Annotated Bibliography: Can Humans Be in Love with “Vampires”?

Name

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Meyer, Stephenie. *Twilight*. Atom, 2015.

    This book describes a romantic story between a human Belle and a vampire Edward. This is a classic love fiction novel, which was gradually made into an extraordinary movie by later generation. Because of parents’ divorce, 17-year-old Belle leaves her mother to Forks, Washington and starts her new life with her father. As a freshman in her new school, she finds out that Edward stays with a mysterious group of students which nearly have zero contact with other students. Once a truck runs into Belle, she gets safe due to sudden appearance of Edward. Gradually, Belle can’t help falling in love with Edward. However, Edward’s secret can’t be hidden for a long time, Edward tells Belle that he’s a vampire. Belle, infatuated with love, had no choice but to accept the truth. However, they didn’t know that an inevitable disaster is waiting for them. The strength is it fits the topic of the research paper perfectly, but weakness is it just a novel. There is something else reflects reader like what Belle sees in Edward, and it can be a strong point. The research paper will only concern in what characters that Edward has which make Belle irresistible. This story can be arranged to the beginning, it’s the direction of further research.

Barber, Paul. *Vampires, Burial and Death: Folklore and Reality*. UP, 1988.

    Unlike the *Twilight*, this book investigates the authenticity of vampire.  The book attracts a lot of readers because of its comprehensive research. The auther Paul Barber studied the rumors in centuries and explain each story in a scientific way. Paul Barber explains the acceptable reasons that behind “vampires”, it reduces people’s fear in a large extent. According to Barber, “a narrated event, however ‘real’, may end up in later retellings with little or no resemblance to what we think of as reality”(Barber). Those stories are real and they can be interpreted, it’s just people’s fear of unknown stuffs. On the other hand, since the stories have been narrated by later generations, it’s inevitable that various versions appear. Thus, the book is persuasive and accurate. This piece can be distributed in how people regard vampires as a fear in the past becomes an obsession nowadays.

Philip, M. B. (1985). Rare Disease Proposed as Cause For ‘Vampires’. The New York Times.

Accessed via <https://www.nytimes.com/1985/05/31/us/rare-disease-proposed-as-cause-for-vampires.html>

The article talks about the ideas of Dr. David Dolphin concerning the cause for vampires. Dolphin is a biochemist working at the University of British Columbia in Canada. He suggests that vampires and werewolves, the feared mythical monsters, are people suffering from an uncommon category of genetic disorder. He explains that the condition is caused by a malfunction during the production of crucial chemicals in the body, leaving the victims horribly disfigured. In addition, it also turns them into night creatures, causing them to suck blood from human beings. Dolphin also provides a rationalization of the vampires’ aversion to sunlight and fear of garlic. Although Dolphin claims that the disorder affects only one in every 200,000 people, his rationale is not credible or reasonable because there is no evidence to prove it. His research is also not comprehensive, as he fails to clarify why vampires only suck human blood and not animals’.

Vranich, B. (2011). Why We Love Vampires: The Psychology behind the Obsession. Huffpost.

Retrieved from <https://m.huffpost.com/us/entry/us_655674>

Whether vampires are real or fictitious, they have very interesting characteristics. The article outlines and explains ten psychological reasons behind the human obsession of vampires. An example of the reasons why people think these monsters are so fascinating includes their powerfulness. According to the author, vampires do not need muscles for strength; they are naturally strong without physical training. They can also move at speeds that the human eye cannot see, heal quickly when hurt and they also have very powerful senses. Another reason for human obsession with vampires is their modesty. They are calm and slick and do not need a lot of gears and paraphernalia for their activities. In other words, they do not depend on gadgets such as cars or weapons, because they are extremely fast. It is true that the extraordinary characteristics of vampires are interesting for people, and therefore the article is credible and accurate. The article is also reasonable; the author does not argue whether vampires exist or not, but only discusses about why people love them.

Kelsey, K. (2017). The Myth of a Medical Explanation for Vampirism. Atlas Obscura. Accessed

via <http://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/myth-medical-explanation-vampirism-porphyria>

The myth of vampires has been around for a very long time, in one form or the other. The myth holds opposing views in different parts of the world, but there is one feature about vampires that is universally common; sucking blood from human beings. Scholars in the modern society have turned to medical literature in search for explanations about myth. This has led them to suggest that vampirism is indeed related to the symptoms of known disorders. However, it has been very difficult to link the dreaded mythical monster to existing human disease because of insufficient evidence and strong criticism. A Canadian biochemist, David Dolphin, suggested that a disease called porphyria turns real human beings into werewolves and vampires, but is rare. This claim has been trashed by some scholars such as Winkler and Anderson, who warned that mythology should not be interpreted in the real medical study because the dark fears disrupt scientific understanding. The medical explanations for vampirism have all been underplayed, meaning that the article is not credible.

Kenrick, D. T. (2016). Supernatural Stimuli: Why Women Love Vampires. Psychology Today.

Retrieved from <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/sex-murder-and-the-meaning-life/201610/supernatural-stimuli-why-women-love-vampires>

According to the author of this article, women are so much attracted to vampires because of their supernatural characteristics. He also provides several reasons to explain why these characters are appealing to them. One reason why woman find vampires so interesting is supernatural attractiveness. Naturally, according to the evolutionary psychology research, there are specific attributes that women find desirable in their potential male companions, including resources such as money and the men’s ability to protect them. Incidentally, vampires often possess exaggerated features that women really like. For instance, they are immortal, meaning that they can live forever. This also allows them to remain youthful for a lifetime, and that is how women like it. They are also formidable and can withstand extreme physical attack. This assures women the protection they desire for. The vampire features described by the author are indeed liked by women, and therefore the article is accurate and credible.

Stoker, B. & Roger, L. (2011). Dracula. Oxford University Press.

The book introduces a monster to the world; the Count Dracula, whose main goal is to bring his contagion to the city of London, the capital of the British Empire. The coming of the Dracula brings panic among the people, who begin to look for ways that they can return him back to where he came from, before the whole Empire falls to his legion. Only few people stand in the way of the Dracula and his legion, but they are weak and vulnerable against the devious and paranormal powers of the monsters. Unless Van Helsing convinces them that vampires still lurk during this era of electric light, the Dracula is likely to be victorious. The story is a modern classic, with underlying themes like superstition, religion, sexuality, race and science. It is based on fiction, and therefore cannot be used to prove the existence of vampires.

Deborah, W. (2006). Not Your Mother’s Vampire: Vampires in Young Adult Fiction. Scarecrow

Press, Inc.

The book covers an analysis of twenty vampire novels, as well as the “Buffy the Empire Slayer”, the representations of vampires intended for younger audiences. The structure of the book includes an outline of vampire scholarships and the analysis of the characteristics of vampires, which features the discussion about the conventions and sexuality of vampires. “Not Your Mother’s Vampire” also analyzes human characters, which features the discussion about humans who battle against the vampires and humans who date them. According to the book, vampires have desires just like human beings do. They must suck blood from humans to survive and exposure to direct sunlight can kill them. This is a fictional literature, and its contents cannot credibly explain the existence of vampires. The author also writes that the book is based on imaginary tale, to compare the features of vampires to those of humans.

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Kelsey, K. (2017). The Myth of a Medical Explanation for Vampirism. Atlas Obscura. Accessed

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