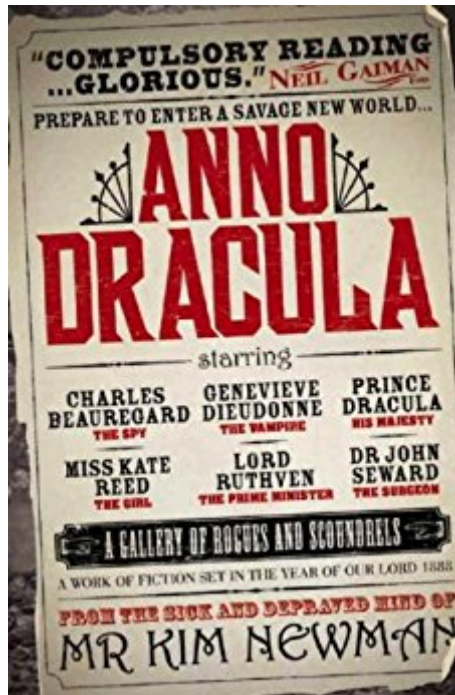




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Anno Dracula



Synopsis

"Kim Newman's Anno Dracula is back in print, and we must celebrate. It was the first mash-up of literature, history and vampires, and now, in a world in which vampires are everywhere, it's still the best, and its bite is just as sharp. Compulsory reading, commentary, and mindgame: glorious."

- Neil Gaiman "Politics, horror, and romance are woven together in this brilliantly imagined and realized novel. Newman's prose is a delight, his attention to detail is spellbinding."

- Time Out "Stephen King assumes we hate vampires; Anne Rice makes it safe to love them, because they hate themselves. Kim Newman suspects that most of us live with them"

- Anno Dracula is the definitive account of that post-modern species, the self-obsessed undead.

- New York Times "Anno Dracula will leave you breathless... one of the most creative novels of the year."

- Seattle Times "Powerful... compelling entertainment... a fiendishly clever banquet of dark treats."

- San Francisco Chronicle "A ripping yarn, an adventure romp of the best blood, and a satisfying read"

- Washington Post Book World "The most comprehensive, brilliant, dazzlingly audacious vampire novel to date. 'Ultimate' seems an apt description..."

- Anno Dracula is at once playful, horrific, intelligent, and revelatory."

- Locus "A marvelous marriage of political satire, melodramatic intrigue, gothic horror, and alternative history. Not to be missed."

- The Independent "Once you start reading this Victorian-era thriller, you will not be satiated until you reach the end."

- Ain't It Cool "Anno Dracula is the smart, hip Year Zero of the vampire genre's ongoing revolution."

- Paul McAuley "Kim Newman brings Dracula back home in the granddaddy of all vampire adventures. Anno Dracula couldn't be more fun if Bram Stoker had scripted it for Hammer. It's a beautifully constructed Gothic epic that knocks almost every other vampire novel out for the count."

- Christopher Fowler "The most interesting take on the Dracula story... to date. Recommending this one to all those that love Dracula and historical fiction!"

- RexRobotReviews--It is 1888 and Queen Victoria has remarried, taking as her new consort Vlad Tepes, the Wallachian Prince infamously known as Count Dracula. Peppered with familiar characters from Victorian history and fiction, the novel follows vampire Genevieve Dieudonné and Charles Beauregard of the Diogenes Club as they strive to solve the mystery of the Ripper murders. Anno Dracula is a rich and panoramic tale, combining horror, politics, mystery and romance to create a unique and compelling alternate history. Acclaimed novelist Kim Newman explores the darkest depths of a reinvented Victorian London. This brand-new edition of the bestselling novel contains unique bonus material, including a new afterword from Kim Newman, annotations, articles and alternate endings to the original novel.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It is 1888 and vampires are everywhere! From holding elite positions in the government to overwhelming the slums of Whitechapel, vampires have integrated into society. How would the presence of vampires change Victorian, England? This is exactly what Mr. Kim Newman tackles in his thriller novel 'Anno Dracula'. Not only is Newman spot on in his depiction of London in 1888, but he also brings in a wide range of fictional characters from Victorian novels including their authors! Characters Charles Beauregard and Genevieve Dieudonne team up to be an unstoppable duo in search of Jack the Ripper. It is hard to put the book down once you've started reading. So glad Titan Books reprinted this! I hope they continue with the sequel Anno Dracula: The Bloody Red Baron, which takes place in 1918, or I will have to get crafty and find an old copy myself!

I'm a little ashamed I never read Bram Stokers Original Dracula, not that it's necessary to have done to enjoy this book. It's an interesting trip into an alternate history in which Queen Victoria takes Vlad the Impaler as her consort. Living (un-living?) as a vampire in this world no longer means being a

monstrous outcast and it's the warm (humans) who must adjust to the new status quo. Beauregard, a gentleman and agent of the Diogenes Club, and Genevieve, a vampire older and different than Dracula, are enjoyable nuanced characters, making their way in this new world and pursuing the mystery of the Ripper of Whitechapel. The cameos and supporting characters from history and other literature are interesting without being distracting (as they tend to be in most "mash-up"/crossover type stories where public domain characters are involved). I highly recommend it and am looking forward to the next book, Bloody Red Baron. Also, great supplemental material by the author!

Premise: What if Dracula didn't lose. What if his bid to settle in England was successful? What if he then - a prince of Transylvania, after all - married Queen Victoria? This is the story of a very different history. I really enjoyed this book, despite a few glaring plot holes. Dracula's rise to power, for example, is generally glossed over. All the things that follow from that: social positions of prominent vampires, rebellions, etc. work well from the premise, but how exactly he managed to get there is left a bit fuzzy. This was mostly only a problem at one point, when you see Dracula in person, that how he became so powerful became hard to picture for me. Luckily the rest of the book is simply lovely. The assortment of characters is delightful for those of us who like to play "spot the reference": some are original, some from history, some from literature. The main plot follows the hunt for Jack the Ripper. The Ripper, like in our world, murders prostitutes. The catch is that these are vampire prostitutes. So is he crazy or fighting back against the spread of vampirism? Are those the same thing? It doesn't actually take long for the book to tell you the identity of the killer, so most of the story is figuring how and when the other characters will catch on, and what will happen then. The two main characters are quite charming, and carry much of the appeal of the book. Charles Beauregard is a young gentleman, still human to the dismay of much of his social set. He is affable, but with hidden depths, and is an agent of a particular club of unclubbable gentlemen. His relationship with his troubled fiancée is one of the more important emotional plotlines. Genevieve Dieudonné I adored. She is a vampire, but of a different line than Dracula. She is older than he is, and has complicated feelings about the fact that Dracula's rise is making vampirism socially desirable in London. She's practical while still occasionally romantic. There are an assortment of intriguing supporting characters and the period setting is quite well done, including an unpleasant darkness in some of the characters that many novels I read set in the time would have elided. Overall, a satisfying historical supernatural read.

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