



## Buffy the Vampire Slayer

*Richie Tankersley Cusick*

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## **Buffy the Vampire Slayer** Richie Tankersley Cusick

The fourth teenage girl in L.A. has disappeared in less than two months! But Buffy's oblivious. She's brainstorming a theme for the senior dance. One nightmare later, she meets a stranger named Merrick who tells her she bears the mark of the order: only she - the Pom-Pom Princess of California cheerleaders - can stop the vampires before they engulf L.A. They're everywhere... she can't even trust her best friends! Merrick has brought her knowledge, physical and mental powers beyond her wildest dreams, and a terrifying enemy: Lothos, King of the Vampires, who is determined to have Buffy for himself! All she has are a stake, a cross and a mission: destroy the evil - even if it takes her own life!

## **Buffy the Vampire Slayer Details**

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Author : Richie Tankersley Cusick

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## From Reader Review Buffy the Vampire Slayer for online ebook

### Alexia Moon says

I have this book since I was a child, last time I read it was over 7 or 8 years ago. Need to re-read and will add a review then.

#Update: 05/10/2017 I've finally re-read this book and damn... I don't remember this being this annoying. I'm not sure if it's the translation or if the original is like this but the writing is so 'cringy', honestly. It feels like I'm reading a book written by a 12 year old. I like the plot but as a Buffy-fan, who wouldn't? But when it comes to writing this doesn't seem a book written for Buffy fans but for kids who might be interested in learning about Buffy. I think it could have been much better developed.

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### Douglas says

A fluff read based on the original movie. Basically a simple translation of the movie to a novel with very little deviation or addition.

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### David Caldwell says

The one that started it all. Yes i did read this before the TV series started and I thought it was better than the original movie even though it didn't seal my fate as a Buffy fan, it was definitelt a contributing factor

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### Alejandro says

It's amazing how the franchise of *Buffy, the Vampire Slayer* begun with this chessy & campy movie. It was good that Joss Whedon never lost faith on his "baby" and he knew that he has something good between hands. Also, it was good that FOX Network was in dire need to fill its TV schedule when the network was beginning. So, Whedon got green light to shoot a pilot based on the original concept. Whedon took out what was plainly bad and/or without good taste **BUT** keeping the fun of the concept of a typical teenager against the forces of darkness. I watched the original film at its time and it was fun to find this novelization, since by then I already have on my mind the image of Sarah Michelle Gellar was **THE** Buffy. I have nothing against Kristy Swanson and I don't think that she was the reason of why the film didn't work. However, by the time that I found this novelization in a local bookstore, my mental image of the character of "Buffy Summers" was Sarah Michelle Gellar, so it was fun to read it, since when I did it, back on 1999, when I was imagining the scenes on the book, I didn't try to remember the ones in the movie but, I built a whole new adventure in my imagination using Sarah Michelle Gellar as Buffy Summer, in that way, this novelization is a perfect point of origin for the character. Since in the TV series, they established that Buffy indeed came from Los Angeles, after getting involved in some burning of a high school gym, so, this novelization works perfectly as an "Episode Zero" for Buffy fans and way better since the novelization hardly got any chessiness and/or campiness of the film. It was closer to the vision of Joss Whedon of what could be the movie. So, if you are Buffy fan and you want to know the origin of the character without having to watch the campy film, there

isn't better option than this novelization.

*In every generation, there is only one Slayer. A chosen girl to battle against the vampires, the demons and the forces of darkness.*

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### **João Pereira says**

Não é a história da série, trata-se da história de um filme que surgiu antes da série.

Not bad!

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### **Bianca Mendes says**

Gostei muito! Era super interessante e com um ótimo vocabulário. E a parte das brigas era muito cativante.

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### **Brent Ecenbarger says**

The best things I can say about this book are that it is a very quick read and it features most of the good parts from the movie. I don't read many novelizations because I prefer to enjoy something in the form it was originally conceived for (although I'm reminded of Alan Dean Foster's great comment about how a guy that takes a book and turns it into a movie script gets nominated for an Oscar while the guy that turns a movie script into a book is called a hack).

In theory a good novelizations should try to capture the feel of a movie but also distinguish itself by expanding on plot points or character development. This book felt more like the movie streamlined or the movie as told by somebody who enjoyed it but missed a few details. The major differences are the \*\*Spoiler Alert\*\* deaths of Lothos and Merrick and the background info given on the watchers (including the dumbest bit, an allusion that watchers choose the slayer based on proximity to a vampire master).

Not a book I'd recommend to many people as its uneven tone is much less fun than the movie and various departures fit it firmly outside of any possible tv canon.

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### **Samantha says**

Overall I was unimpressed. I had never seen the movie that the book is based off of, although I am familiar with the TV show created by the same screenwriter. The story was an easy read and definitely a good intro to the popular television show. And, although the movie came well before the show, and this book was based on the movie's screenplay, there were still a number of things that were similar to the first season of the Buffy the Vampire Slayer show. I guess, personally, I wouldn't recommend the book, because I feel the TV show is more interesting and more well known anyway. However, this is a nice, easy, and light read, especially for young readers.

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### **Slayermel says**

This is the novelization of the original “Buffy the Vampire Slayer” Movie starring Kristy Swanson, Donald Sutherland & Luke Perry. The screenplay was written by Joss Whedon and this is the movie that started it all.

This novelization stays very true to the movie; it was like watching it play in my head. I’m bias in my rating of the book, as this is one of my favourite movies.

Buffy is head cheerleader, loves to shop and enjoys endless discussions of absolutely nothing with her friends. She dates the captain of the Basketball team and her and her friends are your rich, snobby, self important type of girls living in LA. They are totally oblivious to the fact that something eerie is going on in town, fellow class mates or going missing. In steps Merrick, who has been looking everywhere for the chosen one, the girl they call the Slayer. He is supposed to train her and get her ready to face the Vampire King Lothos, who has murdered all the past slayers. Buffy isn’t your ordinary girl though, she has a sense of flair and resourcefulness that the other girls could only dream of.

It’s a very quick read and the story moves on very fast.

A definite must read for anyone who calls themselves a Buffy Fan :0)

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### **Richard Denney says**

I need this book.

NOW!

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### **Iva says**

I was really young when I've first read this book and of course these days I thought it was amazing, although now I've finally understood how poor (at least) the Czech translation is. Nevertheless, in the Czech Republic it's quite rare book and I'm really glad I own one.

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### **Sean Carlin says**

I read this when it first came out in 1992, recently unearthed it from my closet, and powered through it in two sittings. This novelization is strictly YA -- not that that's a *criticism*, mind you, merely a *classification*. It is a very easy-to-read, extremely faithful adaptation of the movie (from what I recall, that is, having not seen it in a number of years), right down to the dialogue and pacing. For younger fans who wish to learn the details of Buffy's backstory, which was only summarily dealt with on the acclaimed TV series that followed (itself a sequel-cum-reboot), this is perhaps a better place to start than the movie, because readers can project the tone of the show and the visage of Sarah Michelle Gellar onto the story, lending it a stronger continuity

with the version of *Buffy* that became a cultural phenomenon.

Rereading it, here on the 25th anniversary of the movie -- and the 20th anniversary of the TV series its creative failure inspired -- I couldn't help but marvel anew at what a truly brilliant concept *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* is. This is a **superhero origin story**, too ambitious in many respects to be contained in a mere 90-minute feature film; as such, Joss Whedon's original feature-length screenplay short-shrifts a number of other characters -- like Merrick and Pike, and even its "big bad," Lothos -- to focus on Buffy's arc instead. I get that: As a novelist and former screenwriter myself, I know how tight real estate is in a screenplay. It seems to me, though, this novelization would have been the perfect opportunity to expound on some of the elements -- like characterization -- the movie didn't quite have the time or room for. Shouldn't that be the *point* of a novelization? Alas, most authors hired to do these adaptations are required to "stick to the script," so to speak, so that's what you get here: a de facto transcript of the movie -- nothing more or less.

That said, I enjoyed revisiting the story (especially given how undemanding the book is). I saw the movie in theaters in 1992, and while it is by no means a masterpiece -- it's certainly misdirected -- I have fond adolescent associations with it. The premise was better served by the TV show, yes, but the core conceptual foundation -- Valley girl as monster hunter -- was on full display even in this prototypical rendering. And here's one way in which this iteration is actually superior: It explains *why* only females are Slayers! (view spoiler)

In summary: *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* went on to be a richer, darker, more sophisticated narrative than what you see in the feature film or this juvenile novelization, but the seeds of its genius were evident all along; some ideas simply need time to incubate. There's no question the franchise got off to a rocky start, but the movie and its novelization offer an encouraging lesson in the arc of creative development: Sometimes an idea needs another chance to succeed. That, ironically, is the big takeaway from this first incarnation of *Buffy*.

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### Rose Dawson says

Buffy, moje naprosto nejoblíbená? jíž ženská hrdinka. Je mi líto, že v ?R vyšla oficiáln? jen 1.?eská knížka. Zasloužila by si více ?eských ScoobyGang?, ale vratme se ke knížce. Odehrává se v dob?, kdy Buffy byla jen "oby?ejná" st?edoškola?ka, kterou zajímají jen kluci, oblé?ení, vzhled. Na to, že je knížka tak tenou?ká a staršího typu se mi moc líbila, p?enést se do doby, kdy Buffy byla hloupo?ká, zranitelná dívka, kterou ?eká ješt? spousta dobrodružství. Knížku rozhodn? doporu?uju všem Buffy fanoušk?m, bude se vám líbit. ;)

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### Zara Mcaspurren says

*Buffy the Vampire Slayer* is better known as the television show that shot Joss Whedon to King of Geekdom. Before the show, however, there was the movie, which is actually really bad. This book is based on that movie. Well, technically it's based more on Whedon's rather excellent script, with elements of the movie added to it so that there is a clear connection. How does the book rate?

Well, it's a short read, and quite enjoyable. Using the script means that the wittier dialogue Whedon wrote is in place, making it feel a little less dated. The book shows Buffy's transformation from a Cordelia like character to the Slayer we know and love. Accompanying her is Pike, an odd mix of Xander, Oz, and Spike,

who serves as Buffy's eventual partner in slaying and love interest. There is also Merrick, her Watcher, who is completely badass and while I have amazing amounts of love for Giles, I cannot help but wish we got a *little* of Merrick in show somehow. The connection between him and Buffy was very real, and it made the events that happen hit hard.

So is the book better than the movie? Actually, I'd say yeah. Don't get me wrong, while the movie is bad, it's also enjoyable. But the book stands stronger by having the elements of the original script that help to explain the whole Slayer and Watcher thing a lot clearer, and help to give more development to the characters. I'm not going to say this is a must read for fans of the show, but I would recommend giving it a glance over, if you're curious as to how our Slayer was prior to Sunnydale.

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### **Louise-Andree says**

I'm gonna give this one a 3.75\*, Goodreads should really consider adding 0.5 (at least) between their numbers for ratings. it would help make it more accurate :)

I am a huge fan of the TV show; I consider it my all time favorite and I doubt I'll ever find another that will surpass it. Other shows have tried but failed in taking the #1 spot in my heart. It's got everything; supernatural, werewolves, vampires, magic... name it, it's got it.

I stumbled upon the movie somewhere during season 3, I think, and I had to see it. It is bad. I mean, really bad. Nothing comparable to the show; it's a wonder really... I consider it to be so bad it's good though. I hope this makes sense.

Anyway, when I learned there was a book based on the movie, I had to get my hands on it and it took a while before I got it. At the thrift store, of all places. A few years ago. I wanted to read it but never did so it's been sitting pretty among other books, my Buffy books collection, of course.

I got to read this book a couple days ago, as a sort of "get-out-of-reading-slump" so I was looking for something short that would be easy enough. I hit the jackpot with this. I found the book to be really easy to get into, a completely fast read even though I took 3 days to read it (real life and stuff got in the way, you know how things go!!). It's not the greatest book considering where it's coming from (the movie) but I heard/read that there is parts of the original script in it?!

Throughout the book, I found there was major similarities to the show, almost copies of what we got in it, I mean. Hemery High's basement being occupied by the major baddie (Lothos) while Sunnydale High had the actual entrance to the Hellmouth. Something Buffy said to Amilyn about the sunrise felt it came right out of Welcome to the Hellmouth Part 2 where Buffy said almost exactly the same thing to Luke. I felt it odd that Buffy would use the same sentence/pun twice for some reason. Maybe it's just me? I feel there wasn't more character development in the book than there was in the movie... but I could feel Buffy's change throughout, which was nice.

It's been a while since I've seen the movie and I own it on DVD. I don't pop it in that often whereas I can marathon the entire series at least 4 times a year. Now that I have read the book, I don't have to watch the movie for a little while since one is the other but a little more detailed in parts.

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