



The Drayton Chronicles

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The evolution of a vampire.

Drayton doesn't know what he is. Or why he has lived for thousands of years. He takes not his victim's blood but the silky essence of their soul during their last breath. Often mistaken for the Angel of Death, his victims sometimes ask for forgiveness. Sometimes he delivers.

After all, he is not without sin.

The Drayton Chronicles Details

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From Reader Review The Drayton Chronicles for online ebook

Deborah says

I would say this was a different kind of book for me but lately I've been branching out a little regarding what I read, one of the advantages of the kindle and free books, this said I still like a romantic vein to run through them even if it's not the whole purpose of the book. I wasn't sure what to expect from this book and it did take me a little while to get fully in sync with it but once I did I became totally absorbed and just couldn't put it down and I mean that literally I fell asleep while reading it. It's a very interesting book the main character Drayton is something of an enigma not knowing how old he is or what he is, is he the angel of death, a vampire, a demon. He takes the life essence from people as they are dying, he knows their thoughts, feelings and pasts, he rights the wrongs they've left behind, is he an angel or something else entirely. It's not until the last book that we really discover anything about Drayton, he doesn't remember being born, has he been around since time began, we get glimpses into his past, some of the things he's done, what he used to be and how he's evolved.

One thing I didn't like was the cover apart from not really appealing to me, yes I can see the irony in this since I read the book but I don't think it's represents the contents it's looks more like a demonic Shrek than how Drayton is described.

I really enjoyed this book and would advise you to give it a try it might surprise you and since it's free all you've got to lose is a little time.

Joanne Hopkins says

I really liked the chronicles... yes it's a change from the normal vampire novels out there but change is good ! It was extremely well written, but I found myself bonding more with the other characters through out his travels rather than him. Definitely worth reading and keeping an eye out for any more work from this author.

John Hancock says

I delayed reviewing this because I knew whatever I wrote in my review could not come close to the level to which I was impressed, moved, and intrigued by this collection. Every once in a while you read something that is deceptively simple, yet profound to the point of utter complexity. The razor's edge between life and death, between significance and loss, between depravity and redemption. It's all there, in these seemingly basic, softly-told tales.

What is a life worth? What is honor? what is virtue? What is obligation? Why am I asking all these questions? because these exquisite little morsels of stolen life turn round in your mind after reading. I am a fan of Bertauski's work anyways, but I feel enlightened by this collection beyond his other work.

Please read these. then thank me. cause I like being right.

Pam says

Enjoyed the stories. Refreshing for me for a character that was a "possible" vampire to go beyond the blood lust and evolve into something that no longer requires blood and has become something much more humane. Written in short stories that could easily be adapted into a television series.

Jackie says

Overall, The Drayton Chronicles was really good. It was refreshing for me to read something out of my normal reading, and i was never sure about short stories, but these didn't disappoint. The chapters were short, and somehow that made the book flow more easily for me and it kept me going. It was a nice, easy read, and I liked Drayton. He's a wonderful character, although some of the others weren't.

One or two of the stories weren't as easy to read as the other ones because of the violence described. Personally, the only thing that made me roll my eyes was the fact that people were trying to find out who he was on the internet. That, and the fact that women's breast size were described a little more than necessary when it had nothing to do with the story.

I think it deserves 4 stars because this was interesting take on vampire origins. The stories were interesting would have a good conclusions; some better than others. (The Bearing of the Cross was my favorite. It was like a puzzle coming together.) These chronicles got me thinking about Drayton's beginning, and how vampires eventually became what they are.

Aniket Harsh says

Many a grand meanings we associate with life and our purpose in this world. Delusions of grandeur, power, ownership, beauty and youth fill out the spiritual void inside us. And there in we forget that we are naught but mud and the only destiny that awaits us is the return to that self-same mud.

Reading Drayton Chronicles, I was reminded of a tale that was often recited to me during my childhood:

"Once there was a great wise saint who could take the form of a falcon whenever he desired. One day he was crossing a desert in the company of a friend. When night fell, it was bitter cold and they had no means of making a fire. The friend suddenly came up with the idea that the saint should turn into his falcon form and travel to hell from where he can bring back some fire. The saint agreed and flew over to hell. Soon he returned but he was empty handed. When the friend inquired, he informed him there was no fire to be seen in hell yet the occupants were burning. The friend wondered how could this be. To which the saint answered that the sinners burnt from within. They brought their fire with them when they came to hell. All those bad things they did, all those people they hurt and oppressed, all regrets of things unsaid and undone it is that guilt which burns their soul."

I found Drayton to be the collective soul of humanity. He has learnt over time the value of compassion yet humanity has moved on leaving him behind. He is timeless. He is Justice. He is vengeance. He is Redemption. Like the mother holding you at birth, he holds you through death. He is as lost as we are. He knows not his purpose nor his goal yet he has come to terms with "the not knowing", unlike us narcissist humans. We who know, yet balk when death comes for us. Drayton walks in the dark recesses of all our

souls. He is the deliverer.

It is a great novel, one of the very best I had the opportunity to read in a long time.

Amanda Phillips says

The Drayton Chronicles took me longer than normal to read because it wasn't my usual feel good chick lit. Instead, it at times made you stop and think or cringe in disgust at human behavior that really does take place. It took me a bit to get into the book, only reading about 15% the first two days that I had it. But I pushed through until I found myself reaching for it the moment I woke up in the middle of my sleep schedule. I couldn't stop until I finished it and I'm happy that I didn't give up. It turned out to be one of the best books I've read recently.

Drayton is a man (being?) that doesn't know what he is. All he knows is that he remembers being a part of history as far back as it goes, which he reveals when he sees a psychiatrist. I love the way that until the last story you didn't know much of anything about him. He stayed a mystery till the very end and left you with only one question. What IS Drayton?

I'd love to see what all of you think of him after you read The Drayton Chronicles! I highly recommend it to anyone that loves to read books that make you see humanity as it really can be.

I'm giving this 4 out of 5 stars because there were parts in the book where words had been skipped and a few areas that I had to read multiple times because they didn't make complete sense. This took away a bit of enjoyment from me. I loved the story but am deducting just a bit because of editing issues.

Disclosure: This book was given to me by the author in exchange for an honest review, which I have given. I certify that I have read the entire book (no skimming either!) and am basing my review upon characters, format, ease or difficulty of reading subject matter morally, ability to understand, typos, and any surface errors.

Denise - No Longer on Goodreads says

I read the first Drayton story (The Taker) and loved the premise, so when I saw that "The Drayton Chronicles" were out, I picked them up. So glad I did! I love the character of Drayton, and each story was rather different in substance but still managed to revolve quite well around Drayton. The compilation had a few minor editing flaws, but otherwise was a highly engaging and entertaining read, and, if the premise intrigues you, I highly recommend you give it a try! I personally can't wait to hear more of Drayton's stories - I sure hope there are more!

Heather says

These stories are fantastic. Not your typical "vampire" fare - frankly, as I read them I didn't even really think of Drayton as a vampire. Great storytelling, and emotional. I hope there are more stories to follow.

Sarah Oxford says

I really struggled to decide how to rate this book. I couldn't decide whether to go with how well written I found it and how much it affected me, or to rate according to how much I enjoyed it. If the latter then I'd have marked lower. I didn't *enjoy* it much at all. But I decided that was a personal thing and that truth be told if I was in a different place in my life I would have enjoyed it a lot more.

The stories are very well written and with each one I felt like I was a more enlightened person at the end. They are almost moral tales, exposing something desparate and sometimes depraved and putting it into context. Forgiveness, revenge, understanding, remorse, appreciating everyday life for what it is. The stories are each kind of satisfying in the way they are wrapped up, but it's not a warm and happy feeling. Instead they feel morbid. The exception would be the last novella in the collection, Numbers. With this one I was left with a smile on my face and peace in my heart.

Where I found the conclusions and the morals of the stories satisfying and even sometimes heart warming, I have to say I found the process quite distressing. They are far too dark and painful for me. The language too explicit and some scenes depicted were sickeningly unpleasant. But as I said, I recognise that what I enjoy right now is romance and fantasy and a HEA. Back many years ago when I read American Psycho I probably wouldn't have been so squeamish as I am now!

I don't usually read short stories or novellas but thought that as these were in a collection that there may be soem character growth between the novellas. I was a little disappointed in this. I only in Numbers felt that I was begining to see some emotion in Drayton. I guess I understand that being as old as he is would make him fairly controlled but from a readers perspective a character is lifeless and uninteresting without some *heart* or feeling. I missed this personally.

To summarise, I found this collection a well written thought provoking read but a little too distressing in content and language for my tastes.

Maryalice says

These stories are different from anything I've read before. It is not something i would have gotten on my own, but i won a copy of the book in a contest. I read it and am glad i did, but really don't know what to say about the book except it is well written and interesting.

Wendy says

This was an interesting read. I have read other books by Tony and really enjoyed them, so when the first book in this set was free on Amazon I jumped on it. I read it, loved it and then bought the set. I do have to say that the first and the last stories in this set were the best for me. The stories in between had some very dark content and to me were not really about Drayton as much as about the other characters. I probably would have enjoyed them more if they had focused more on Drayton. He was by all means the most interesting aspect of these Chronicles. One thing that I can say about all of the stories that I have read by

Tony Bertauski, is that they are thought provoking and that they stay with me, long after I finish reading them.

Debbie says

This is the most original vampire fiction I've ever read. Drayton is portrayed as an immortal creature that begins as little more than an animal, with no knowledge of his origins. He is apparently alone, as there is no mention of him ever encountering another like himself. Over thousands of years, he learns and evolves, leaving savagery behind, and developing some respect for the humans that sustain him. While he will never be human, he develops some very human traits.

These stories are all about character development, Drayton's character as well as the people he deals with in each story. I enjoyed all of them, but I thought the final story was off base. It's not a bad story, it just didn't seem to follow the theme of the others. Drayton was mostly in the sidelines of that one, and his role was not well defined.

Very entertaining reading. I enjoyed it.

Shelle Pennington says

I do not know what to say. My feelings are as complex as the short. stories.

Adele says

Great collection of novellas.
