



WILLIAM MORROW

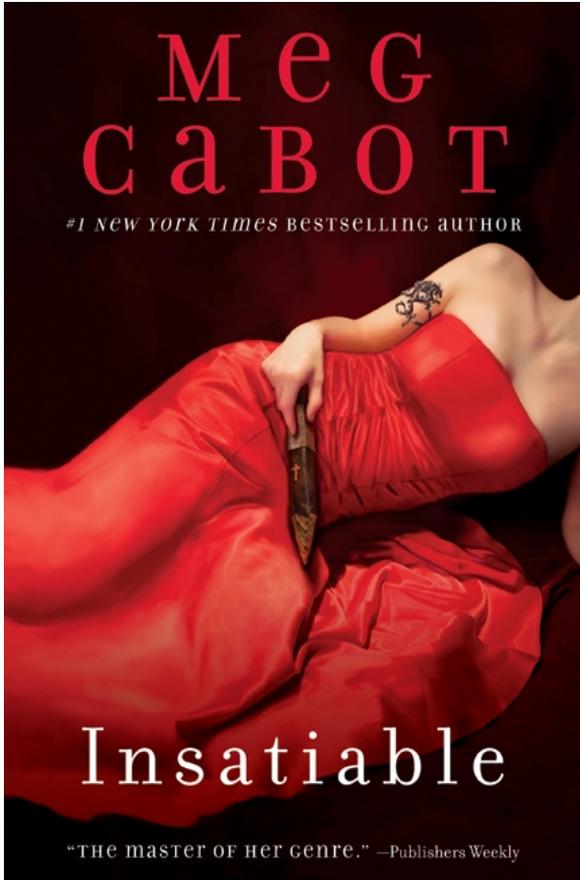
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MEG
CABOT

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

Insatiable

"THE MASTER OF HER GENRE." —Publishers Weekly

Insatiable

By #1 *New York Times* Bestselling Author
Meg Cabot

You Are What You Eat

Vampires. This isn't the first time they've taken a bite out of popular culture.

And with **INSATIABLE**, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Meg Cabot blends trend with tradition as only she can to create a fresh, funny, pulse-pounding and poignant update of our darkest eternal gothic romance, *Dracula*.

Sick of hearing about vampires? So is Meena Harper. But as a writer for *Insatiable*, the second-hottest daytime soap, Meena's being forced to use a vampire story line to boost ratings. Not that she isn't familiar with the supernatural: Meena's always known how everyone she meets is going to die . . . until

she crosses paths with Lucien Antonescu. Lucien's tall, dark, and lacking an expiration date: Could Meena finally have met The One?

She certainly thinks so. . . until Alaric Wulf, a member of a secret society of vampire hunters, swoops in to insist Meena's new boyfriend is "The Prince of Darkness." A direct descendant of *the* Dracul, Lucien is embroiled in an apocalyptic battle to retain control of the kingdom of night.

Meena's past relationships have always been a pain in the neck, but this is taking things to a whole new level. Now Meena's got a lot more on her mind than ratings . . . such as the end of the world.

With **INSATIABLE**, Meg Cabot injects some much needed gothic romance (and humor) back into the vampire oeuvre, and once again stakes her claim as the "master of her genre."

About Meg Cabot:

Meg Cabot (www.megcabot.com) is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of more than twenty-five series and books that have sold more than fifteen million copies worldwide. Her Princess Diaries series, published in more than 38 countries, was made into two hit movies by Disney. Meg also wrote the bestselling Mediator and Queen of Babble series, as well as 1-800-Where-R-You? (on which the television series, *Missing*, was based). Meg currently writes the Allie Finkle's Rules for Girls series for middle-grade readers and the Heather Wells mystery series for adult readers. Look for [Runaway](#), the final installment in her Airhead series, this spring, and *Insatiable*, a new adult paranormal, this summer. She divides her time between Key West, Indiana, and New York City.



INSATIABLE † By Meg Cabot † William Morrow † On-Sale 6/8/2010 † ISBN 9780061735066 † \$22.99

Publisher's Weekly
on
INSATIABLE

Meg Cabot, Morrow, \$22.99 (464p) ISBN 978-0-06-173506-6

Cabot (Princess Diaries) winningly applies her trademark likably fallible protagonists and breezy storytelling to a vampire war in New York City. TV writer Meena Harper creates fabulous plots for *Insatiable*, the second-highest-rated soap opera, thanks to her burdensome if lucrative psychic ability to see into the future and determine how people are going to die. And just as *Insatiable* is switching to a vampire theme to attract a younger demographic, a spate of chilling murders-by-exsanguination grips New York City. Enter Lucien Antonescu, a sexy, melancholic Romanian history professor/vampire who recognizes that the murders are the work of rogue vampires who have broken away from his order. (Lucien happens to be the son of Vlad the Impaler, whom Bram Stoker gave such a bad rep.) Lucien's opposition: Alaric Wulf, a sympathetic detective from the Palatine Guard, who hopes to use Meena and her prophetic gift to stop the murders and track down Lucien. Unfortunately for Alaric, Meena is a little in love with Lucien. Cabot is less concerned with creating a convincing family tree for Lucien than with creating sparks between her characters, who feel pleasantly natural even as they live alongside the vampires next door. (June)

Booklist
on
INSATIABLE

The author of the popular Princess Diaries series and *Queen of Babble* (2006) jumps on the vampire bandwagon.

Meena Harper is a young soap opera writer who possesses the power to see how people are going to die. This ability has allowed her to save the lives of those she cares about, but it's also made her something of an outsider.

Her dreams of becoming the head writer on her show, *Insatiable*, are dashed when the job is given to a well-connected rival who wants to add a vampire character to the sudser. Meena is dismayed by the turn of events at work until a mysterious stranger named Lucien rescues her from a bizarre bat attack. Their romance takes off, until a smoldering vampire hunter named Alaric breaks into Meena's apartment and tells her the man she's dating is the prince of darkness. Meena doesn't want to believe her lover is actually a vampire, but the gravity of the situation becomes apparent when she finds herself embroiled in a deadly vampire war. The vampire craze may be reaching the oversaturation point, but this novel's appealing love triangle and Cabot's popularity should draw plenty of readers.

— Kristine Huntley, *Booklist*

**MEG CABOT'S DOG DAY:
"Why I Wrote INSATIABLE"**

There's something about *Insatiable* . . . I really can't explain it!

Well, maybe I can:

For one thing, it's my first adult book (uh, I mean, book in the adult SECTION of the bookstore) to come out in *ages*.

For another, it's my first adult paranormal (meaning, it's got paranormal aspects in it--girls with psychic powers, secret societies, hot dead guys--like my books in the *Mediator* series, but it's not set in high school).

True, I've never been the hugest fan of vampires. They bite! So why write a book with vampires in it?

Well, for one thing, I got an idea for one! And for another, I love, love, *love* pop culture.

And what's more pop culture-y right now than vampires?

Vampire stories have been around (and part of popular culture) for millennia. The ancient Greeks, the Romans, and the Hebrews *all* told stories about demonic creatures who fed on the blood of the living. Vampires aren't just a trend . . . they're a *tradition!*

The first rich, sexy vampire appeared in print as far back as 1819: "The Vampyr: A Tale," was written by Lord Byron's doctor, based on a tale Byron came up with the same night (and in the same room!) Mary Shelley invented the horror genre with *Frankenstein*.

After "The Vampyr," vampire fiction became all the rage. But it wasn't until 1897, when a little-known theatre manager slash pulp fiction author named Abraham (Bram) Stoker wrote the most famous vampire novel of all time, *Dracula*, that we had our first feminist heroine in vampire fiction: Mina Harker (who was also a writer, by the way).

So, back to the original question: Why write a vampire novel? Well, like I said, I got an idea for one. It started with a little dog. The dog in *Insatiable*, Jack Bauer, is based on a real dog, also named Jack Bauer.

I opened my front door one morning to find this puppy sitting on my porch. My quest to find his real owner, what happened when I did find him, and how miserable I was for months afterwards--until I found Jack again--ballooned into something I never expected:

Insatiable. A book I never wanted to write! But I couldn't stop myself. And I'm so glad I didn't.

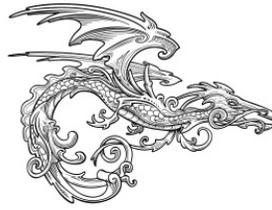
I hope you'll be glad I didn't, either.

I'm pretty sure Jack is.

Much love,

Meg





INSATIABLE

BY MEG CABOT

True confession: I'm not wild about the horror genre . . . so why write a book with vampires in it? Well, I got an idea for one. And I *love* pop culture.

And vampire stories have been around (and part of popular culture) for millennia. The ancient Greeks, the Romans, and the Hebrews all told stories about demonic creatures who fed on the blood of the living. Vampires aren't just a trend . . . they're a *tradition*.

The first rich, sexy vampire (who was irresistible to women . . . but sadly preferred to dine on virgin blood) appeared in print as far back as 1819. But it wasn't until 1897, when a little-known theatre manager slash pulp fiction author named Abraham (Bram) Stoker wrote the most famous vampire novel of all time, *Dracula*, that we had our first feminist heroine in vampire fiction. Mina Harker was talented and ambitious . . . and a writer.

But Mina didn't just write about vampires: she battled them! Mina was sort of a Victorian Buffy the Vampire Slayer—although *Dracula* was in no way as cool, hot, or funny as either Angel or Spike.

In fact, tough vampire-slaying women like Buffy, who have to choose between love and duty—Buffy and Angel couldn't consummate their relationship, because every time Angel had one true moment of happiness (sex with Buffy, of course) he lost his soul and became evil again, threatening to destroy the world—are direct descendents of the literary tradition that began with *Dracula*.

So, back to the original question: Why write a vampire novel? Well, like I said, I got an idea for one.

And then I got excited. What did I as a storyteller have to bring to an ages-old tradition that's always struck a chord with popular culture?

I knew I wanted to bring back all those great original vampire myths from the Romantic period, as well as old school vampires.

But I also wanted to bring back strong, confident heroines (like Mina and Buffy) who battle against them, women who aren't virgins waiting around to be rescued: They're too busy saving the world.

Dracula (the most famous vampire story, by which *Insatiable* is partly inspired) is a gothic novel. I write books about girl empowerment. So combine the two, and you get a brand new genre I'm calling: **Girl Gothic**.

Other examples of Girl Gothic besides *Insatiable* (and Mina Harker) include *Jane Eyre*, *Practical Magic*, and Buffy: empowered heroines who stand up for themselves and have goals outside of snagging a man (but who still love men, exasperating though they can be at times), and who don't believe that being dead is a happy ending.

I hope you're as excited as I am for the release of *Insatiable*. On megcabot.com soon you'll find an *Insatiable* playlist, deleted scenes, maps, FAQs about the Palatine (as well as who they are!), and much, much more.

In the meantime, remember: No biting!

INSATIABLE:

Discussion Questions

Meena has the psychic ability to tell how people are going to die. How does this affect her relationships? How would you use such a power? How could such a power be abused?

In the book, Meena refers to vampires as “monster misogynists.” Can you think of any vampires from books, TV, or film that match her description?

Why does Alaric Wulf, a member of the Palatine Guard, a demon hunting force for the Vatican, risk his life in order to protect men and women from vampires when he doesn't even believe in God?

Insatiable is the title of the television show Meena works for. Who else in the story proves to be insatiable (besides fans of the show)?

Why does Meena's brother accuse her of “protecting her abusive boyfriend” when she refuses to reveal Lucien's location to Alaric?

Meena's best friend Leisha says her husband is the first guy she could ever really be herself around. Is this a good or bad recommendation for a lasting relationship? Why or why not?

Why is Meena so attracted to the painting of Joan of Arc in the Met? What is the secret meaning behind the painting of St. George and the dragon?

One of the sponsors of *Insatiable's* vampire storyline is Revenant Wrinkle Cream. Why is this significant?

Does Lucien's desire to turn Meena into a vampire come from true love, selfishness, or a little of both?

Would you want to live forever and never age? Why or why not?

Is being dead ever a happy ending?

Did Meena make the right decision in the end? What would you have done in her place?