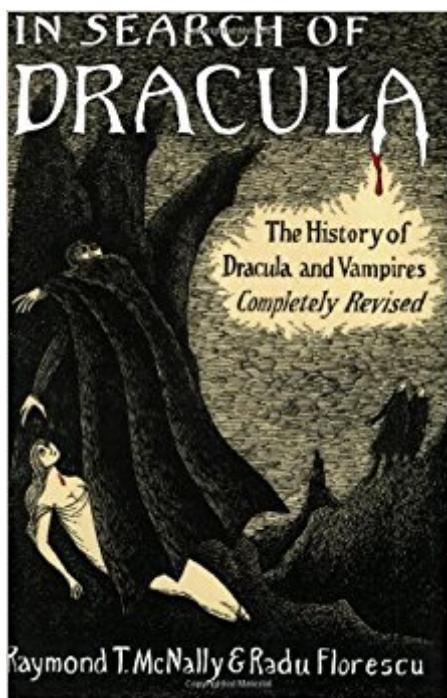


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In Search Of Dracula: The History Of Dracula And Vampires



Synopsis

The true story behind the legend of Dracula - a biography of Prince Vlad of Transylvania, better known as Vlad the Impaler. This revised edition now includes entries from Bram Stoker's recently discovered diaries, the amazing tale of Nicolae Ceausescu's attempt to make Vlad a national hero, and an examination of recent adaptations in fiction, stage and screen.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Little did the coauthors realize at the time they embarked upon this project over a glass of plum brandy in Bucharest more than twenty-five years ago, that their work would result in the discovery of the authentic, bloodthirsty prototype for Bram Stoker's famous novel Dracula." This pioneering study, first published in 1972, became a collector's item, so this fully updated edition is welcome indeed. The authors' pursuit of the notion that Vlad the Impaler (1431-76) was the original Dracula--through treks both antiquarian (in old libraries and museums) and geographic (in areas of Romania that were once Transylvania and Walachia)--has the thrill of an adventure story. In Search of Dracula is also an entertaining introduction to vampire lore and to people's obsession with Dracula. It has a delightful cover by Edward Gorey and numerous illustrations, including antique woodcuts of Vlad's impaled victims and photos from the authors' trips to Romania.

McNally and Florescu, the authors of several Dracula-related titles, here trace the history of Vlad Tepes, a.k.a. Vlad the Impaler, the murderous Romanian prince upon whom Bram Stoker based his infamous blood-drinking count (LJ 2/1/73). The duo gathered their information from Romanian

peasant oral history and firsthand archaeological research. This updated edition also includes information on the vampire legend, an extensive filmography, and excerpts from Stoker's recently discovered diaries. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc.

A fantastic exploration of the figure the vampire legend was built on. You thought Caligula was a sick bag of rabid squirrels??? You have to check out the story of Vlad the Impaler. When you can make the King of the Ottoman Turks tuck tail and go home while seeking vengeance for 20,000 of his soldiers taken prisoner...you know something sinister and twisted went down...and it's all true.

Whether this is a good book or not so good depends on your purpose in reading it. If you are looking for scholarship, skip this one. Also skip it if you are looking for information on comprehensive vampire lore. The book depends entirely on the premise that the whole Dracula legend is based entirely on the family of Vlad Tepes. It is historically accurate and what it says about the elements of the Dracula legend that do depend on Vlad the Impaler (and family members) are true. That makes it a good background book for reading Bram Stoker's Dracula (although Stoker obviously drew on more vampire legends and lore than just the historical family Dracula). It does not address any other elements of vampire lore.

Very good book. Highly rated by my Romanian friend.

a lot of the same ,no new info on the subject

Great read!

This book is brilliant. It unites folklore and history alike gracefully. This book is for the history buff and romantic vamp alike.

Well written. I could not place the book down. Excellent page turner. Happy with purchase. Will recommend book to friends.

I was disappointed with this book. I have read the authors' biography of Dracula, and found little new or worthwhile presented here. Moreover, the title is deceptive. Very little of this book is devoted to the history of vampires, and too much of it deals with modern popular culture. Given that the

authors are serious scholars, I was hoping for a detailed look at popular culture roughly at the time of Vlad Tepes. I highly recommend the authors' other book, "Dracula: Prince of Many Faces," but find little merit in this volume. I think this book might have more appeal to a general audience. So, if you are looking for some basic background on the "real" Dracula (Vlad Tepes), and the basics of how he fits into folklore and popular culture, then this book may very well be for you. It is well written, and draws on the authors' considerable knowledge. It just was not what I expected or hoped for.

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