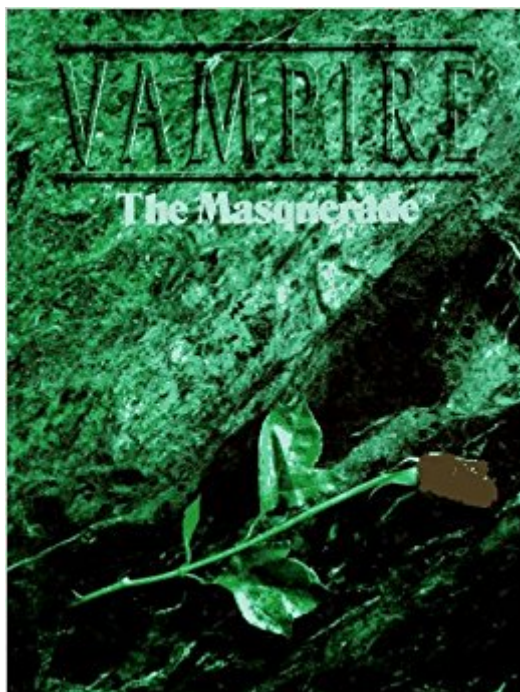


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# Vampire: The Masquerade



## Synopsis

The World of Darkness role playing games take the reader into worlds and realities where magic is not dead and not even the dead are dead. Vampire is the anchor for all the games set in the World of Darkness. '

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I was obsessed with Vampire the Masquerade and WoD in general as a teenager. Finally I'm able to purchase these items on my own, without my parents stopping me or taking away the books! So happy!

This is an older edition of VTM. The game is really well designed. In my opinion better than D&D.

I was extremely happy to get a copy of this book and it came in amazing condition and was packaged extremely carefully to make sure no damage happened to the book during shipping! Very pleased and thrilled with it!

This is amazing. Before this i was a diehard D&D player and occasional DM. (3.5 Edition) Deep down i always felt like there was something missing when i played. I never was really able to get into the story. I felt it was too combat oriented and not enough story. Im not saying i didnt have a blast playing, But i never felt like i was in control of my own destiny. Then with the release of 4.0 edition (

which in my personal opinion was terrible.) I put down my sword and shield and set out to find a new pen and paper game. This is what I found. An amazing game set in a world covered in darkness. This game blew me away. It has the story based setting that I was looking for. Yet still combat where it is needed. I finally feel in control because the entire story is based around your actions. Instead of a preset quest. (find the magical artifact, kill the dragon, save the madden and the day) The ST (story teller, their version of a DM, GM, ect...) Builds the story around your actions as they happen. Of course there are still preset quests. However there is nothing saying you have to do them. Also I love the depth you go into when making a character. Overall it's an amazing game of personal horror. Whether your spending your nights feeding off the dregs of society or at the top controlling it. There is always something new around every dark and grimy ally. Have fun and happy hunting!

and you are my angel, come from way above... to bring me love

Awesome book

Shows signs of wear and tear, the covers practically flop around, but that only means it's been well used. Pages are intact and it's still in good shape. Definitely worth it.

Ok, here's the honest deal. Some people love this game above all others. Others hate it. There are few people in the middle ground. I am certainly in the middle on this one. I will play Vampire if I am invited to a game, but there have been multiple times when I was unsatisfied. Typically, I play Malkies, Ventrue or Setites. That comment right there will probably stop most hard-core Masquerade fans from reading the rest of this review, but these are the clans that interest me. Ok, on the mechanics. A storyteller, and even players, need to know the White Wolf D10 system pretty well to run any of their Storyteller games properly. This becomes more true with Vampire, because this is one of the few games with huge amounts of social powers to listen in on distant conversations, dominate another person's mind or make them love you, or even drive them mad with a glance. With perhaps the exception of Changeling, no other White Wolf game requires so many rolls in non-combat situations. I do consider this a weakness to some extent since it really does slow down game sessions considerably while the two parties roll, and inevitably counter-attack, and so forth. Frankly, it does seem like there is a roll for everything in Vampire, which is not really the case for many of White Wolf's other storyteller system games. This is further

complicated by the slight adversarial nature many players seem to have in the game. On the plus side, this game has an amazing back story. From the fall of man, and more specifically Cain, to modern nights, the history is great. It ties in things from actual history that make this stuff seem almost believable. The only problem I have with this is, to get most of that history you need to shell out some hard cash to get the supplement material. You can easily find yourself lost or just relying on another player on points of Vampire history and society most of the time. Some more development in the base book on this deep history and culture would be appreciated. That said, as long as the ST of your home game is aware of this information, you should be fine. A comment on the players of this game is needed. A number of reviews have been blasted because they discussed the players being goths or just in general complained about the players. It is a valid point, however. You can't play Vampire by yourself. That is called day-dreaming. Many of the players are devoted fans with deep knowledge of their clans' histories and can tell you all didn't want to know about them. This is not a real problem, but for a new player it can be very daunting. I was fortunate that my first game only had two such people, and one was the ST. If you are the only new player in the game, however, be afraid. I should also point out, since most of the negative reviews complain about LARPing, this is NOT the Vampire: the Masquerade LARP manual. Go look for Minds Eye Theatre stuff. This is the table top version. If you are more comfortable sitting around a table with your friends with chips and pizza somewhere, this is the version for you. Please keep in mind the V:tM has suffered bad publicity because of a group of people who played Vampire murdered a family several years ago. The Rod Ferrell Case has been used against Vampire the Masquerade and gaming in general by a few, but remember there is a disclaimer in the very front of every White Wolf book. If you think any of this stuff is real, please put the book down and walk away. Otherwise, there is a fair amount of fun to be had. This game is part of a larger world created by White Wolf. The meta-plot of the World of Darkness has many other games in it. If Vampire isn't your cup of suspiciously red and thick tea, but you enjoy the world or the system, try looking into the other games. Werewolf: the Apocalypse is great for combat oriented folk in defense of nature. Mage: the Ascension is a deep thinking look at subjective reality. Changeling: the Dreaming is a call to return imagination to the world. The list goes on. White Wolf's games are not like D&D or some other RPGs. What game you play gives your character preset goals. There are stereotypes, especially in Vampire, to play with. If you haven't tried one of these games yet, Vampire is a good starting place, but if pseudo-political drama-queen blood-suckers ain't your style, move on down the list until you find something you love.

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