

Vampires Today: The Truth about Modern Vampirism

By Joseph Laycock

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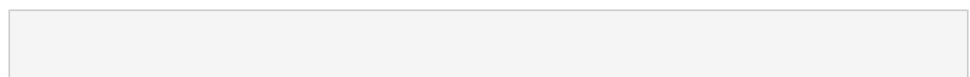
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Vampires Today: The Truth about Modern Vampirism By Joseph Laycock

What does it mean to be a vampire? Is vampirism a religion? Is it a fantasy? Is it a medical condition? Based upon extensive interviews with members of the Atlanta Vampire Alliance and others within vampire communities throughout the United States, *Vampires Today: The Truth about Modern Vampirism* looks at the many expressions of vampirism. In this book the reader will meet "lifestyle" vampires, who adopt a culture and a gothic ascetic associated with the vampires of art and legend, and "real" vampires, who feel that they must actually consume blood and/or psychic energy for their well being. The reader will hear from members of the Atlanta Vampire Alliance and will learn about the Order of the Vampyre, the Ordo Strigoi Vii, and the Temple of the Vampire.

Throughout the world, untold numbers of people are identifying as "vampires" and following the ways of "vampirism." In the past two decades, modern vampirism has come under increased study, yet most scholarship has portrayed the vampire as a cultural phenomenon and at worst as a religious cult.

Having interviewed many vampires across the country, both "lifestylers" and "real," even those "reluctants" who try not to be vampires, Laycock argues that today's vampires are best understood as an identity group and that vampirism has caused a profound change in how individuals choose to define themselves. As vampires come "out of the coffin," either as followers of a "religion" or "lifestyle" or as people biologically distinct from other humans, their confrontation with mainstream society will raise questions about the definition of "normal" and what it means to be human. Here, readers will find the details of real vampire life—including vampire role-playing games, grimoires, "vampyre" balls, vampire houses like House Sahjaza and House Kheperu, the vampire "caste" system, and other details—utterly fascinating.



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Vampires Today: The Truth about Modern Vampirism By Joseph Laycock Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

"An independent scholar delves into the phenomenon of people who identify as vampires in present-day America. From extensive interviews with lifestyle, 'real,' and reluctant vampires in communities including the Atlanta Vampire Alliance, Laycock observes vampire life in historical, media, religious, and definition of what is normal contexts. He considers vampires as an identity group rather than a cult or distinctly-evolved humans (as some contend), and predicts that they will soon be able to come out of the closet like the gay community. The book includes photos." - **Reference & Research Book News**

"Laycock does a superb job of fully exploring and explaining the different aspects of vampirism. . . . All in all, this book was a very enjoyable and edifying read. It is so deep with content, from psychology, to philosophy, to religion. . . . But, with the topic at hand being vampires, it makes for a much more twisted and amusing informational read!" - **HorrorNews.net**

"Joseph Laycock's *Vampires Today: The Truth about Modern Vampirism* is a fresh, objective and long-awaited academic study about 'real vampires'. . . . Laycock's study is one of these analyses that demonstrate and reveal a different side of the vampire subculture, one that is more diverse, less sensational or romanticised and definitely not monolithic. It is an informative study that clarifies many misconceptions about vampirism and a book that scholars or readers interested in vampirism should own. It offers extensive notes and bibliography and a useful index for navigating through the vampiric webs of the book. In regards to scholarship, it raises new questions about subjectivity and being and opens up the potential for future research in the field." - **The Gothic Imagination, University of Stirling**

About the Author

Joseph Laycock is an independent scholar and recipient of a grant from the Pluralism Project.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Paul Gay:

This book untitled Vampires Today: The Truth about Modern Vampirism to be one of several books that will best seller in this year, here is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit in it. You will easily to buy this specific book in the book retailer or you can order it through online. The publisher on this book sells the e-book too. It makes you more readily to read this book, since you can read this book in your Smart phone. So there is no reason to your account to past this e-book from your list.

Barbara Lewis:

Spent a free time to be fun activity to complete! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or their friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, going to beach, or picnic inside park. They

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Stacie Logan:

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