



## Bloodlust

*Alex Duval*

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**Bloodlust** Alex Duval  
**THE A-LIST BITES.**

Jason Freeman is stoked when his family relocates to exclusive DeVere Heights, Malibu. The in-crowd at his posh new high school is surprisingly friendly -- soon Jason's hitting all the best parties. He even meets the token hot-but-unattainable girl.

Determined to enjoy his almost postcard-perfect new life, Jason tries hard to ignore the many strange things going down in DeVere Heights. But then a girl washes up dead the morning after one off-the-hook party -- and with no explanation but a suspicious-looking bite mark. Now Jason has to admit that what you don't want to know can hurt you.

## Bloodlust Details

Date : Published June 1st 2006 by Simon Pulse (first published January 1st 2006)

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Author : Alex Duval

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## From Reader Review Bloodlust for online ebook

### Ruby says

I quite liked this book. It was kinda like Twilight, but better. It was a cool take on the whole 'modern day vampires', and I like how the author wrote it.

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### Sam says

i remember reading this series back in year 9 and very much enjoying them. If i were to read it now i probably wouldn't enjoy it as much as i did when i was 14, but still - here are 3 stars for the good memories.

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### Kerry says

I had read this right after i had finished the Twilight series and Vampire Bech, Bloodlust just does not compare to it. Not even a fraction! The characters seem too immature to be likeable, with their teenage hormonal imbalances for sexual contact! It just had no feeling. No meaning.

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### Rabbit {Paint me like one of your 19th century gothic heroines!} says

I'm too old for this, and there is no nostalgia factor here for me. DNF.

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### Wren [t(he)y] says

This review can also be found at <http://forthe love of books reviews.blogs...>

Jason has moved to Malibu and starts attending a new high school where he makes friends quickly and meets Sienna; hot, popular and taken. With a new crush and invitations to parties, things seem to be going fairly well for Jason. That is, until someone turns up dead.

When one of Jason's new friends reveals his crazy theory about the student's death, that she was killed by a vampire, he's skeptical but wary. But as the evidence begins to add up, Jason learns that there's something dangerous in Malibu, and everything is not as it seems.

I think the best way for me to sum up my feelings concerning this book is that it was enjoyable, but it wasn't memorable. It's an easy, quick read, but it's not the kind of book that you'll be recommending to all your friends, rushing out to get the sequels or hoping that it becomes a movie. This is the kind of book that you read after you've read a long novel or you've just finished a series. It's a fill-in book, something to entertain

yourself with while taking a break from a regular reading schedule or a big to-read pile.

The characters weren't all that special, they were pretty flat and stereotypical. However, they did make the story move forward effectively, albeit predictably. Jason was a likeable main character because he seemed like a decent guy, but there was nothing really unique about him. He didn't really stand out from the crowd or make an impression like some characters in other books.

The plot overall was really predictable, except for near the end where there was a twist. I thought it was a pretty good ending and a decent twist, however I wish that there had been more evidence or foreshadowing leading up to what happened. I don't really like it when twists seem random, or when clues only appear near the end of the book. I like to be able to guess, and this book didn't really fulfill that for me.

While this doesn't really stand out from the rest of the YA books I've read, I do recommend it for fans of vampires and YA novels. If you're looking for a short read or a break from long, intricate books, you may want to give this one a try.

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### **Claire says**

aimed I think at the younger end of the YA scale but if you're after an extremely light, no hidden secrets, no adult content at all this is for you.

For some reason I have read up to book 6 (I think that's all published till now). if I'm honest the spin on vamps is a little different and some of the characters a little endearing.

And it's sometimes good to get a little light relief from heavy serious reading!!!!

But I still couldn't in all good heart give any of them more than a 3\* .

Yes Jason was a cute new guy who does well against all the vamps. Sienna does well as the beautiful yet is-she-isnt-she reachable female..... but there is STILL the whole vamp theme. More explanations are needed in the way of how they exist in general day to day etc....

And as much as yes I like Jason...how does he keep besting vamps? A mere mortal shouldn't. There should at least be a close call but he always saves the day....a little more will-he-wont-he or let a vamp be a hero with their strength or speed?

.....or maybe I don't have a clue what I'm talking about!!!! ??? I don't know.

Sorry author.....you give a YA audience vamps in a great way and I try to ask for more than what you can give!!!

apologies!!.....ill go sit in the corner over there.....!!!!??? lol!!!!

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### **Esther says**

I loved the way it started out with Jason moving to a Miami/California location I was not sure which it was

but I knew it was american and sunny. I liked the idea of it being read from a guys perspective, I read half way through twilight and got bored of belle's repetitive droning about life, Edward and wolfboy. So when I saw that there was a book about vampires from a guys POV, I was so happy. I marked it 3 stars because of the predictability of the book, I loved the rich gated community (if I'm right about the gated community, good! If not then. It felt like one to me) I read this 2 or 3 years ago. But I really enjoyed the change from a girl being the protagonist.

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## Leigh Collazo says

More reviews at <http://readerpants.blgospot.com>

### POP-CULTURE COMPARISON: *The Lost Boys* meets *Beverly Hills, 90210*

**WHAT I LIKED:** First let me just say that I am totally over the vampire craze, even if my students are not. Last week, I was shelving books in my library and I came across this one. Being in a middle school, I started wondering why I ordered a book titled *Bloodlust* with a large martini on the front cover. When I looked in Titlewave for reviews and grade level recommendations, there were none. My library is new, and I ordered every single book in there. I am not sure what possessed me to order this one. With no professional reviews to go on, I needed to familiarize myself with the content, so I took it home.

If you mix *Beverly Hills, 90210* with 1987 movie *The Lost Boys*, you'll get something similar to *Bloodlust*. Of course, as teen in the late 80s and early 90s, I was obsessed with *90210* and have seen *The Lost Boys* more times than I could possibly count. I even had the movie soundtrack, which was one of my favorite albums in 9th grade. So, for adult readers, *Bloodlust* will evoke nostalgia for those bygone days of bloodthirsty teen vampires and gorgeous rich kids frolicking on California beaches.

I like that the book is short and simply written, making it a great choice for reluctant readers. Content-wise, middle school librarians should read it first. I am proud of the diversity of my collection, but some librarians might not be comfortable purchasing some of the books I have for my middle schoolers. It's definitely fine for high school, but for middle school, it just depends on the reader. There is language and sexual innuendo (see below). Teens drink and do drugs at a party. To me, the sexual content excessive partying is too mature for middle school, so I have moved it to the high school.

I liked that the story is told from Jason's perspective; it seems most recent vampire books are from a swooning girl's point of view. I like how down-to-earth normal Jason is. He ogles pretty girls, can't wait to start surfing, and doesn't compromise his morals for peer pressure. He is concerned when Dani is not fitting in as well as she would like and agrees to take her to a party to help her meet new people. At the party, he turns down alcohol (he promised his parents) and searches for Dani when he hasn't seen her for awhile. When a fight breaks out at the party, Jason jumps in to defend the weaker boy, getting himself nearly killed in the process. As noble as he is, Jason is still normal, falling for the charms of a beautiful girl and wanting to look the other way when things just don't add up.

**WHAT I DIDN'T LIKE:** *Bloodlust* is great for reluctant high school readers who like vampire books and movies. As a very-willing, adult reader who is sick of vampire books, I am just not part of the target audience. For me, the book moves at a snail's pace, the writing is overly-simple, and the plot is supremely predictable. I would never have read *Bloodlust* were it not for the content check for my library. Thankfully, it

was a short, easy read.

The relationships are shallow. I do not understand why Jason falls head-over-heels for Sienna; he barely knows her. She cheats on her boyfriend (and he on her) and seems just fine having superficial relationships. Sienna barely knows Jason when she first kisses him, yet Jason feels bad when he questions her behavior-- WHY? Not getting that at all. Give uber-gorgeous Sienna some acne, braces, and about 20 extra pounds, and Jason doesn't give her a second glance. Shallow.

The underdeveloped characters are another problem. Jason is by far the character with the most personality; Dani, Sienna, Adam, Zach, Brad...all of them are fairly one-dimensional. Dani is the sister Jason wants to protect. Sienna is the popular, hot girl with a big secret. Adam is the computer-hacking, insightful best friend. Zach is the mysterious stranger always lurking around. Brad is Sienna's popular jerk boyfriend... Defining all the characters by their "one characteristic" makes for a pretty dull read with few surprises.

### **CONTENT:**

Language: medium; not a ton, but it does include the f-word a couple of times

Sexuality: medium; Jason admires a girl's body many times; girls dress suggestively (short shorts, bikinis), kissing; groups of teens kissing in hot tubs

Violence: mild; Jason is nearly killed after standing up for a weaker boy at a party; a girl is killed and her body washes up on the beach; several vampire bites

Drugs/Alcohol: very high; teens drink (and get quite drunk) at parties, multiple references to teen drug use

**STATUS IN MY LIBRARY:** We had it, but it was not popular. Only one student checked it out since we acquired it in Sept 2009 as part of our opening collection. I moved both *Bloodlust* and its sequel, *Initiation*, to our feeder high school.

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### **Jennifer Wardrip says**

Reviewed by K. Osborn Sullivan for TeensReadToo.com

I like vampire stories. If you've read any of my other reviews, you might already know that. Because of my prejudice, I dove into the first in the series of VAMPIRE BEACH books with high expectations. And I did enjoy it. Yes, it has some problems in execution, but more about that later. First the good stuff.

As BLOODLUST begins, high school senior, Jason Freeman, has just moved into an exclusive Malibu subdivision with his sister and their nouveau rich parents. He experiences the typical teenage angst: the girl he likes is taken, he can't have a good time at parties because he's always watching out for his younger sister, one of his new friends isn't exactly riding the top rung of the social ladder, etc. The usual stuff. But something seems a little odd in Malibu. Then a girl turns up dead, and Jason discovers that the popular crowd at his high school is made up of vampires.

This book put a fun spin on both the traditional vampire story and the "high school popular crowd" story. I stayed up late, turning pages to see what would happen. That's a good sign. When I was done with

BLOODLUST, I was grateful that there was another VAMPIRE BEACH book on hand and I tore right into it.

Unfortunately, BLOODLUST did have some problems that detracted from my enjoyment. First, it was too short. There was clearly a lot of stuff going on in Jason's high school, but relatively little of it was explored. When he discovered the vampires and began learning about them, I ended up with more questions than answers. And by the time the real mystery began, the author seemed in a hurry to resolve it. Seemingly, no sooner did Jason realize there was a problem than it was solved. That was a letdown. I wanted more investigation, more conflict, more story.

Another thing that bothered me was the use of slang. The author was eager to portray authentic-sounding teen dialogue, but it seemed forced and, at times, outdated. That is often the problem with trying to write the way modern teens speak. By the time the book is published, the dialogue already sounds like it was written about two centuries ago. And be warned that this one is for older readers. It contains frequent references to alcohol use and some sexual activity.

I found VAMPIRE BEACH: BLOODLUST to be an enjoyable, light read. No deep human truths will be revealed, but there is plenty of good, old-fashioned, escapist fantasy. This slender volume is the perfect companion for your next plane trip. It should keep you entertained all the way from check-in to baggage claim.

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### **Shaft says**

Too early for a full review of the series but the first instalment was fine as things go. There are a number of books so I am interested to see what the over arching plot is.

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### **Slavica says**

I'm going to be honest here, I have some major bias in terms of this series because to me this will always be my favorite vampire/supernatural series ever. And I have read quite a few of them like "The House of Night" series by P.C. and Kristen Cast, "Vampire Academy/Bloodlines" by Richelle Mead and "The Twilight Saga" by Stephenie Meyer. I adore/dislike each of these for various reasons but when I was a teenager, finding novels, where I could binge read them in practically one sitting, was very hard for me. This was such a fast paced, easy read for someone just getting into reading as a hobby rather than an obligation such as for school. I'm twenty right now and I still love this story. I finally finished the series, had to go to Amazon to buy it, but it was well worth it.

In terms of some of the other series I mentioned including Vampire Diaries (never read it but I have seen some episodes), these are all more so focused on the vampiric/supernatural element but this series makes that part feel like secondary aspect because it deals with teenagers and their relationships with one another. Growing up and dealing with teenage problems like moving into a new school, making friends, crushes, dating, family drama, grief, etc.

However, each novel addresses a different issue be it a rogue vampire, a vampire hunter, vampires being kidnapped and experimented on, etc. Honestly, I wanted more novels after the 6th one. I was not satisfied

because I just didn't want the story to end. I feel like this series would be really good for people just getting into reading who aren't sure what they like yet and this gives them a little bit of both fantasy and reality.

Is this series for everyone? No, but having really dynamic characters that stick in your head is really hard to do especially if their only secondary characters. In comparison, Twilight which was mega popular (I don't know why) series has some very bland characters \*cough\* Bella Swan \*cough\* who bored me more than anything else. And don't even get me started in that pointless 700 page Break Dawn fiasco. This series felt too short for me but it kept me engaged and interested while Breaking Dawn just...I wanted to throw it against the wall it was so bad. It was unnecessarily long and drawn out.

I think it's better to be short and with great over all story and characterization than be overly complex because that can get confusing and if I wanted to get confused I would read a textbook.

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### **Zyra says**

3.5 stars

nice light read about vampires. exactly like beach read types.

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### **Gryffin C says**

This book is about a named Jason who moved from Michigan into Malibu he falls in love with a girl named Sienna she turns out to be a vampire he talks to her and says there are more vampires in Malibu. There was murder from a rogue vampire has a disease called Bolood lust him and his friend try to search for vampire and do they defeat him find out. Ages 12 through 13 are the recommended ages for this book if you like mystery and Horror books this is a good book for you.

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### **McKenzie Templeton says**

I'll agree with some of the other reviews I've read. Yes it's simple, yes there's nothing extremely differentiating between this novel and other vampire fiction and nothing really unique about it, but I did enjoy it.

The plot, like I've said, was very simple and expected. It is much like every other vampire novel out there. The greatest difference, however, is that the main character is a male, and making it even more unusual, the girl he is crushing on is the vampire. Usually in vampire novels, I am struck with crazy hormonal teenage girls swooning over a big strong boring male vampire, which usually results in a boring and two dimensional romance. However, I was pleasantly surprised at this change in roles. Getting to experience this point of view was quite nice. I also loved several little features in this novel: the swim team, the things about these particular vampires that make them different from the rest, and the playing-hard-to-get romance. And oh boy, how do I love the main character's best friend who is film-obsessed and always has a camcorder in hand. I love that! Sounds like my kind of guy.

The writing was nice. It was flowing and really grabs your attention. It's very fun and light, and really holds your attention. I know I was addicted to it and couldn't wait to see what happened next. There were several plot twists and turns that I didn't see coming and that only grabbed my attention more.



Overall, I see a lot of promise for this series and I will continue to read it. It's very entertaining so far and I cannot wait to see what happens next.

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### **Natshane says**

I liked this book, although it sure took me a long time to get to the good part, but I find myself engrossed in the world of Vampires of Paradise.

Vampire Beach is a catchy name, and considering the characters are extremely wealthy and sophisticated, they should be called Vampire Brats, haha.

Nevertheless, I give this book a four because:

1. Unlike any other vampire romance I've read about, the protagonist is actually a boy! And I rarely read a story through the eyes of a human boy character, especially in a vampire book. Jason Freeman is definitely a refreshing change. I always read about girls describing how beautiful vampires are, and to read it from a guy's POV, I never knew boys could be so girly too, haha...
2. The vampires book I've read, they rarely describe the process where the protagonist discovers the existence of vampires, normally it would be like an incident + vampires appear = Wow, there are vampires in this town! But in Vampire Beach, I read about NORMAL vampires that goes to school, talked like normal human, eat like normal human, joined sports! and they are not loners. In fact, they are the popular crowd because they are wealthy. Seemed like the normal spoilt brats in school, who knew they harboured such a dark secret right?
3. I like the new traits that was introduced in this series!
  - The vampires could tone down their appearance, or even changing it, just to blend in.
  - The vampires could expand and contract their muscles as they wish!
  - The vampires doesn't have that crazy craze for bloodlust but it's forbidden if they give in into it.
  - They can basically die in the same ways as humans.
  - And yes, they do still possess the typical vampire powers : fast, strong, cool (:P)

I wouldn't say that this book is bad, but it's not as attractive as the other vampire books, BUT! I would still read the second one, and the next, and the next, because I'm finding myself falling in love with Paradise.

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### **Bubbles Tierney says**

10/10

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### **Jadii Jadii says**

I first got this book from the library thinking that it was something to do when i'm really bored....

But as soon as i read the first page i was hooked on it. I absolutely think that this book was worth the five

stars i gave it

I like the way the author made the character Jason, an ordinary person fall in love with Sienna, a vampire who can do a lot better than him.

Jadii

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## **NICO.S says**

This book is about a boy named Jason and his family move from Michigan and into Malibu and a lot of kids there are vampires and he needs to solve the mystery of who killed a girl and it was a vampire the rogue vampire has bloodlust which is a disease where you can't stop feeding and Jason needs to find out how to solve this mystery so now it is down to be bit or survive

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## **Donna says**

Omnibus featuring Bloodlust and Initiation, both first published in 2006.

*Jason Freeman is stoked when his family relocates to Devere Heights, Malibu. The kids at his posh new high school are surprisingly friendly, and pretty soon Jason's part of the in-crowd. He even gets to meet the hot-but-unattainable girl.*

*Then, the morning after one off-the-hook party, a girl washes up on the beach dead. There's no explanation - except a suspicious-looking bite mark on her body.*

*Now Jason has to admit that what you don't want to know can hurt you. And when an old friend pays him a visit, they have no idea that they're about to put themselves in mortal danger. Literally. (book back blurb)*

How are you put in mortal danger theoretically? That irked me.

Anyway, I've had this book for about 10 months, I'm just getting to it now and I just realized, when I picked it up to read it, that it was an omnibus. I had no idea. Gotta love my observant self.

So we have rich kids. In Malibu. The new kid that gets accepted. Rich kids have fangs. New kid gets tossed in the middle of it. How freakin' ORIGINAL. See, when I see the words 'beach' and 'vampire' together, my mind immediately goes to The Lost Boys so when I finally picked this up (after some puttering around, I kept going to Barnes and Noble, picking it up and putting it back down) and bought it, I was half-expecting something somewhat similar. Oh silly me. I should have known this wasn't going to trend towards the good.

What a yawn fest. Seriously. Jason wants Sienna but can't have her because she's his buddy's chick but none of the other girls entice him. That is the damn focus for 2/3rds of the first book. Internal back and forth and back and forth - oh god she's so beautiful but I shouldn't want to kiss her because she's Brad's chick but I want her but I can't but I can't help myself but I have to . . . SHUT THE FUCK UP! Talk about getting totally hung up. On both books, no less.

Also in both books, absolutely nothing going on except parties and pretty people for two-thirds of them. Anything worth reading is all shoved and resolved within the last third of the book. Thank god they both only took me an hour to read each. I might have had to stick this thing in a punkin' and to some chunkin'.

The pretty, popular crowd, aka the vampires, weren't your typical rich kids. They were actually down to earth and normal, which was nice and refreshing. That refreshing quality also made them boring as shit. And they're vampires. WTF? Jason is the typical new kid without too much awkwardness, unless he's around Sienna. And he's around her a lot. They accept him but he's the cool kid for being friends with the pretty people AND guys like Adam who's a movie geek that never had an in before now. Add in the bratty sister and the overly concerned parents and you're good to ride the cliché mobile down the trope highway.

Adam had the funny lines. Jason is not a compelling character at all. The events of both books really happen around him as opposed to to him. He just ends up getting himself involved because he's the main character and he'd be even more boring than he already is if he didn't. Sienna turns out to be a little on the slutty side because what would the books be without some teenage romance angst? Dani is your typical younger sister that's as one dimensional as the page I read her on. Who else? The popular guys . . . Zach . . . cardboard. Jason's friend from Michigan, Tyler, twitchy and was pretty much the only one with potential but the author likes rapid fire and clean-cut resolution so that didn't play out like it could have. Am I missing anything? Doubt it.

Oh right. The nice vampires. That don't kill people. And can go out during the day. And donate to charity. That exist because it's a hereditary trait . . . JESUS FUCKING CHRIST. They weren't just emasculated. They didn't even have vaginas. They were just downright eunuchs, neuters that needed to get back to their damn bridge game or something. Seriously. Can we cycle back in REAL vampires please? WTF is the point in being this all-powerful supernatural being if you can't even use any of it? And have to go to high school? WTF is with vampires and high school? It was cool with the original Buffy. It was still cool with the series. By now it's so tapped out that that ass is raw. Can we let it heal, please? For the sake of vampire balls? Vampires used to be something to fear. Now they're something to snuggle. \*yak\*

I think a little more time could have been spent tightening the plot, not to mention editing out all of the typos, than rushing two books out in a year. Quantity over quality, huh?

I'd recommend these for a beach read but, in all honesty, I don't even think they're worth that. They're just not exciting or compelling or even all that interesting to be honest. The second book definitely had more potential than the first but I'll be damned if I read yet another book where I have to wait 120 pages before anything of interest starts to happen. I guess if you feel so inclined to reading them, they'll literally only take about an hour to finish each. Dense is not the word I would use to describe these books. But really, I wouldn't waste that hour. You could be doing better things, like raking leaves.

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## **Izzy Nickole says**

Vampire Beach Bloodlust is a supernatural mystery, set in Malibu, California. Alex Duval makes you feel as if you are there with the main character, Jason, as he tries to begin a new life in Malibu.

Jason Freeman and his family moved, at the end of the summer, to Malibu, California from Fraster, Michigan. Jason was hoping for an adventure, what he got was more than he hoped for.

When Jason goes to school he notices all the kids looked perfect and unreal. He describes them as having: “dermatologists and orthodontists and any other -ontists and -ologists that kept you perfect.”

Adam Turnball becomes one of Jason’s friends. Adam is a director, in some ways. He loves to film and to watch movies. One day at a party, Adam was filming and saw something he should not have seen. He saw a vampire feeding, and without thinking Adam filmed it. The next day, Jason was running along the beach and found a girl’s dead body.

Adam asked Jason for his help and showed him the tape of the vampire feeding. Jason later finds out that there is not one but several vampires, in Malibu. Now Jason and Adam are trying to find the killer. Will they find him or be killed in the process?

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