

Interview with the Vampire

By Anne Rice

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Interview with the Vampire By Anne Rice

In celebration of the 40th anniversary of its publication

The time is now.

We are in a small room with the vampire, face to face, as he speaks--as he pours out the hypnotic, shocking, moving, and erotically charged confessions of his first two hundred years as one of the living dead. . .

He speaks quietly, plainly, even gently . . . carrying us back to the night when he departed human existence as heir--young, romantic, cultivated--to a great Louisiana plantation, and was inducted by the radiant and sinister Lestat into the other, the "endless," life . . . learning first to sustain himself on the blood of cocks and rats caught in the raffish streets of New Orleans, then on the blood of human beings . . . to the years when, moving away from his final human ties under the tutelage of the hated yet necessary Lestat, he gradually embraces the habits, hungers, feelings of vampirism: the detachment, the hardened will, the "superior" sensual pleasures.

He carries us back to the crucial moment in a dark New Orleans street when he finds the exquisite lost young child Claudia, wanting not to hurt but to comfort her, struggling against the last residue of human feeling within him . . .


We see how Claudia in turn is made a vampire--all her passion and intelligence trapped forever in the body of a small child--and how they arrive at their passionate and dangerous alliance, their French Quarter life of opulence: delicate Grecian statues, Chinese vases, crystal chandeliers, a butler, a maid, a stone nymph in the hidden garden court . . . night curving into night with their vampire senses heightened to the beauty of the world, thirsting for the beauty of death--a constant stream of vulnerable strangers awaiting them below . . .

We see them joined against the envious, dangerous Lestat, embarking on a perilous search across Europe for others like themselves, desperate to discover the world they belong to, the ways of survival, to know what they are and why, where they came from, what their future can be . . .

We follow them across Austria and Transylvania, encountering their kind in

forms beyond their wildest imagining . . . to Paris, where footsteps behind them, in exact rhythm with their own, steer them to the doors of the Théâtre des Vampires--the beautiful, lewd, and febrile mime theatre whose posters of penny-dreadful vampires at once mask and reveal the horror within . . . to their meeting with the eerily magnetic Armand, who brings them, at last, into intimacy with a whole brilliant and decadent society of vampires, an intimacy that becomes sudden terror when they are compelled to confront what they have feared and fled . . .

In its unceasing flow of spellbinding storytelling, of danger and flight, of loyalty and treachery, *Interview with the Vampire* bears witness of a literary imagination of the first order.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

In the now-classic novel *Interview with the Vampire*, Anne Rice refreshed the archetypal vampire myth for a late-20th-century audience. The story is ostensibly a simple one: having suffered a tremendous personal loss, an 18th-century Louisiana plantation owner named Louis Pointe du Lac descends into an alcoholic stupor. At his emotional nadir, he is confronted by Lestat, a charismatic and powerful vampire who chooses Louis to be his fledgling. The two prey on innocents, give their "dark gift" to a young girl, and seek out others of their kind (notably the ancient vampire Armand) in Paris. But a summary of this story bypasses the central attractions of the novel. First and foremost, the method Rice chose to tell her tale--with Louis' first-person confession to a skeptical boy--transformed the vampire from a hideous predator into a highly sympathetic, seductive, and all-too-human figure. Second, by entering the experience of an immortal character, one raised with a deep Catholic faith, Rice was able to explore profound philosophical concerns--the nature of evil, the reality of death, and the limits of human perception--in ways not possible from the perspective of a more finite narrator.

While Rice has continued to investigate history, faith, and philosophy in subsequent Vampire novels (including *The Vampire Lestat*, *The Queen of the Damned*, *The Tale of the Body Thief*, *Memnoch the Devil*, and *The Vampire Armand*), *Interview* remains a treasured masterpiece. It is that rare work that blends a childlike fascination for the supernatural with a profound vision of the human condition. --*Patrick O'Kelley*

From Library Journal

Rice turned the vampire genre on its ear with this first novel (LJ 5/1/76), which evolved into one of the most popular series in recent history. Though the quality of the books has declined, this nonetheless is a marvelous, innovative, and literate tale of the longing for love and the search for redemption. This 20th-anniversary edition offers a trade-size paperback for a good price.

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Review

"A magnificent, compulsively readable thriller . . . Rice begins where Bram Stoker and the Hollywood versions leave off and penetrates directly to the true fascination of the myth--the education of the vampire."--*Chicago Tribune*

"Unrelentingly erotic . . . sometimes beautiful, and always unforgettable."--*Washington Post*

"If you surrender and go with her . . . you have surrendered to enchantment, as in a voluptuous dream."--*Boston Globe*

"A chilling, thought-provoking tale, beautifully frightening, sensuous, and utterly unnerving."--*Hartford Courant*

From the Paperback edition.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Edward Emory:

Do you have favorite book? When you have, what is your favorite's book? Publication is very important thing for us to be aware of everything in the world. Each guide has different aim as well as goal; it means that e-book has different type. Some people truly feel enjoy to spend their time to read a book. They are reading whatever they acquire because their hobby is reading a book. How about the person who don't like studying a book? Sometime, person feel need book whenever they found difficult problem or perhaps exercise. Well, probably you should have this Interview with the Vampire.

Christina Mundell:

This Interview with the Vampire book is absolutely not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you will get by reading this book is information inside this guide incredible fresh, you will get details which is getting deeper a person read a lot of information you will get. This particular Interview with the Vampire without we recognize teach the one who studying it become critical in contemplating and analyzing. Don't end up being worry Interview with the Vampire can bring when you are and not make your handbag space or bookshelves' turn into full because you can have it inside your lovely laptop even mobile phone. This Interview with the Vampire having good arrangement in word and layout, so you will not really feel uninterested in reading.

Michael Pabon:

As people who live in typically the modest era should be upgrade about what going on or information even knowledge to make these keep up with the era and that is always change and move forward. Some of you maybe will probably update themselves by examining books. It is a good choice for you personally but the problems coming to you is you don't know what type you should start with. This Interview with the Vampire is our recommendation to help you keep up with the world. Why, because book serves what you want and wish in this era.

Nancy Brown:

Hey guys, do you really wants to finds a new book to see? May be the book with the title Interview with the Vampire suitable to you? Typically the book was written by popular writer in this era. The actual book untitled Interview with the Vampire is a single of several books that everyone read now. This kind of book was inspired a number of people in the world. When you read this e-book you will enter the new way of measuring that you ever know previous to. The author explained their thought in the simple way, consequently all of people can easily to recognise the core of this reserve. This book will give you a lots of information about this world now. To help you see the represented of the world with this book.

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