

colin wilson space vampires

colin wilson space vampires is a phrase that has intrigued many readers and conspiracy enthusiasts alike. While it might sound like the title of a science fiction novel or a horror story, it actually refers to a fascinating intersection of philosophical inquiry, fringe theories, and popular culture. This article explores the origins of the phrase, its connection to Colin Wilson, the concept of space vampires in science fiction, and the broader cultural implications surrounding these mysterious entities. Whether you are a curious skeptic or a dedicated believer, understanding the roots and evolution of the term can provide valuable insights into how myths and ideas evolve in the modern age.

Who is Colin Wilson?

Biography and Philosophical Background

Colin Wilson (1931–2013) was a renowned British philosopher, writer, and novelist. He gained fame with his groundbreaking book *The Outsider* (1956), which delved into existentialism, human consciousness, and the search for meaning. Wilson's work often explored fringe topics, including the paranormal, consciousness expansion, and alternative histories. His curiosity about the unknown made him a controversial figure in academic and literary circles.

Wilson was fascinated by the idea that human beings might possess untapped potentials, and he frequently examined phenomena that mainstream science and philosophy often dismiss. Over the years, his interests expanded to include topics like UFOs, alien encounters, and secret societies. This eclectic approach to knowledge and his willingness to challenge orthodox views helped cultivate a dedicated following, but also attracted criticism from skeptics.

The Influence of Wilson's Ideas

Wilson's influence extends beyond philosophy into popular culture, inspiring writers, filmmakers, and conspiracy theorists. His exploration of alternative realities and hidden truths laid the groundwork for many modern conspiracy theories, including those involving secret government projects, extraterrestrial life, and covert manipulations of human history. His writings often blurred the line between rigorous inquiry and speculative imagination, which contributed to the emergence of more fringe ideas, such as the concept of space vampires.

The Origins of the Space Vampire Concept

Space Vampires in Science Fiction

The idea of vampires existing beyond Earth has long captured the imagination of science fiction writers. Unlike traditional vampires, which feed on blood and are associated with folklore, space vampires are often depicted as extraterrestrial entities that drain energy, life force, or even consciousness from their victims.

One of the earliest and most influential portrayals of space vampires appeared in the 1970s novel *Space Vampires* by British author Colin Wilson. Not to be confused with the more famous novel by British sci-fi writer Colin Wilson, this work popularized the theme of alien entities that feed on human vitality in a cosmic context. In these stories, space vampires often possess advanced technology and supernatural abilities, making them formidable enemies or mysterious allies.

The Mythology and Symbolism of Space Vampires

Space vampires symbolize fears of the unknown—alien invasion, loss of autonomy, and existential dread. They often represent the idea that powerful extraterrestrial beings could manipulate or exploit humans for their own purposes. This concept taps into deep-seated fears of parasitism, control, and the fragility of human identity in the face of cosmic forces.

Furthermore, space vampires are sometimes used as metaphors for modern societal issues, such as corporate exploitation, technological dependency, or the draining of natural resources. Their mythos allows storytellers to explore complex themes about power, survival, and the limits of human resilience.

Colin Wilson and the Space Vampire Myth

Wilson's Connection to the Myth

While Colin Wilson did not directly write about space vampires in the traditional sense, his work contributed significantly to the mythos surrounding the concept. Wilson's fascination with the paranormal and the unseen forces influencing human consciousness aligns with the idea that there are hidden entities or energies manipulating reality.

In some circles, Wilson is linked to the idea of "cosmic predators"—an allegory for entities that feed off human vitality or spiritual energy. These ideas have been extrapolated into the space vampire narrative by conspiracy theorists and alternative thinkers, who interpret Wilson's writings as hinting at secret knowledge about extraterrestrial parasitic entities.

The Wilsonian Perspective on Hidden Forces

Wilson believed that human consciousness could access higher states of awareness and that the universe was filled with "hidden forces" beyond ordinary perception. Some interpret his writings as suggesting that these forces could include malevolent entities—possibly akin to space vampires—that manipulate human destiny from behind the scenes.

This perspective feeds into conspiracy theories proposing that governments and secret societies are aware of these entities and are actively working to conceal their existence from the public. The idea is that space vampires, in this context, are not just fictional creatures but symbolic representations of unseen parasitic influences in our universe.

The Cultural Impact of the Space Vampire Myth

In Popular Media

The concept of space vampires has permeated various forms of entertainment, including movies, television series, video games, and comics. Some notable examples include:

- Movies: Films like *Lifeforce* (1985) depict extraterrestrial beings with vampiric tendencies, draining life energy from humans.
- TV Series: Shows such as *Doctor Who* and *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* have episodes featuring alien vampires or parasitic extraterrestrial entities.
- Video Games: Titles like *System Shock* and *Dark Souls* explore themes of cosmic parasitism and otherworldly predators.
- Comics and Literature: Various graphic novels and novels incorporate space vampire mythos, blending horror, science fiction, and philosophical themes.

These media portrayals often emphasize themes of fear, control, and the unknown, resonating with audiences' fascination with extraterrestrial life and hidden threats.

Conspiracy Theories and Fringe Beliefs

Beyond entertainment, the phrase "space vampires" has become a staple in conspiracy theory communities. Some believe that:

- Governments and secret societies are aware of alien entities that feed on human energy.
- These entities are responsible for various global events, including wars, economic crises, and environmental disasters.
- There are ongoing efforts to hide the existence of space vampires from the public to maintain control.

While these theories are not supported by scientific evidence, they highlight the enduring appeal of the myth as a metaphor for unseen manipulations and existential fears.

Understanding the Symbolism and Reality

The Metaphorical Significance

The idea of space vampires can be viewed as a metaphor for various societal and psychological issues:

- Parasitism: The tendency of certain institutions or systems to drain resources or vitality from individuals.
- Loss of Autonomy: The fear of losing control to unseen forces—be they corporations, governments, or alien entities.
- Existential Anxiety: Concerns about humanity's vulnerability in an indifferent universe filled with unknown dangers.

Interpreting space vampires symbolically allows for a broader discussion about human resilience and the importance of awareness and critical thinking.

The Scientific Perspective

From a scientific viewpoint, there is no evidence supporting the existence of extraterrestrial beings that feed on human energy. The concept remains firmly within the realm of fiction and speculation. However, the fascination with such ideas reflects our innate curiosity about the universe and our place within it.

Scientists continue to search for signs of extraterrestrial life, but current understanding suggests that life, if it exists elsewhere, would likely be different from the vampire myth—more benign or at least not parasitic in the traditional sense.

Conclusion

The phrase **colin wilson space vampires** encapsulates a rich tapestry of ideas blending philosophy, science fiction, conspiracy theories, and cultural symbolism. While Colin Wilson himself did not explicitly endorse the concept of space vampires, his exploration of hidden forces and the nature of consciousness has influenced the way these entities are perceived in fringe communities and popular culture.

Whether viewed as a metaphor for societal parasitism or as a literal extraterrestrial threat, the myth of space vampires continues to captivate the imagination. It serves as a reminder of humanity's ongoing fascination with the unknown—the mysteries lurking beyond the stars and within ourselves. As science advances and our understanding of the universe deepens, the myth may evolve, but the questions it raises about power, control, and the nature of reality will likely persist.

Key Takeaways:

- Colin Wilson was a philosopher and writer who explored fringe topics, influencing conspiracy and speculative ideas.
- Space vampires are fictional extraterrestrial entities that feed on human vitality, popularized in science fiction and horror media.
- The myth symbolizes fears of parasitism, loss of autonomy, and cosmic threats.
- While scientifically unsupported, the concept remains a compelling metaphor and cultural motif.
- Understanding these ideas helps us critically examine societal fears and the allure of the unknown.

Whether you're a skeptic or a believer, the story of **colin wilson space vampires** offers a fascinating glimpse into the ways human imagination and existential curiosity intertwine, revealing much about our collective psyche and our quest to understand the universe.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Colin Wilson and what is his connection to 'Space

Vampires'?

Colin Wilson was a British author best known for his philosophical and speculative works. He wrote the novel 'The Space Vampires' in 1976, which blends science fiction with horror and became his most famous work.

What is the plot of Colin Wilson's 'The Space Vampires'?

'The Space Vampires' follows a team of scientists and explorers who encounter an alien species that drains the life force of humans, leading to a series of terrifying events on a spaceship and in space.

How has 'The Space Vampires' influenced science fiction and horror genres?

'The Space Vampires' is considered a cult classic that combines elements of horror and sci-fi, inspiring later works with its unique blend of space adventure and vampiric themes, and influencing authors and filmmakers interested in extraterrestrial horror.

Are there any adaptations of Colin Wilson's 'The Space Vampires'?

Yes, the novel was adapted into the 1985 film 'Lifeforce,' directed by Tobe Hooper, which expanded on the story's themes and became a notable cult horror film.

What themes does 'The Space Vampires' explore?

The novel explores themes such as the nature of evil, immortality, the fear of alien invasion, and the boundaries of human consciousness and morality.

Is 'The Space Vampires' part of a larger series or universe?

No, 'The Space Vampires' is a standalone novel; however, Colin Wilson's broader body of work often explores related philosophical and existential themes.

Why is 'The Space Vampires' considered a significant work in sci-fi horror?

Because it uniquely blends space exploration with vampiric horror elements, creating a compelling and original narrative that challenges traditional genre boundaries and has maintained a cult following.

What are some critical receptions of 'The Space Vampires'?

The novel received mixed reviews initially but has since been praised for its imaginative storytelling, atmospheric tension, and its influence on science fiction horror.

How does Colin Wilson's philosophical background influence 'The Space Vampires'?

Wilson's interest in existentialism and human consciousness informs the novel's exploration of the nature of evil, immortality, and the limits of human understanding in the face of alien life forms.

Is 'The Space Vampires' still relevant today?

Yes, its themes of extraterrestrial threat, fear of the unknown, and the blending of genre elements continue to resonate with modern audiences and creators in sci-fi and horror media.

Additional Resources

Colin Wilson Space Vampires: An In-Depth Exploration of a Cult Classic Novel

Introduction

Colin Wilson's *Space Vampires* is a novel that has garnered a significant cult following since its first publication in 1976. Blending science fiction with elements of horror and philosophical musings, the book stands out as a unique and provocative piece of literature. Its intriguing premise, complex characters, and imaginative universe have cemented its place in the annals of cult science fiction. In this comprehensive review, we will delve into every aspect of *Space Vampires*, examining its plot, themes, characters, influences, and its cultural impact.

Origins and Background of Space Vampires

Colin Wilson: The Author

Colin Wilson (1931–2013) was a prolific British writer known for his philosophical and mystical explorations. Prior to *Space Vampires*, he wrote *The Outsider* and *The Occult*, establishing himself as a thinker interested in the fringes of human consciousness and supernatural phenomena. Wilson's fascination with the unknown, combined with his philosophical inquiries, heavily influences *Space Vampires*.

Inspiration and Development

Wilson was inspired by a mix of science fiction classics, horror stories, and his interest in the occult. The novel's concept was partly inspired by early vampire lore, science fiction tropes, and Wilson's exploration of consciousness beyond human limits. The idea of extraterrestrial beings that feed on human life essence ties into his philosophical themes about the nature of existence and the limits of human perception.

Plot Overview

Setting the Scene

Space Vampires is set primarily aboard a deep-space research vessel, the Lunar Palace, and other celestial locations. The story begins with a crew of astronauts investigating a mysterious asteroid, which leads to encounters with alien entities that challenge their understanding of life, death, and consciousness.

Main Narrative Arc

The novel follows the crew's discovery of a parasitic alien race, known as the Vampires, who feed on human energy and can manipulate human minds. These entities possess a complex hierarchy and are capable of possessing human hosts, leading to a series of horrifying and mind-bending encounters.

The core narrative involves the crew's struggle to survive and understand these entities, culminating in a confrontation that questions the nature of reality and human identity.

Major Plot Points

1. Discovery of the Asteroid: The crew uncovers an ancient alien artifact with strange energy signatures.
2. Encounter with the Vampires: The crew is attacked and infected by the space vampires, who feed on their life force and manipulate their perceptions.
3. Transformation and Possession: Several crew members fall under the control of the vampires, blurring the lines between human and alien consciousness.
4. Climactic Confrontation: The survivors attempt to escape and find a way to neutralize the vampires, leading to revelations about the nature of the beings and their origins.
5. Philosophical Revelations: The novel ends with a reflection on the limits of human perception and the existence of higher forms of consciousness.

Themes and Concepts

Vampirism as a Metaphor

Wilson's space vampires serve as a compelling metaphor for various human fears and philosophical ideas:

- Energy and Vitality: The vampires represent the parasitic nature of certain societal or existential forces that drain human vitality.
- Consciousness and Control: Their ability to possess and manipulate hosts explores themes of free will, mind control, and identity.
- Death and Rebirth: The vampires symbolize a form of eternal life that is predicated on feeding off others, raising questions about the nature of immortality.

Cosmic Horror and Existentialism

Wilson weaves cosmic horror into the narrative, emphasizing humanity's insignificance in the vast universe. The novel suggests that higher-dimensional beings or consciousnesses exist beyond human understanding, and encounters with these entities can be terrifying and transformative.

Philosophical Underpinnings

The novel incorporates Wilson's interest in mysticism and the expansion of consciousness:

- Higher Dimensions: The vampires are depicted as beings existing in higher planes of reality.
- Transcendence: The story hints at the possibility of transcending human limitations through spiritual or mental evolution.
- Perception and Reality: Wilson questions whether our perceptions are mere illusions and posits that true reality may be far more complex and terrifying.

Characters and Their Roles

Key Characters

- Captain David Barnaby: The pragmatic leader of the crew, whose skepticism is challenged by the alien encounters.
- Dr. Susan Carter: A scientist specializing in extraterrestrial life, she becomes a key figure in understanding the vampires.
- Commander Riker: A tough, no-nonsense officer who fights to maintain order amid chaos.
- The Vampires: The antagonistic alien entities with complex hierarchies and abilities.

Character Development

Wilson's characters are deliberately archetypal, representing different human responses to the unknown—fear, curiosity, arrogance, and spiritual longing. The interactions between characters and their transformations serve as allegories for human consciousness and evolution.

Notable Elements and Style

Imaginative World-Building

Wilson creates a richly detailed universe, blending hard science fiction elements with mystical symbolism. The descriptions of alien technology, higher dimensions, and the vampiric entities are vivid and thought-provoking.

Narrative Style

The writing combines scientific exposition with philosophical reflection. Wilson's prose is dense but poetic at times, encouraging readers to ponder deeper questions while engaging with the story.

Horror and Suspense

Despite its philosophical underpinnings, *Space Vampires* maintains a suspenseful tone, with moments

of horror that evoke classic cosmic horror themes reminiscent of H.P. Lovecraft.

Critical Reception and Legacy

Initial Reception

Upon release, *Space Vampires* received mixed reviews. Critics praised its originality, philosophical depth, and imaginative scope but occasionally found the pacing uneven and the prose dense.

Cult Status

Over the years, the novel has gained a dedicated following, especially among fans of speculative fiction that pushes boundaries beyond traditional science fiction or horror.

Influence on Popular Culture

Space Vampires influenced later works that explore alien parasitism, cosmic horror, and consciousness expansion. It has inspired numerous writers and filmmakers interested in the blending of science fiction and mystical themes.

Adaptations and Related Media

While there have been no widely recognized film or television adaptations of *Space Vampires*, the novel's influence persists through its themes and concepts. The book's cult status has led to occasional discussions of potential adaptations, highlighting its lasting appeal.

Critical Analysis

Strengths

- Innovative Premise: The idea of space-dwelling vampires that feed on consciousness is original and compelling.
- Philosophical Depth: The novel invites readers to contemplate profound questions about existence, perception, and higher reality.
- Rich World-Building: Wilson's detailed universe adds depth and credibility to the story.

Weaknesses

- Pacing Issues: Some readers find the narrative slow or overly dense with philosophical exposition.
- Characterization: Characters can sometimes feel archetypal or secondary to the novel's ideas.
- Complexity: The heavy blending of science, mysticism, and horror might be challenging for some audiences.

Conclusion

Colin Wilson's *Space Vampires* stands out as a bold and thought-provoking work that pushes the boundaries of conventional science fiction. Its blend of cosmic horror, philosophical inquiry, and imaginative world-building creates an experience that is both intellectually stimulating and emotionally intense. Whether appreciated as a horror novel, a philosophical treatise, or a piece of speculative fiction, *Space Vampires* remains a significant and influential work that continues to inspire curiosity about the unknown realms of consciousness and the universe.

For readers interested in exploring themes of alien consciousness, higher dimensions, and the nature of reality, Wilson's *Space Vampires* offers a compelling and challenging journey into the depths of cosmic horror and metaphysical exploration.

[Colin Wilson Space Vampires](#)

colin wilson space vampires: [The Space Vampires](#) , 2013-04-02 Circa 2100 A scourge of sex and death from an alien spaceship WHEN CAPTAIN CARLSEN ENTERED THE VAST DERELICT SPACESHIP, he was shaken by the discovery of its immobilized humanoid passengers. Later, after three of the strange aliens had been transported to Earth, his foreboding was more than justified. The creatures were energy vampires whose seductive embraces were fatal, whose lust for vitality was boundless. As they took over the willing bodies of their victims and sexual murders spread terror throughout the land, Carlsen worked toward their destruction-even while he was erotically drawn to the most beautiful vampire of all! Thoroughly intriguing -Chicago Sun-Times (1976) New slant on horror...unique rendering of the age-old enigma of the kiss of death -Chicago Tribune (1976) COLIN WILSON is the author of more than 100 fiction and nonfiction books. *The Outsider* (1956), published at the age of 24, earned him worldwide critical acclaim. *The Space Vampires*, his fifty-first book, was translated into Spanish, Japanese, French, Dutch and Swedish and was later adapted for screen in the movie *LIFEFORCE*, directed by Tobe Hooper (*SALEM'S LOT*, *POLTERGEIST*, *THE TEXAS CHAIN SAW MASSACRE*). The movie failed however to capture the true spirit of the cult classic reprinted here by popular demand.

colin wilson space vampires: [The Space Vampires](#) Colin Wilson, 2009 Vampires from outer space suck the body's life force with a kiss of death.

colin wilson space vampires: [Vampires in Literature](#) Kris Hirschmann, 2011 Vampires have haunted humankind's nightmares for thousands of years but it was only about 200 years ago that they first appeared in works of literature. The undead have been a staple of fiction ever since and are likely to continue their hold on the reading public's imagination for years to come.

colin wilson space vampires: [The Science of Vampires](#) Katherine Ramsland, 2002-10-01 · Are any vampire myths based on fact? · Bloodsucking villain to guilt-ridden loner—what has inspired the redemption of the vampire in fiction and film? · What is Vampire Personality Disorder? What causes a physical addiction to another person's blood? · Are there any boundaries in the polysexual world of vampires? · How could a vampire hide in today's world of advanced forensic science? · What is the psychopathology of the vampire? · What happens in the brain of a vampire's victim? Si...

colin wilson space vampires: [The Geek's Guide to SF Cinema](#) Ryan Lambie, 2018-02-15 'Awesome. Everything you've ever wanted to know about big-screen sci-fi' - James King, film critic 'Don't leave Planet Earth without it' - Dan Jolin, film critic 'A wonderfully accessible, fascinating, flat-out treasure chest of science fiction cinema, from an author whose love of the subject leaps off the page' - Simon Brew, Editor, Den of Geek Why do SF movies matter? What do they tell us about the interests of storytellers and the changing tastes of cinema-goers? How have SF movies evolved

with filmmaking technology over the past 110 years? The Geek's Guide To SF Cinema provides an entertaining and in-depth history of the science fiction genre's pivotal and most influential movies. From the pioneering films of Georges Méliès to such blockbusters as Avatar and Inception in the 21st century, the book will explore how these key movies were made, how they reflected the mood of the time in which they were released and how they have influenced other filmmakers in the years since. Historians and experts contribute to answer questions such as: 'How important was Fritz Lang's contribution to cinema?' and 'What did Alien say about the cynical climate of the 1970s?'. Providing nostalgia for long-time SF addicts and context for those whose knowledge and love of the genre is still growing, this is a pop-culture book with depth.

colin wilson space vampires: A History of the Undead Charlotte Booth, 2021-03-15 A history of Western culture's fascination with undead creatures in film and television. Are you a fan of the undead? Watch lots of mummy, zombie and vampire movies and TV shows? Have you ever wondered if they could be "real?" This book, A History of the Undead, unravels the truth behind these popular reanimated corpses. Starting with the common representations in Western media through the decades, we go back in time to find the origins of the myths. Using a combination of folklore, religion and archaeological studies we find out the reality behind the walking dead. You may be surprised at what you find . . .

colin wilson space vampires: Compass Points - Horror Upon Horror Suzanne Ruthven, 2013-11-29 The horror novel has often been looked upon as the poor relation in the literary world, and yet some of our greatest writers have published novels under its banner. Horror writer (Whittlewood and The Wild Horseman) and former Gothic Society member, Suzanne Ruthven brings us a step-by-step guide to writing horror fiction. ,

colin wilson space vampires: Nosferatu in the 21st Century Simon Bacon, 2022-12-15 'Nosferatu' in the 21st Century is a celebration and a critical study of F. W. Murnau's seminal vampire film Nosferatu, eine Symphonie des Grauens on the 100th anniversary of its release in 1922. The movie remains a dark mirror to the troubled world we live in seeing it as striking and important in the 2020s as it was a century ago. The unmistakable image of Count Orlok has traveled from his dilapidated castle in old world Transylvania into the futuristic depths of outerspace in Star Trek and beyond as the all-consuming shadow of the vampire spreads ever wider throughout contemporary popular culture. This innovative collection of essays, with a foreword by renowned Dracula expert Gary D. Rhodes, brings together experts in the field alongside creative artists to explore the ongoing impact of Murnau's groundbreaking movie as it has been adapted, reinterpreted, and recreated across multiple mediums from theatre, performance and film, to gaming, music and even drag. As such, 'Nosferatu' in the 21st Century is not only a timely and essential book about Murnau's film but also illuminates the times that produced it and the world it continues to influence.

colin wilson space vampires: Bram Stoker's Dracula Carol Margaret Davison, 1997-11-01 Winner of the 1997 International Association of the Fantastic in the Arts Best Non-fiction Book In 1897, Archibald Constable & Company published a novel by the unheralded Bram Stoker. That novel, Dracula, has gone on to become perhaps the most influential novel of all time. To commemorate the centennial of that great novel, Carol Margaret Davison has brought together this collection of essays by some of the world's leading scholars. The essays analyze Stoker's original novel and celebrate its legacy in popular culture. The continuing presence of Dracula and vampire fiction and films provides proof that, as Davison writes, Dracula is alive and sucking. Dracula is a Gothic mandala, a vast design in which multiple reflections of the elements of the genre are configured in elegant sets of symmetries. It is also a sort of lens, bringing focus and compression to diverse Gothic motifs, including not only vampirism but madness, the night, spoiled innocence, disorder in nature, sacrilege, cannibalism, necrophilia, psychic projection, the succubus, the incubus, the ruin, and the tomb. Gathering up and unifying all that came before it, and casting its great shadow over all that came and continues to come after, its influence on twentieth-century Gothic fiction and film is unique and irresistible. from the Preface by Patrick McGrath

colin wilson space vampires: *Gothicka* Victoria Nelson, 2012-04-23 The Gothic has taken a revolutionary turn in this century. Today's Gothic has fashioned its monsters and devils into heroes and angels and is actively reviving supernaturalism in popular culture. Nelson argues that this mainstreaming of a spiritually driven supernaturalism is a harbinger of what a post-Christian religion in America might look like.

colin wilson space vampires: Encyclopedia of Science Fiction Don D'Amassa, 2015-04-22 Presents articles on the science fiction genre of literature, including authors, themes, significant works, and awards.

colin wilson space vampires: Encyclopedia of the Zombie June Michele Pulliam, Anthony J. Fonseca, 2014-06-19 A fascinating read for anyone from general readers to hardcore fans and scholars, this encyclopedia covers virtually every aspect of the zombie as cultural phenomenon, including film, literature, folklore, music, video games, and events. The proliferation of zombie-related fiction, film, games, events, and other media in the last decade would seem to indicate that zombies are the new vampires in popular culture. The editors and contributors of *Encyclopedia of the Zombie: The Walking Dead in Popular Culture and Myth* took on the prodigious task of covering all aspects of the phenomenon, from the less-known historical and cultural origins of the zombie myth to the significant works of film and literature as well as video games in the modern day that feature the insatiable, relentless zombie character. The encyclopedia examines a wide range of significant topics pertaining to zombies, such as zombies in the pulp magazines; the creation of the figure of the zumbie to subvert decades of censorship by the Comics Code of Authority; *Humans vs. Zombies*, a popular zombie-themed game played on college campuses across the country; and annual Halloween zombie walks. Organized alphabetically to facilitate use of the encyclopedia as a research tool, it also includes entries on important scholarly works in the expanding field of zombie studies.

colin wilson space vampires: Dracula FAQ Bruce Scivally, 2015-09-01 *Dracula FAQ* unearths little-known facts about both the historical and literary Dracula. The 15th-century warlord Vlad III, known as Vlad the Impaler and Dracula (son of the Dragon), became a legendary figure in his native Wallachia. Four hundred years later, Irish author Bram Stoker appropriated Dracula's name for a vampire novel he spent seven years researching and writing. Considered one of the great classics of Gothic literature, *Dracula* went on to inspire numerous stage plays, musicals, movies, and TV adaptations - with actors as diverse as Bela Lugosi, John Carradine, Christopher Lee, Jack Palance, Frank Langella, Louis Jourdan, Gary Oldman, and Gerard Butler taking on the role of the vampire king. And with *Dracula* proving the popularity of vampires, other bloodsuckers rose from their graves to terrify book, movie, and TV audiences - from Barnabas Collins of *Dark Shadows* to *The Night Stalker* to the vampires of *True Blood* on the small screen, and *Interview with the Vampire* and *Twilight* on the big screen. More recently, *Dracula* has been resurrected for a TV series starring Jonathan Rhys Meyers and a feature film starring Luke Evans. *Dracula FAQ* covers all of these and more, including the amazing stories of real-life vampires!

colin wilson space vampires: Charnel House Blues Suzanne Ruthven, 2014-03-28 A view of vampire culture through the eyes of Lord Ruthven - the first vampire in the literary world from John Polidori's 'The Vampyre'. Written as fiction, Lord Ruthven rarely appears in vampiric anthologies and has never been filmed - neither has he ever been vanquished! ,

colin wilson space vampires: Different Blood: The Vampire as Alien Margaret L. Carter, 2019-03-25 Different blood flows in their veins--but our blood quenches their thirst. From Bram Stoker's 1897 creation of Count Dracula, portrayed as a foreign invader bent on the conquest of England, the literary vampire has symbolized the Other, whether his or her otherness arises from racial, ethnic, sexual, or species difference. Even before the bloodsucking Martians of H. G. Wells' *War of the Worlds*, however, popular fiction contained a few vampires who were members of alien species rather than supernatural undead. Even more intriguing than interplanetary invaders are humanoid and quasi-humanoid beings who have evolved to live on Earth among us, often camouflaged as our own kind. The boom in vampire fiction that began in the 1970s engendered a

variety of alien vampires, many of them portrayed as sympathetic characters. The science fiction vampire is especially suited to the presentation of vampirism as morally neutral rather than inherently evil. *Different Blood* surveys the literary vampire as alien, whether extra-terrestrial or a different species evolved on Earth, from the mid-1800s to the 1990s, and analyzes the many uses to which science fiction and fantasy authors have put this theme. Their works explore issues of species, race, ecological responsibility, gender, eroticism, xenophobia, parasitism, symbiosis, intimacy, and the bridging of differences. An extensive bibliography lists dozens of novels and short stories on the vampire as alien theme, many of which are still in print.

colin wilson space vampires: The Complete Idiot's Guide to Vampires Jay Stevenson, 2009-01-21 Vampires are the hottest topic in popular culture today. From the now classic novels of Anne Rice, to the mega-selling series by Stephanie Meyer to the hit HBO series *True Blood* based on the bestselling novels of Charlaine Harris, the undead are certainly not dead in terms of books sales. Now, those curious about the history and lore of these creatures can get up to speed in the refreshed edition of *The Complete Idiot's Guide® to Vampires*. It provides a detailed explanation of the origins of vampires and insight into the fascination they hold in literature and belief. • Complete history and origins of this mythic creature • An explanation of the various rules that vampires exist by • A lively and exhaustive literary discussion of vampires and their importance in fiction

colin wilson space vampires: Word Virus William S. Burroughs, 2007-12-01 With the publication of *Naked Lunch* in 1959, William Burroughs abruptly brought international letters into the postmodern age. Beginning with his very early writing (including a chapter from his and Jack Kerouac's never-before-seen collaborative novel), *Word Virus* follows the arc of Burroughs's remarkable career, from his darkly hilarious routines to the experimental cut-up novels to *Cities of the Red Night* and *The Cat Inside*. Beautifully edited and complemented by James Grauerholz's illuminating biographical essays, *Word Virus* charts Burroughs's major themes and places the work in the context of the life. It is an excellent tool for the scholar and a delight for the general reader. Throughout a career that spanned half of the twentieth century, William S. Burroughs managed continually to be a visionary among writers. When he died in 1997, the world of letters lost its most elegant outsider.

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