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The Vampire Within: New Blood

Drew Silver BookSurge Publishing (2007) ISBN 9781419667794 Reviewed by Paige Lovitt for Reader Views (7/07)

"The Vampire Within: New Blood," is the second book in the "The Vampire Within" trilogy. It begins immediately where "The Vampire Within: The Beginning," left off. As in the first one, the action is constant and keeps you sitting on the edge of your seat. I hated having to put this book down. The little things in life like eating and going to work were an annoyance, because I didn't want to have to stop reading this story!

The trilogy continues in Triton City, California, where students have been injected with a serum that is to help them mentally and physically. In this story, we learn that the serum has been derived from the DNA of the remains of a vampire found buried in Romania. The adversary of the doctor who began administering this serum is now injecting his own group of students. The recipients of an earlier strain of this serum have turned into blood hungry creatures. Supposedly, the formula has been improved. The heroes in this story who have been injected with the new version still find themselves fighting the desire to feed. They also continue to have an aversion to sunlight and wooden stakes in their hearts. Their physical strength and speed, and their ability to heal are their gifts.

The students injected with the new strain are at battle with the recipients of the old strain. The old recipients are now scary, rotting creatures with no humanity left in them. The heroes are saddened to discover that they can recognize who some of these creatures used to be. They also learn a lot more about the people behind this travesty and about the betrayal involved.

I totally enjoyed this novel – "The Vampire Within: New Blood." Unlike most movies, the sequel is just as good if not better than the first book. You can read it on its own, but I know that if you do, you will be drawn to read the first one. So buy both books, enjoy reading them and then join me while I wait for the third in the trilogy.