreak has been contained... so other than some of the women having relapses and trying to pounce him when he questions them using vampire hypnosis, there's no actual sex in the entire book. "Full of humor and sex" was not an accurate blurb for any critic to put on the cover.

Felix learns something is being hidden at Rocky Flats, and somebody tries to kill him at least once a day. But is it related to the investigation, or does it have to do with him being a vampire? It seems that these nymphomania outbreaks are always followed by vampire hunters descending and starting to kill the local vamps.

By the end, when Felix discovers the cause of the infection, I'm still not clear about the connection to the vampires. I guess I knew, but I forgot. It wasn't that memorable. There's another book in the series... maybe I'll give it a look, but maybe not.

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