



The Anti-Vampire Tale (The Anti-Vampire Tale, #1)

Lewis Aleman

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Simon is a vampire, prowling through the dark New Orleans streets that pulse with wild adventure and fangs gleaming in the shadows. He's spent the last few decades as a recluse, aching over a lost love. Now, he's put it behind him, thirsting to fulfill the raging inner need he's deprived himself for so long.

Ruby feels isolated and out of place—lonely, shy, but too strong-minded to go along with the crowd. All that changes when she is dragged out for her birthday and ends up dancing with Simon—mysterious, blue-eyed, and gorgeous. Her body tingles watching his muscled form move—so fast, so smooth, so powerful. His smile is otherworldly, and his kiss charges her with electric energy. All seems to be going well until three other vampires appear in the crowd, turning the dance floor into a horror show.

The other vampires, led by the vicious Roderick, are after a new fix—the new breed. It's a mix of blood and something secret that's driven them to a desperate addiction, making them reckless and willing to tear anyone apart to get to it, and Ruby's best friend, Ambrosia, has something they need to make it. When Ambrosia flees New Orleans for her life, they relentlessly hunt the one person who knows where she is: Ruby.

Stalked by ravenous vampires at every turn, Ruby's only hope for survival is her handsome new love. Through crowded dance floors, wild forests, high-speed car races, and even into Roderick's horrific dwelling filled with hostile vampires, Simon risks his life trying to keep her safe while being outnumbered at every turn and mesmerized by her every second—even while facing death, danger, and darkness.

PRAISE for LEWIS ALEMAN:

"Lewis's hold-your-breath style of descriptive writing will keep you swimming in his creative vocabulary for hours...multi-layered metaphors...elaborate prose..."

--Alex Hutchinson - Blogcritics, January 22, 2008

"There is craftsmanship in Aleman's details; elaborate use of adjectival simile and metaphor ... stimulates ... memorable ..."

--Where Y'At Magazine, Dionne Charlet, February 2010

"...adventurous, fast paced...loved the twists and turns...Lewis writes beautifully, his work is filled with great detailed descriptions...a great adventure. I haven't seen anything out like it."

--La Femme Readers, December 12, 2009

"Aleman's unique writing style captures the reader from page one...takes the reader through a dark journey..."

"An enthralling story of vengeance, Cold Streak is deftly written and a must for thriller fans..."

-- Midwest Book Review, June 2008

The Anti-Vampire Tale (The Anti-Vampire Tale, #1) Details

Date : Published (first published December 2nd 2010)

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Author : Lewis Aleman

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Angie says

I can appreciate that Aleman is using a rather unique style of writing for this type of genre even if it doesn't exactly work for me as the reader. It becomes poetic at times, and fast paced, particularly in scenes involving dialogue. I also liked that we experience multiple points of view - not just the main protagonists. There was one section of a chapter written from Maxine's POV that stood out to me -- a section I wish we had had more of in the book. Nothing really happened in the chapter other than we get a major glimpse into who Maxine is... Ultimately, I had wished for more insights into our main lovers (more background), occasionally more context to set up some scenes, and lastly, where was the S E X? LOL! Seriously. All in all, interestingly written, but too tame for my tastes.

Cynthia says

I really don't like to write bad reviews or to bash a book--normally. Urg, I don't even know where to start with this one. Well, just take a look at the synopsis. Does it really have to be that long to get you to read the book? Honestly, the synopsis tells the whole story, so why even bother?

The characters are not interesting by any means. They seem very one-dimensional to me. The only character I found interesting was the crazy, cat-lady vampire. I don't feel the chemistry between the two main characters, Simon and Ruby, at all.

Another thing that bugged me about this story is that its written in the present tense. It's just my opinion, but I think a story flows better when written in the past tense.

A weak plot + uninteresting characters = me bored out of my mind. The only thing that I can give this story credit for is not having tons of mindless editing errors. It was formatted for the kindle well and I liked the graphics at the beginning of the chapters.

There is no doubt some people MIGHT enjoy this book, but it just wasn't for me by any means. If you still want to take a crack at reading this story, be my guest, but don't say I didn't warn ya!

Kaitlyn "noir says

I haven't loved a book like this in a long time. I'm a college student, so I'm a little too old to be in the vampire book audience. A friend of mine who does love vampire books told me to read this one that I'd love it, so I gave it a shot. I have to say I really loved it. I read it with the Kindle app on my iPhone4, and the palms of my hands had the imprint of the phone on them when I was finished. I haven't read a book that fast since Pride and Prejudice back in high school. Simon is a fascinating character, and I also loved to hate Edgar. I liked Ruby as a heroine. I feel a lot like she does. The college I go to has a HUGE party scene that is just not for me, so I know exactly how she feels. I wouldn't give this to a preteen, but I think teens on up should have no problem loving this book.

P.S. - A note to GOODREADS: Why is this book listed twice with different reviews and comments on each page?

Laura says

The Anti Vampire Tale sounded right up my street. Having read what feels like a whole library full of vampire fiction and the legions of spin offs that followed the success of Twilight I was looking for something a bit different and I thought this could well be it. I liked the idea of a fantasy book that doesn't follow the normal rules and conventions of generic vampire fiction and the first chapter of this book led me to believe that I was about to be taken into a new world, one I hadn't read of before, where vampires would become something we hadn't seen yet. Myths such as staking and the burning of vampires were busted and that biting a human could turn them into a vampire were shot down. This felt like it was going to be more exciting and completely radical to the vampire books I'm used to. What it turned out to be was exactly the same as any other vampire book really – vampire meets human (human who doesn't feel she fits in and is a bit of a loner – surprise surprise!) within two seconds of their meeting they are completely in love with each other, danger then enters and the vampire has to save his love from the enemy which he will go to many lengths to do. There is absolutely nothing different in this plot than the vast amount of vampire books that have gone before. This doesn't mean I didn't enjoy it – the characters are ok, I like the different chapters from different characters viewpoints etc. I just felt like this book was promising something that it then didn't deliver which left me feeling a bit disappointed. If you enjoy fantasy fiction you probably will like this but if you think that this is the book to turn vampire literature on its head it isn't. Many great ideas were started but then not given the thought they could have been. Such as that a human can't turn into a vampire from a bite – where do vampires come from then – there was some mention of mothers but this seemed to be completely left behind as the action ensued. Getting to the bottom of some of the statements like this that were made would have really given the book some depth – I felt like it could have done with being a bit longer and more explanations on parts like this given.

Tanya Melcher says

For starters let me say that I'm 37, a mother of 2, a college graduate, and I work at a law firm. So I was a little worried that this book might be too much for teens for me to really enjoy it. I read the preview and liked it, so I bought the whole book. I was very happy to see that my worries were for nothing, and this book has a great plot with real, three-dimensional characters in it. I also liked that the main characters aren't fickle but are rational and intelligent. What's put me off before about vampire books is the main female is weak and rushes right into a relationship with someone who has all the characteristics of a serial killer or at least an abusive, domineering male. This book isn't like that. Ruby is smart, although unsure of herself, and even though the romance is hot and she's completely burning for Simon and smitten with him, she never loses her strength of character or her intelligence. It was nice to see a young female in love who is still a strong, smart person. The romance also was very real because it builds. The attraction is powerful and nearly instant, but they aren't promising each other they'll love each other forever from the first time they meet like so many of the other vampire books. The relationship is a lot like if you met a gorgeous, exciting guy. You can't stop thinking about him and are totally hot for him, but you have to get to know him to love him. And she does get to love him. Like I said their attraction is very hot, but when they get there you feel like it's real because they've earned it after all they've been through together. I really loved this book, and I especially recommend it to any adult looking for a great vampire book.

Antonia says

Ruby doesn't fit in with humans; Simon doesn't fit in with vampires. They meet; they dance - and then a psychotic vampire named Roderick with a taste for a sick new type of blood shows up and tries to kidnap Ruby's best friend. What started as a perfect evening turns into a nightmare, and the plot quickly turns from romance to action as Simon does everything he can to protect Ruby and her friend from certain death at the hands of Roderick and his blood-junkie goons.

The timing is perfect; the balance between action and romance just right. The romance is sizzling but not sappy, without the unnecessary drama and angst that so many books in this genre succumb to. (There's a really funny moment when they're hiding in the woods and Ruby needs to answer nature's call.) The vampires are incredibly strong and fast, but they're not magical. Everything is explained scientifically, which makes the whole thing more believable and increases the fun. There are even a few good-natured pokes at other vampire lore, which made me laugh out loud.

The Anti-Vampire Tale is fast-paced and exciting, sure to please both fans and critics of Twilight. Aleman's trademark style shines through, full of poetic descriptions and in-depth character analysis, yet the plot never drags. The first-person narration and changing point of view draw the reader further in. Simply put, anyone who enjoys a good vampire story will love The Anti-Vampire Tale.

John says

After hearing about this book's premise I was instantly interested in reading it. The Anti-Vampire Tale sets itself up as being different from your traditional vampire novels however after the first page and its introduction where it's explained that vampires can't turn others into vampires by biting them it quickly reverts to a typical Twilight style vampire love story where vampire meets girl and 20 minutes later they're head over heels in love.

The author spends the first couple pages having his protagonist explain how real vamps are different from those often found in popular culture however it seems like the only vampire story the author has ever read are the Twilight books. He explains how vamps can be killed and aren't invincible as if that's something cool which sets his story apart, well it's only in Stephanie Meyer's books where that is the case and fictional vampires are usually killed quite easily with a stake in the heart or via crosses. He also goes through a lot of effort to explain how vamps aren't as glamorous and attractive as those in popular culture and yet his main protagonist is even more of a silly caricature than the Edward Cullen character in Twilight. EVERY woman who lays eyes on him falls in love and he's portrayed as being... um, glamorous and perfect.

This was one of the few books that I just couldn't tolerate enough to read all the way through despite my initial time investment. After getting maybe 40% through the story I was tired of it and had to put it down. The pacing is good but the plot was just weak. The characters weren't interesting at all, that goes for the heroes as well as the villains. The Anti-Vampire tale felt like a more urban and slightly more gritty version of Twilight with far less interesting characters and a dramatically less interesting over-all plot.

All of the overly positive reviews are baffling. I rated Twilight 2 stars (The sequels three stars because the writing got better) so I'm clearly not a fan of this sub-genre however I find it hard to believe that even teen girls looking for a paranormal romance thriller could consider it worthy of 5 stars.

Zoeyreader says

If you love paranormal books like I do, you're going to love this book! Anti-Vampire Tale captured my attention like no other I've read so far, and I've read a ton of paranormal like Twilight, House of Night, Vampire Academy, even Anita Blake. There was something about Simon that fascinated me. He's my favorite vampire I've ever read about and he's definitely my fictional crush of the moment. I liked following Ruby through her adventures with vampires. She seemed a lot like me or someone I'd want to be friends with. This seemed like a more grown-up Twilight, but it was every bit as much fun.

Carol F says

I'm a book lover who had to stop reading for fun for a few years because life got too busy with college classes and work. I just started getting back into reading a book a week again, and I'm been loving it. My friends have been recommending a lot of books to me, and they're all paranormal series. I started reading the Mercy Thompson series, and I love it. Then I started The Anti-Vampire Tale, and I love it too. I really didn't think I'd like supernatural books this much, but they've been awesome so far. I loved the characters and the story. I loved the story of Simon risking his life to protect Ruby, and I loved to hate Roderick and Edgar. It was exciting and a lot of fun, but it felt very real too. I liked it so much that I started with the next book as soon as I finished this one.

Wendy S. says

Even though it was really trying hard to stay away from "Twilight" and similar Vampire books, I found it to be extremely cliché, banal and monotonous. I also didn't like any of the characters.

Kaitlyn "noir says

I haven't loved a book like this in a long time. I'm a college student, so I'm a little too old to be in the vampire book audience. A friend of mine who does love vampire books told me to read this one that I'd love it, so I gave it a shot. I have to say I really loved it. I read it with the Kindle app on my iPhone4, and the palms of my hands had the imprint of the phone on them when I was finished. I haven't read a book that fast since Pride and Prejudice back in high school. Simon is a fascinating character, and I also loved to hate Edgar. I liked Ruby as a heroine. I feel a lot like she does. The college I go to has a HUGE party scene that is just not for me, so I know exactly how she feels. I wouldn't give this to a preteen, but I think teens on up should have no problem loving this book.

Steph says

Mmmm well guess I will start at the beginning.

A vampire who has been out of touch with himself and the world (due to a dead lover) for five decades. Ruby doesn't fit in anywhere either. Her best friend Ambrosia (which even though it wasn't her real name - she was called this through out which was a little annoying, and she had blue hair... come on! Trying a little to hard to be different) took her to a club for her birthday. It was here she ended up meeting Simon. They danced a little and apparently just fell in love (which for me was a little unbelievable but I guess it happens). Her freind Ambrosia had previuosly had a one night stand with Roderick, not knowing that he was a vampire. She bacame pregnant after their night together. So her unborn baby was the 'new breed'. Roderick wanted the baby and therefore began to hunt her down. Ruby and simon were helping her so that she wasn't discovered! Ambrosia, because she was bored in hiding, came back to the club that Roderick owns (which was soo stupid of her). Ruby is taken hostage in order to swap her for Ambrosia
I will leave it there for those who would like to read it.
The book was ok. Just a short, readable story but really nothing special!

Rachel Sharpe says

"The Anti-Vampire Tale" is the first novel in the saga by Lewis Aleman of the same title and it is well-worth a read. While the vampire genre has been popular for years, with the public's current interest escalating thanks to the "Twilight" series, Aleman's tale offers a humorous and refreshing take on the age-old myth. From the beginning to the end, the story maintains a fast pace and keeps the reader's interest, taking on various points-of-view for dramatic effect. I would highly recommend this novel to anyone who enjoys the vampire genre and is looking for a new twist to the story, especially if one enjoys clever eighties references and doesn't want to read anymore about glittery creatures of the night.
