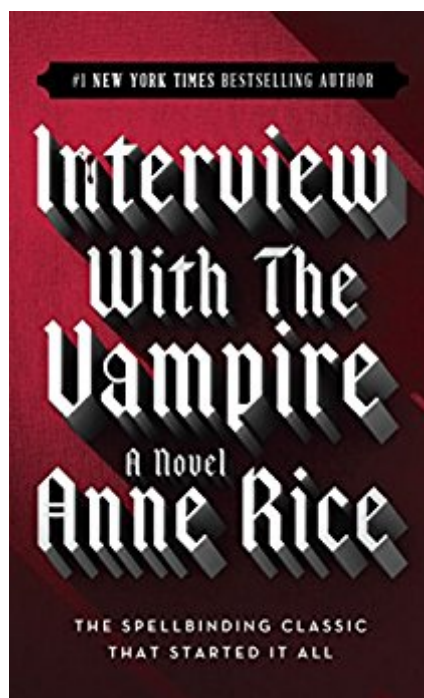




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Interview With The Vampire (The Vampire Chronicles, Book 1)



Synopsis

#1 *New York Times* Bestselling author - The spellbinding classic that started it all - Book I of the Vampire Chronicles Here are the confessions of a vampire. Hypnotic, shocking, and chillingly erotic, this is a novel of mesmerizing beauty and astonishing force - a story of danger and flight, of love and loss, of suspense and resolution, and of the extraordinary power of the senses. It is a novel only Anne Rice could write. Praise for *Interview with the Vampire* - "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*

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Customer Reviews

Sometimes a book comes along that pulls you in, and takes you far away from what you know, opening doors to other worlds and a life you had never dreamed of. A book that will haunt you for the rest of your life 'Interview With The Vampire' is one of those novels, like Wuthering Heights, Phantom of the Opera, Dracula, Frankenstein, that sweeps you away in it's twists and turns challenging ones psyche with it's soaring breadth of incredible storytelling and imagination. Well, I will tell you, this novel is right at home with these classics. As I read this novel the main story blazed like a great flame and magically lit my imagination and memory leaving an indelible and endearing mark. "Anne Rice's indomitable spirit shines and here you see how her intricate descriptions and talent of invoking deep emotions could fuel a literary career of legendary proportion." In this story Louis relates a tale of his reluctant immortality, a morose and emotionally frail man who has suffered great loss. Taken over by a force a charisma embodied in the likes of the vampire Lestat, a vain, selfish, sadistic, and 'even' *gasp* ..sardonic individual driven by his mercurial and unbridled whims. This book transformed the typical sinister vampire of mysterious gloom and doom into a wild byronic character full of philosophy and ideas, topped with a stylish and dramatic flair. An entrepreneur of acquiring property and means of great wealth. Never mind the old dark and dank castles of old, these immortals live in the lap of luxury in every way. Lestat ,you see, though not the main character somehow seems to dominate the narrative and oddly Lestat has forever seemed to be present in the chronicles even when he is not. I believe he is one of the greatest literary characters of our time and is forever entertaining in his adventures good and bad. In the tale we are transported to New Orleans 200 years ago. In Anne's words gabled houses come to life and you feel as if the tension is real. You can practically hear the crickets chirping in the night and feel the sensation, the desperation Louis conveys. There is a kind of preternatural longing in the progression of the events. Events addressing deep seated subjects that we have at one time or another felt in our psyche and maybe could not articulate? What I found most interesting is this novels structure. It is quite different from any I have ever read. On contemplating this I realized there are passages in 'Interview' that are very like our deep unconscious dreams, so real and full of odd circumstances you wake remembering the whole but then small fragments come back during the day. There are so many odd occurrences a doll shop, a tower, a subterranean lair, Armand scaling a tower with Louis, fighting monstrous creatures, along with surprising and terrible incidences that fill the whole. There is the main events that shift and change place but will end up uniting in a surprising way. I think it would not be too far fetched to compare this work to a surrealist painting such as Dali. You have the basis of a regular painting. When viewing his work it draws you in, you start to realize a clock is not just a clock it is melting on the landscape in which it lay and is quite altered and with a title like

'Persistence of Memory' the painting stirs the imagination to no end. Here in IWTV you have man transformed to something unnatural a creature seeking comfort and there are relationships but they are severely altered by the vampiric natures of these individuals. The whole question of death and our existence is challenged and begs for conversation on the subject of immortality. Claudia is a lovely young girl eternally trapped in a child's body and the limitations of her stature brings terrible frustration. Those who fall for her compulsive charms are usually teetering on the threshold of doom. Louis is repulsed by his need to kill and tries in vain to fight it with alternatives. His relationships crumble and his inner drive to survive propels him forward. Torn by his desire to love and his circumstantial and inner fluctuating need for independence. One of the greatest inventions that I feel seals this story into immortality is the blending of Theatre and Vampirism. The reality of the vampiric condition is portrayed in a theatrical production luring a mortal audience into an entertainment that is a true twist of the ordinary suspension of disbelief. In Interview Anne Rice raises a production that envelopes you in layers of atmosphere and longing. Many authors draw from deep pain and here Anne Rice transformed hers into a masterpiece. This book prompted me to attend the 'Anne Rice Vampire Lestat Ball'. Check it out @ <http://www.arvlfc.com> I was amazed at the people who loved her work. It was incredible to walk the streets of New Orleans and get a feel for what she was talking about. 'Interview With a Vampire' opened up a world I never knew. Her presence on Facebook and has taught me so much about her process and the art of writing and for this I am forever grateful. This year is a banner year for Anne Rice fans in that there is a new book arriving called 'Prince Lestat.' I highly recommend attending the ball if not this year then next. You will most likely see Anne Rice there and see the place where it all began. Did I fail to mention.... I love this book!

I had the opportunity to read through all three of the Vampire Chronicles recently in the Kindle Format. I had seen the movies, but had not read the books before this. I was overall very pleased with the Kindle series and it proved to be entertaining and enjoyable. To her credit, Anne Rice deserves the praise she has received for her writing style. She is descriptive, she does her research and she knows, for the most part, the locations and histories she writes about. She gives just enough fact to tie the reader to the story, but injects some very imaginable fiction that puts her out in front of the pack of vampire writers. Interview with the Vampire is a masterpiece. The characters of Lestat, Louis and Claudia are classics! Tormented Louis, daring Lestat and precious but tragic Claudia are so well worked that they tear at you and they keep you turning the pages to see what happens next. The historical period of the late 1700's is realistic enough to be believable. New

Orleans is the young city that shows promise and holds some of the beauty and mystery that it will become known for. The story, told by Louis, covers the making of Louis by Lestat in the last 1700's in old Louisiana and their adventures through some 60 plus years. Along the way, Lestat also makes Claudia, a 6 year old child dying from the plague. He uses Claudia to keep Louis as his companion, as he knows that Louis, who is a sentimental fool for humanity, will never leave her even if he wants to leave Lestat. Their story also takes them to Paris, Lestat's home, and they encounter traditional Vampires and Armand, their leader. To make a child so young is a sacrilege. And the story becomes a tragic opera, as all operas are destined to become. I was genuinely fascinated with this work. OK, a side note - the Kindle edition appears to have minor editing issues. I found about half a dozen spelling errors and a couple of he's that should have been she's. As this book was written in 1976, chances are it was done pre-word processor and had to be re-typed, which always ends up giving the Kindle version some issues. But overlooking this, it is clearly a classic Vampire fiction novel. I love the characters. Their stories were wonderfully told. You will love Lestat, Louis, Armand, and Claudia and will remember them for a very long time.

When I first read the Vampire Chronicles, someone loaned me "The Vampire Lestat" (book 2), which I loved, and followed with "The Queen of the Damned" (book 3), which I enjoyed. When I finally went back and read book 1, I was very disappointed. Louis seemed to be such a whiner! (I felt quite vindicated that a line to that effect was added in the movie!) Anyway, the language in this book is beautiful, and the story as told by Louis has grown on me. I still prefer Lestat's perspective .

. .

Had to read this book because I had a lit class that required us to read it. It isn't a bad book, but if you have seen the movie your head might be in a bit of confusion. I read the book first and pictured everybody as scary looking vampires but the movie didn't portray as such. Both have plenty of differences and parallels but overall still a great book to read. It shows what life as a vampire is like in a vampire's own point of view.

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