



They're So Vein

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Susan is 58-years-old and bored with life. Middle age is a daily drudge of sagging body parts and aches and pains. Her fervent prayer that she could somehow recapture her youth comes true one night during a chance encounter with a child-like vampire. As soon as the other women in her family see the transformation they waste no time in sticking their necks out, hoping Susan will share this new-found fountain of youth. Suddenly, this newly born group of hot-bodied vamps find themselves thrust into a world controlled by an ancient order of vampires. A world with rules, all of which the ladies pretty much break within hours of becoming immortals. And the little matter of the accidental epidemic of vamped out wildlife isn't exactly endearing them to the powers that be, either. They're So Vein is a hilarious and irreverent new twist on the paranormal/vampire romance genre.

They're So Vein Details

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From Reader Review They're So Vein for online ebook

Monica says

This is a good story but it didn't come without problems.

Character wise this was a mess. They were mostly unlikable characters. For various reasons too. Susan is the main character but we hardly hear from her. She gets more vocal at the end but when that happens she grates. She's got 2 daughters one has been in trouble with drugs and the other is kinda mean. Then we have Zaire the lesbian lover of her daughter Resi which I didn't like her at all. Too much wanting to fight all the time. Susan's sister JoAnn...just didn't like her. Very unsupportive and whined through the whole book! I think the character I liked the most was Christopher. An older vampire in a child's body who started this whole thing and his reasons were warranted although he went about it wrong.

No real romance in the book. A little but not much. They did some things together but they didn't even kiss...not that I remember and no love scenes. A little disappointing

I do like humor in my books. However, it was more of the same humor throughout the book. There came a time when it wasn't funny but annoying. The women bickered way too much and there was a different feel to the book from the beginning compared to the middle and end. It was interesting and funny at the beginning and it just went south after that. I struggled with some word choices in the book. Like when leered is used but it really should have been sneered. There is a big difference between the 2 and the topic at the time was opposite. I just don't think this book worked that well. It's a good story but it just didn't come out right for me. It dragged on a lot. It never really went anywhere and when it did it was short lived. I think this book would have been better had it been shortened and cut out the needless things that made it too slow and all the arguing among the characters was just too much.

Suki Michelle says

I took a chance on this novel because I really like Sookie Stackhouse and True Blood on HBO and I've already read all of Christopher Moore's stuff and this looked like it was something similar. I'm happy that I did because even though it doesn't have the "chills up the spine" moments of True Blood, it's incredibly funny and a great light page-turner. Really looking forward to the sequel!

DelSheree says

All Susan wants is to get her phone over the bathroom stall wall so she can record the woman fighting with her seriously bratty child and post it on her website. One awkward fall later, and she lands herself in a mess of trouble. Becoming a vampire wasn't quite what she meant she prayed for a more youthful body. To make things even worse, when her vain family members get a look at her new body they can't wait to get a piece for themselves.

I mentioned in yesterday's post how much I enjoyed the humor in The Grateful Undead: They're so Vein. It was over-the-top humor in many ways with crazy antics and characters that never seemed to stop, but there

was also a deeper humor that stemmed from the idea of what a person might willingly give up in exchange for youthful bodies and immortality. The non-stop comedy bred a certain amount of chaos in the book. At times the chaos slowed the story down when outrageous arguments lasted a little too long or strayed away from the main story, but for the most part the humor kept the story moving at a swift pace. It was hard to ever predict where the story was going, but I felt certain that whatever popped up next was going to have me laughing.

The story itself was enjoyable. It was light, and flowed along with the laughs. I was expecting a little bit more complicated plot at first, but really, how serious and deep can you get with vampire raccoons and pint-sized century-old vampires? This was more of a situation comedy. There aren't intricate plot twists or overly complex designs. The characters are over the top as well, but each one has a unique personality. The odd dynamic of the family only increases that craziness and fun. The characters are definitely memorable. The majority of this book was dialog between the characters – largely arguments that were funny – but there were times when the dialog could have been broken up more often to give readers a break from the intensity of the characters.

Despite being a very funny book, there are some aspects that may turn readers off. There is a decent amount of profanity throughout the book. There are multiple sexual references and several sexual scenes – one of which got quite graphic. Two of the characters are homosexual, and their relationship is discussed throughout the book. If you're a reader that doesn't care to read these types of things, this book is not for you, as they are found through the majority of the book. Because of these, this book does earn a spot on my "No way would I let my teenage nieces read this" book list.

This book is a fun, quick read that's great for when you need a break from all the serious day to day stress.

Would I recommend this book? With caution, mainly because of the amount of language, sex, and homosexuality. It is a very funny book, and while some readers will have no problem with these, others will. If you want comedy and don't mind the adult themes, you'll really enjoy this book. If you don't want to read those sorts of themes, this book is not for you.

Who would I recommend this book to? Vampire enthusiasts won't find the brooding and serious vamps they might be expecting, but I think vampire lovers and those who never really jumped on the Twilight bandwagon can enjoy Stec's vampires. Comedy readers will love it. It's definitely one for adults, though. I think chick lit readers will enjoy this as well as those who are in the stage of wishing their cute and perky days weren't so far behind them. Teens and those looking for cleaner comedy may want to choose something else.

Check out my other reviews on [The Edible Bookshelf](#)

Carlyle Clark says

Susan Stec's **THE UNGRATEFUL DEAD: THEY'RE SO VEIN**, is a rip-snorting satire on all things vampiric and paranormal. If comedy lurks on the other side of any societal boundary, you can be certain Susan's characters will sashay across it without a backwards glance.

Rather than following the current convention of brooding immortals, Susan gives us a zany family of middle-aged and elderly women suddenly returned to the prime of their youth (albeit an undead youth), with

the bonuses of being gorgeous vampires. Rather than whining about it, they glory in it, but their outrageous behavior has not gone unnoticed. There's hierarchy and rules for paranormal beings, and as the girls have been adjusting to their undead lives, they've tromped their stiletto heels all over them, and unfortunately, the Lords of the Undead are not the forgive nor the forget type.

As someone who's overdosed on the vampiric saturation of the entertainment industry, I was hesitant to give this a shot despite recommendations from friends, but I'm very glad I did because Susan has breathed freshness into genre that needed it badly.

Highly recommended for fans of Charlaine Harris's "Sookie Stackhouse" novels, and Christopher Moore's **BLOODSUCKING FIENDS**, or basically any of his work.

Denise Sherman says

I simply loved reading *They're so Vein* by Susan Stec. She has a unique style of her own in writing. I was simply pulled from the first few pages... loved the humorous parts and the snarky comments that the 5 ladies have with each other...

Susan the main character in the story is awesome... I simply love how she handles things when something happened in a public bathroom... and Joanne is a riot... Nanna (the grandmother), Resi (Susan's daughter) and Zaire (who is a black lady with an awesome snarky attitude and Resi's lover)... These ladies are the best... Then there is Jennifer (Jenni for short) she is Susan's other daughter... Something happens on there property with the wild life...

Do they take care of the problem? For the answer to this question you will need to read this book

Kristin says

A unique take on the traditional vampire tale. My only real criticism is the catty confusing female family fights. One because its just annoying. And two because one or two of these outbursts are hard to follow, thus throwing me out of the story. And I usually love snark...so something didn't flow in these parts. I also didn't like JoAnn, but I don't think we're supposed to. I would've drained her and left her for dead, family or not.

The surprising parts were that the first two vamps you see are not a love interest for the main character. Usually we meet the enemy or the love first...and that's not quite what happened here.

I plan to continue the series. I just hope I survive the family snits in future installments.

chucklesthescot says

I'm always wary about books that claim to be funny as I rarely find them funny and this was the case with this book.

OK I can see why other people found the book amusing. But for me, I just found it plain annoying to watch a group of mature women acting like young kids in the playground. It was all very immature and tiresome and I gave myself a headache from all the rolling of my eyes skyward as the situations got more ridiculous. They

were pouting, whining, sulking and calling each other names like a bunch of very annoying toddlers and I could only bear a few chapters before it got too dumb for me.

It's not a bad book-nothing wrong with the writing or anything like that. The type of humour just did not appeal to me in any way and just because I didn't like it doesn't mean the book or author are bad. I'm sure it will appeal to plenty other people.

BK Blue says

I liked the premise better before I actually started reading it. Jesus Christ that family is annoying as hell. So are the rest of the characters. The whole book is them bitching at each other. I'm not kidding.

The grandmother had a couple funny lines and the one actual sex scene was hot. Those are the only reasons why this even got 3 stars. I thought the child vampire idea would be interesting, but even Christopher was annoying for most of the book.

I was disappointed with this book, and at myself for finishing it. I probably could have liked the main character more if she had just knocked one of her family members out or something, instead of just bitching or ignoring them. Lol

Or maybe I am just irritable.

I was just irritable.

Angela Fristoe says

Read an advanced version of this book, and it was hilarious! The characters are a riot and shed an entirely new light on vampires. This promises to be great series!

Jeanne Bannon says

Susan Stec's writing is delightful, hilarious and very entertaining. This is a vampire/supernatural novel like you've never read before. It is unique and refreshing. The Grateful Undead is filled with wonderful characters that you'll wish you knew personally and will keep you wanting more. I, for one, am grateful she's writing a series as one book is simply not enough. I loved it!

T.W. Barton says

Every time I think I've read everything new in the Vampire genre along comes an unexpected treat.

I got this book as part of a box set called Magic and Mayhem.

While action/thriller is my main read, I admit to loving some good vampire and magic stories too. I find that I prefer when these genres have comedy in them like the fantastic series from Rick Gualtieri and John Locke.

Even now after I've read this book it's really hard to pen a good description of it now. At times my brain felt like a pinball slamming around as this family of crazy women goes at each other. Imagine a family of, let's say, more mature women, who happens to have a desire for that often wished for, fountain of youth, who also happen to all live together, with the fire of Italian heritage flowing through their veins, and a matriarch that could be referred to as a wannabe nympho and you can only imagine what happens when the possibility of unending youth and life is not only a dream but a reality.

The realization of that miracle dream come true is not without consequences. Mayhem is the polite word for what these vain, slightly crazy women unleash on their unsuspecting community as they stumble around trying to figure out their new lot in life while unknowingly breaking every rule the vampire council has. I'm fairly sure that this is the first book that I've read with vampiric wildlife and a newly minted geriatric with an insatiable sex drive. It will have you laughing and shaking your head while you're unable to put it down.

There are times I was overwhelmed by the family feuding that made my brain hurt trying to follow but I just couldn't put it down. I had to know what happened next.

If you're looking for some hilarity to pass your leisure time then I would recommend this book for some guiltless escapism.

Audra Middleton says

The Grateful Undead By Susan Stec

I love the idea of a humor-based vampire series. Susan's characters are a total crack-up and I truly enjoy the mad-cap adventures they get themselves into. Plus she's got some sexy stuff in there too, so it's a full-on entertainment package. If you don't mind a little blood, sex, and swearing, you're sure to enjoy this one.

Natasha Larry says

I loved this book! I've never read anything like it, which is always a win in my book. At first, when I saw it was about vampires, I wasn't sure, but I haven't read a vampire novel in a while, so I wanted to give it a try. Another thing that made me want to give the book a try was the cover. Yes, I'm a sucker for a great cover, and this book has a great cover. Anyway, I'm glad the first vampire novel I've read in a while was this one! First, a brief overview. Susan, a middle-aged woman who is bored with being middle-aged and with life in general, is attacked in a gas station bathroom by a tiny, bratty little vampire (Christopher) and joins the ranks of the undead. Her first act as a vampire is to kill her sister's beloved pet, Tootles. And yeah, Johann (Susan's sister) isn't at all happy about that.

After that, the fun starts. And I mean, fun. I had more fun reading this book than I have in a long time. It's hilarious. I love all the characters and want to hang out with them. I even love Johann, even though I think she's supposed to annoy you. I like that she's herself no matter how much her mother and sister's complain. The best, and most hilarious part of this book, for me at least, is that her family begs Susan to make them

into vampires too. The reason is great! They want to be young and hot too! Susan isn't sure at first, but winds up turning her entire family into the funniest vamps ever. Except Jenni, who is cool even as a mortal. I love the interaction between this family! Susan's mom is by far my favorite character. She gives not a f*ck. She's in her new, young body, and she's going to have fun by drinking blood and getting laid. A lot. Phenomenal character. One of my faves now.

But, of course, all books need conflict. It enters this story when Johann accidentally turns a raccoon into a vampire raccoon. Ooops. This is also funny as hell. The raccoon actually gets the best of Johann, which I thought was great, and winds up creating a critter vampire population. Enter the vampire bosses. They send them the rules of being a vampire, a fact that isn't cool with the girls, especially Zaire, who is sassy and just wants to bite everyone's head off, especially Dorius. She manages not to, and the Stech klan works with the vampire council to get the critter vamp population under control. After they figure out they have some cool powers, mind control, telekinesis, just to name a few. Add one super hot sex scene between the vampire Marcus and Susan and this book is winning!

Love it. If you love great characters and hilarious, back and forth dialogue, get in on this one!

Livvie says

I'm giving this one 2 and a half stars and going to try the next in the series to see if it gets better.

The biggest issues with this story: 1. Way to much use of foul language, I was starting to wonder if these people could have a conversation without dropping God and damn together. 2. It dragged quite a bit in places, making you feel like there was no forward progress. 3. I felt almost like I was reading a Lynsay Sands fanfiction with a few other popular vamp books thrown in, not because of the references to the other vamp romances but due to the mythology of their worlds being all lumped together. 4. Very little of the main lead. 5. Zaire I hated her with a passion so very annoying. 6. All of these women were so hostile it was hard to like any of them, though Jeni would have to be my favorite.

The best parts: 1. It had some funny scenes that I did LOL out loud with. 2. Marcus, though I do worry that she described him as looking like Steven Segal, I'm going to picture someone hot not middle aged with a paunch and balding. 3. Gibby, the little fairy was hilarious. 4. Jeni and Paul's romance (in fact I only bought the next book to see how they develop as a couple.

While the bad outweighs the good in this book I have read worse. If you are looking for a draws you in and won't let you stop reading story I'd look elsewhere, if you are desperate and can't find anything else to read I'd say this is a book for you.

Clive says

I am not usually a fan of Vampire books, but I loved this, with tons of humor and a very good story.
