

# Children of the Night: A Vampire Novel

By Dan Simmons

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## Children of the Night: A Vampire Novel By Dan Simmons

"Simmons writes like a hot-rodding angel." –Stephen King

An evil legacy comes to life in this classic and ultimately human novel about believable vampires, featuring a brand-new introduction by Dan Simmons. *Children of the Night* will take you to a place that no one knows?yet all of us fear.

In a desolate orphanage in post-Communist Romania, a desperately ill infant is given the wrong blood transfusion?and flourishes rather than dies. For immunologist Kate Neuman, the infant's immune system may hold the key to cure cancer and AIDS. Kate adopts the baby and takes him home to the States. But baby Joshua holds a link to an ancient clan and their legendary leader?Vlad Tsepes, the original Dracula – whose agents kidnap the child. Against impossible odds and vicious enemies– both human and vampire – Kate and her ally, Father Mike O'Rourke, steal into Romania to get her baby back.

"A mesmerizing tour through the ghostly, gray tatters of Romania." –*Publishers Weekly*

"Simmons gives a chilling description of post-Ceausescu Romania and neatly ties the vampire legend into political history to create a new and clever twist to the idea of the vampire's craving for blood." –*Library Journal*

"His best novel ever... Toothsomely well written." –*Kirkus*

"Brilliant ideas... The most rigorous and interesting scientific rationale for vampirism I've ever seen... You keep turning the pages." –*Locus*

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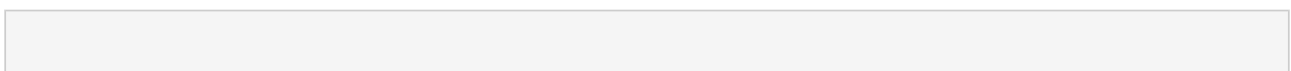
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## **Editorial Review**

From Publishers Weekly

Count Dracula kicks off the coffin lid again in this updated vampire tale, ready to stalk through the rubble of post-Communist Europe. This time, however, the count's sanguinary tipping habits may hold the cure for both AIDS and cancer. The key lies with a Romanian orphan adopted by American hematologist Kate Neuman; the infant, Joshua, has a series of rare diseases, and can survive only because his body extracts and processes genetic material from blood transfusions. If the virus in his system responsible for this ability can be isolated, his diseases could be remedied and medical marvels would be within Kate's grasp. The drawback is that Joshua has inherited his talents from the decrepit but murderous Vlad Dracula, and this patriarch of an accursed clan of blood-drinkers is more interested in perpetuating his power than in providing miracle cures for the masses. Simmons ( *Song of Kali* ) makes Children 's fantastical scientific claims easy to swallow, although the medical jargon in some of the American scenes is thicker than Bela Lugosi's accent (try out "hypogammaglobulinemia"). Still, the book offers a mesmerizing tour through the ghostly, gray tatters of Romania.

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From Library Journal

While studying diseases of the blood in present-day Romania, hematologist Kate Neuman adopts an orphaned infant with an unusual immune system. Upon her return to the States, the baby is kidnapped and returned to its homeland. Aided by an American priest and a Romanian medical student, each with his own interest in the child, Kate traces it to a mysterious group linked to the legendary Dracula. Her attempts to discover the motive behind the kidnapping and to reclaim the baby form the heart of this thrilling and wonderfully diverting novel. Simmons ( *Summer of the Night* , LJ 1/91) gives a chilling description of post-Ceausescu Romania and neatly ties the vampire legend into political history to create a new and clever twist to the idea of the vampire's craving for blood. The ending seems a bit too Indiana Jones-like, but the overall result is satisfying. An excellent choice for popular fiction collections. Previewed in Prepub Alert, LJ 2/1/92. - *Eric W. Johnson, Teikyo Post Univ. Lib., Waterbury, Ct.*

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From Kirkus Reviews

Simmons (*Summer of Night*, *Carrion Comfort*, *Song of Kali*, etc.) slips into Bram Stoker/Anne Rice territory and writes his best novel ever. The title's children of the night are those frail, ravaged infants we see televised from Romanian orphanages. Is it bad taste to suck blood from those fly-covered kids to pump up a commercial horror novel? Well, Simmons puts them to such imaginative use that ghastliness disappears. It seems that the late dictator Ceausescu and his wonderful wife Elena--in the pay of Romania's strigoi, the vampire family haunting Romania since the 1400's--outlawed birth control so that orphanages could burgeon as living blood banks for needy vamps. Vampire ruler Vernor Deacon Trent (Lord Dracula), who has had Castle Dracula rebuilt--after many, many centuries--is tired of life, wishes to die and to invest his title in his offspring, the infant Joshua. However, Joshua, now being kept in an orphanage, is adopted by American research hematologist Kate Newman, who takes him to America. Using marvelous equipment, she discovers that Joshua has both an extraordinary, all-encompassing blood type and an organ in his stomach for digesting blood and rebuilding it as a vehicle for superimmunity. Clearly, Joshua's blood, once the chemists can break it down, will supply agents that can lick AIDS, cancer, and you name it. (Simmons's strongest ploy is the superb panache of his immense and endless pedantry about blood types, which he treats as if Jesus were being reborn in this amazing blood gift.) But the strigoi chase down Kate and Joshua in the States, trash Kate's lab and research, and kidnap Joshua. Kate takes off for Romania in the company of a soon-to-resign

Catholic priest (don't miss the bathtub scene as he breaks 18 years of celibacy), and once there fights her way to Castle Dracula on the eve of Joshua's investiture.... Toothsome well written. -- *Copyright ©1992, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Dustin Davis:**

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important action, like looking for your favorite e-book and reading a reserve. Beside you can solve your problem; you can add your knowledge by the book entitled Children of the Night: A Vampire Novel. Try to face the book Children of the Night: A Vampire Novel as your pal. It means that it can to become your friend when you feel alone and beside that of course make you smarter than ever. Yeah, it is very fortunated in your case. The book makes you a lot more confidence because you can know anything by the book. So , we should make new experience and also knowledge with this book.

#### **Christopher Barry:**

Now a day those who Living in the era everywhere everything reachable by connect with the internet and the resources within it can be true or not demand people to be aware of each data they get. How people have to be smart in having any information nowadays? Of course the correct answer is reading a book. Examining a book can help folks out of this uncertainty Information especially this Children of the Night: A Vampire Novel book since this book offers you rich info and knowledge. Of course the details in this book hundred pct guarantees there is no doubt in it you probably know this.

#### **Katherine Adkins:**

With this era which is the greater individual or who has ability to do something more are more valuable than other. Do you want to become one among it? It is just simple approach to have that. What you have to do is just spending your time almost no but quite enough to enjoy a look at some books. One of several books in the top checklist in your reading list will be Children of the Night: A Vampire Novel. This book which can be qualified as The Hungry Hills can get you closer in turning into precious person. By looking upward and review this book you can get many advantages.

#### **Richard Lawrence:**

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