



Vlad Dracula: The Dragon Prince

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Most of the vast audience attracted to the subject of Dracula know him only in his fictional, one-dimensional form: vampire! Yet the truth behind the historical character--voevode, warlord--of 15th C. Romania is at least as equally fascinating as any contrived account of his supernatural persona. and prisoner. His principality of Wallachia was caught between two voracious predators: the kingdom of Hungary and the Ottoman empire. They tried to break Dracula with overwhelming force and terror. But Dracula turned their own tactics against them, and against criminals and factions in his own land, earning the name Tepes-The Impaler-in the process. He annihilated 50,000 people--one-tenth of his own population. Cursed by his native Orthodox Christian Church, he indeed evolved into a legend. But even today he is Romania's Robin Hood.

Vlad Dracula: The Dragon Prince Details

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Author : Michael Augustyn

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From Reader Review Vlad Dracula: The Dragon Prince for online ebook

Paddy says

Enjoyed this book very much. Reads in a very plausible way, as good historic fiction should. Put's Dracula's struggle to rein and control his lands in perspective with his blood thirsty violence. He was a product of his times, but particularly harsh and unforgiving perhaps because being a prince in those times was a very dangerous job, not to mention the constant Ottoman threat. A brilliant war tactician, and Sultan Mehmed nemesis, he was an incredible warrior and leader who has certainly left his mark in history.

Stefanie says

I loved this book! Very well written historical novel based on the life of Vlad Dracula. The author actually made me empathize with Dracula, which is no easy feat. After reading it, I was a little shaken, and glad I didn't live back then. Life was pretty brutal, and this book contains graphic details in impalement and other horrific tortures.

Denise says

[I

Cheryl says

This is one of the best books I have read about Vlad, and I have read quite a few! While I felt that certain well known facts about things he did were thrown in just to say that he did them, I enjoyed the way this was written and the way he was portrayed. Historical facts are there, some myths and folk tales also included, the only thing I felt it lacked was a more indepth reasoning for the things he did but of course that's down to the reader to analyse!

Juliew. says

Actually, this book is 4 and half stars. I very much enjoyed this fascinating account of Vlad Dracula. Who was Vlad Dracula, really? Vampire, warlord, prince, soldier, husband, father, monster, legend in his own time? He was definitely some of these but not all. This book claims to follow Vlad's real story and I have to admit I was totally absorbed in reading this and some nights I didn't want to put it down. I absolutely loved the battle scenes and Vlad's tricky tactics and strategies and I would have been very interested to see maps of his battles but unfortunately the book didn't include any. Occasionally, the writing could have been better and there were quite a few character's to keep up with but I found overall there were a number of things I had never heard of before. I also liked that the author included background info on his wife and brothers. This

book definitely has encouraged me to read further into his story and I'm hoping to see more from this author. Perhaps, one about Vlad's early life?

Asia says

Avendo letto il libro in italiano, trovo corretto che la review sia scritta anche essa in italiano.

Devo ammettere che ho trovato il libro abbastanza lento all'inizio, e sembrava diventare come un libro qualsiasi di guerra. Il personaggio Dracula non aveva niente di particolare, finché non sono andata avanti con la storia. Finalmente ad un certo punto si vede il carattere del personaggio esprimere la sua naturale propensione per la stranezza, in senso positivo perché Vlad alla fine si rivelerà essere un personaggio anche con un'anima e un cuore. E pure se alla fine non molto si comprende veramente di chi fosse stato in realtà Dracula - non molto poi come spiega l'autore si può acquisire non essendoci prove rilevanti, né storicamente attendibili - si capiscono certamente molte cose su chi poteva essere stato. Il finale è sublime e devo ammettere che - come ho letto in un'altra review di questo libro - sicuramente, dopo tante "storie" da teenagers sui vampiri, questo romanzo potrebbe chiarire a tante fan di Edward Cullen cosa vuol dire essere dei veri vampiri, per quanto unico e particolare sia Vlad Dracula era sicuramente qualcosa di nuovo e fresco.

Riguardo la scrittura - non avendolo letto in lingua originale non posso dire molto - ma posso dire che è stato tradotto molto bene, e che è semplice nella sua consistenza. Non ci sono dei "vuoti" di informazioni, l'autore è riuscito a creare un ottimo romanzo storico. Io non amo molto i romanzi storici perché vengono riempiti con informazioni - sicuramente non tutti - e si perde il filo della storia. Con *Vlad Dracula* invece questo non accade.

Non sarà un romanzo che spicca per qualche motivo, ma nella sua semplicità forma una storia lineare, particolare a suo modo e unisce la finzione con la realtà nella maniera più naturale possibile. Un ottimo romanzo sicuramente.

Steve Cran says

The Dragon Prince

Since the release of the movie "Dracula :Untold" the real story about Vladimir the Impaler has been slowly getting out. Yet this story like others does have him turning into a vampire at the end. Taking place circa 1450-the 1470's when Dracula's three reigns occurred in Wallachia, not Transylvania , as the legend would have you believe. The story sticks pretty close to the truth of what was going down historically.

The Ottoman Empire, Hungary and the smaller states are set in war against each other with the little states choosing sides in greater battle while trying to maintain their independence as best they can. Within this greater conflict are several micro conflicts. The Orthodox church is vying for its interest in Wallachia as are the aristocratic boyars, the kings and the Church. Dracula's rule is constantly being undermined and that is something that he will have to deal with. Not only is there a clash of religions but there is also a clash within religion. Islam vs Christianity, Orthodox Church versus the Roman Catholic Church. Different European powers competing against each other with some signing separate treaties with the Turks.

Dracula was the second son of Dracul. Growing up as a hostage in the Sultan Murad's court, Dracula finally returns to take his rightful crown. In a bloody siege against Tigravoste, Dracula retakes his throne with the help of Turkish military. Upon conquest the Turks rape, pillage and plunder the city much against Dracula's will but he cannot do anything about it. His hold over the kingdom does not last long. Joining up with relatives in Moldavia he fights on their side building up alliances and skill. He takes his kingdom back a second time. His second time is the most famous reign. It is when he cleans up the kingdom from vagabonds, greedy boyars and other internal enemies of state. The second reign was when he stood up to the Turks and took the battle to them. Dracula ultimately failed and his brother took the throne to run it for the Turks. The third reign was short lived. Undone by treachery of allies more so than Turkish military might. Dracula is captured in the end and destined for his ultimate demise.

Alice says

This is some really good historical fiction based on one of my favorite historical characters. The story woven by Augustyn is excellent and the end is great! The small nod to the popular legend of Vlad's vampirism is twisted *just right*. So why didn't I give it 4 or 5 stars? Vlad lost at least 1 star because this is the audio edition and the narration counts a lot toward ratings. Guardabascio did an ok job but his style, for me at least, didn't compliment the author's work. You will enjoy this book if (like me) you like well researched historical fiction and are intrigued by Vlad Dracula: The Dragon Prince.

I received this book from the author in exchange for an honest review

Alessandro says

Libro di esordio dell'americano Michael Augustyn, "Vlad Dracula" è un avvincente romanzo storico che ripercorre le gesta del leggendario principe della Transilvania, diventato celebre in tutto il mondo grazie all'opera di Bram Stoker.

Prima fuggitivo dalla propria terra, poi principe in Valacchia e infine prigioniero in Ungheria, attraverso il dettagliato resoconto storico di Augustyn, abbiamo la possibilità di conoscere i molteplici aspetti di un personaggio controverso: da una parte il Dracula sanguinario e spietato e dall'altra il valoroso condottiero che lottò fino alla morte per difendere la propria patria dall'arroganza turca.

Il libro si conclude con la "leggenda" di Dracula, dove l'autore offre la sua personale teoria sulla nascita del vampiro più famoso della letteratura.

Da leggere!

Halli says

I could not stomach this badly written book. I bought it off of Amazon, not knowing that it is a self-published work. While I am a big supporter of "Vlad as Western defender," I purchased this book with high hopes, reading the general synopsis of the work as a non-fictional portrayal of that side. Do not waste your time and read this book. This is like watching Coppola's version of "Dracula." Certainly not terror and foreboding but cringing involuntarily as one pictures Keanu Reeves saying in his back-of-throat voice:

"I'm going to be kicking back on my boat..."

Yuck.

Alexis Drake says

All'inizio l'ho trovato noiosissimo. Non lo reggevo proprio, ma mi sono fatta coraggio e ho proseguito la lettura. Alcune parti sono rimaste comunque noiose, troppi discorsi militari e politici, decisamente non nelle mie corde. Ma quando ha trovato moglie e in generale verso 3/4 del libro si è un po' ripreso.

E' stato interessante capire un po' di più di questa figura storica al di là della leggenda del vampiro. Alcune cose però, e non le parti macabre, mi hanno fatto storcere il naso.

(view spoiler)

E la fine, quando viene sepolto al monastero e ricompare come nebbia, quindi come il Dracula che conosciamo vampiro, rimane senza senso. Capisco che abbia voluto ricollegarsi alla leggenda, ma così, senza spiegazioni del perché e di come sia diventato vampiro, rimane una cosa buttata lì.

Ho trovato adorabile la sua seconda moglie però!

E ho cercato di non pensare continuamente a Luke Evans e a Dracula Untold durante la lettura, ma non è stato facile.

Rhett says

I generally only read historical non-fiction and practical psychology books, but this one was worth the break from my typical read. The dialogue (the fiction aspect of it) was not fantastic, but it wasn't bad either. The book is steeped in historical fact and does an impressive job exposing the facts and context of the time period and the infamous events that surround the legend of Vlad Tepes.

Leslie Fisher says

I have to admit that this book was not what I thought it would be. I thought it would be a historical fiction based on the life of Vlad Dracul, without the aspect of vampirism. The book did include vampirism, though. That being said, I think the book was really written well, though be warned, it can be pretty graphic as far as tortures are concerned. I thought that the details were really interesting, and the book ended well. The majority of the book focuses on the part of Vlad's life before he becomes a vampire, and that is the part that I

was most interested in. I listened to the Audible version, and I would actually be interested in reading the Kindle version because there are a lot of culture-related words that I'm not used hearing, and I tend to absorb the unfamiliar better with the written word. Overall, an interesting book.

Vanlilith says

Romanzo storico che ammicca alla leggenda - Un buon mix di storia e leggenda. Una narrazione veloce, che rende bene le battaglie ed i giochi di potere senza annoiare. Una discreta ricerca storica con il giusto grado di invenzione romanzata, senza cadere nella stereotipazione dei personaggi. Ci voleva proprio un Dracula "serio" dopo l'invasione delle nuove leve vampiriche adolescenziali.

L. (Vacation All I Ever Wanted) says

This was a very well written book. Augustyn made me see Vlad Dracula in a whole new way. Dare I say it - I even *liked* Vlad. Sure, he was bloody. But take a look around. Everyone around him, Christian and Muslim, had blood on their hands. My only complaint is about the ending. In the last portion of the book the author goes in a direction he really, really didn't need to go. The story was enjoyable the way it was about a real man. Leave the vampire mythos out of it.
