

Demon in My View Study Guide

Demon in My View by Amelia Atwater-Rhodes

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Plot Summary

"Devil in my View" is the second novel in Amelia Atwater-Rhodes' Den of Shadows series. In this novel, Jessica Allodola has written multiple novels about vampires, one of which has recently been published under the pseudonym of Ash Night. The new school year has just begun and two new students have come to Ramsa High School, Caryn Rashida and Alex Remington. While Caryn simply annoys Jessica with her overtures of friendship, Jessica finds herself instantly attracted to Alex who reminds her of the main character of her books, Aubrey. Over a short time, Jessica becomes close to Alex. Therefore she is not terribly surprised when Caryn tells her that Alex really is Aubrey and everything Jessica has been writing about in her novels is true. "Devil in my View" takes an author down an amazing road that she has desired longer than she realizes, giving Jessica all the answers about her past she has always yearned to know.

Jessica dreads the first day of school because she knows that she will be treated like a pariah as she has in the previous four years she has attended school in Ramsa. Jessica is not completely wrong. However, new student Caryn Rashida tries to befriend Jessica when they meet in homeroom. Although Caryn is extremely nice and patient, Jessica blows her off. The following day, another new student joins the same class, Alex Remington. Caryn looks frightened when she sees Alex, but Jessica is fascinated with this boy who bears a striking resemblance to the main character in her books, "Tiger, Tiger" and "Dark Flame", Aubrey.

Jessica finds herself watching Alex as they move about the school day, finding more and more about him that resembles the fictional Aubrey, even the pendant he wears around his neck. At lunch, Alex seeks Jessica out and they talk for a while, sparring verbally in an exciting way. After school, they run into one another again at the local bookstore. However, Alex rushes out of the store in anger when he sees the copy of Tiger, Tiger Jessica is holding. It turns out that Alex really is Aubrey, that he knew about "Dark Flame", but had no clue about "Tiger, Tiger." Aubrey has been urged to kill Ask Night, whom he has discovered is Jessica, to prevent her from publishing any more books that reveal truths about vampires to their enemies, witches who are vampire hunters.

Aubrey is fascinated with Jessica and, despite pressure from other vampires, finds himself unwilling to kill Jessica. Caryn does not see this reluctance in Aubrey, however, and she goes to Jessica to warn her about the danger she is in. When Caryn gives Jessica a note that has her real name on it, Smoke, Jessica begins to understand that her books are true. Jessica searches for New Mayhem, the capital of vampire activity in the United States, and is less than surprised to find it just where she always imagined it to be. However, threats from Fala, another vampire, send Jessica back home.

Fala decides to take matters into her own hands. On Sunday morning, Fala sends a vampire to kill Anne, Jessica's adoptive mother. Upset, Jessica goes home with Caryn and her witch mother and vampire hunter cousin, Dominique. When Jessica has another of her recurring dreams about a woman named Jazlyn that mentions a woman



named Monica Smoke, Jessica questions Caryn. Caryn tells Jessica that Monica was her mother's sister. Caryn's mother informs Jessica that Monica had once wanted to save vampires by restoring their lives. This information reveals to Jessica the truth about her own birth, that she is the daughter of Jazlyn, a vampire who was pregnant before she was turned and gave birth after Monica restored her life.

Jessica goes to Aubrey in New Mayhem, but he is distracted when Dominique follows Jessica and attacks a human bound to a vampire. When Aubrey returns to the bar where he left Jessica, she is gone. Jessica had started home, but was attacked and badly beaten by Fala. Aubrey gets Caryn to heal Jessica, but her wounds are too bad. Caryn uses some of Aubrey's power to repair Jessica's wounds, but she still lacks too much blood to live. For this reason, Aubrey gives Jessica his blood, turning her into a vampire.



Chapters 1-6

Chapters 1-6 Summary

"Devil in my View" is the second novel in the Den of Shadow's series by Amelia Atwater-Rhodes.

Chapter 1. Jessica wakes just a few hours after having gone to bed and finds she has just a few minutes to dress for the first day of school. It is Jessica's senior year, the only good spot on the entire year. Jessica is treated as an outcast at the school and some even think she might be a witch. Jessica finds it amusing that although all of her fellow students refuse to speak to her, some of them have a copy of her newly published book, "Tiger, Tiger". The book is the first of two Jessica hopes to see published this year under the pseudonym, Ash Night.

In homeroom, a new student sits beside Jessica in the back. The girl, Caryn Rashida, tries several times to befriend Jessica, but Jessica rebuffs all her attempts.

Chapter 2. At home, Caryn's mother asks how her first day of school went. Caryn and her mother recently came to Ramsa under the direction of Dominique Vida, a vampire hunter and leader of all lines of witches, including Caryn's line, Smoke. Caryn is to watch over Jessica because they believe her to be danger due to her recent publication of Tiger, Tiger. However, Caryn is discouraged by Jessica's response to her overtures of friendship.

Chapter 3. Jessica and her adopted mother, Anne, argue the moment Jessica walks into the house. Jessica goes straight to her completely black bedroom where she goes back to work on her latest manuscript. Jessica has thus far written twenty-nine manuscripts, each dealing with vampires and witches.

Chapter 4. When Jessica becomes tired, she falls asleep on her bed and dreams of Jazlyn, a vampire who has been returned to life by a witch. Jessica wakes less than an hour after falling asleep and prepares for school. Jessica has breakfast with Anne and goes to school in a good mood until she sees Caryn.

Chapter 5. When Jessica goes into the school she sees a couple of girls checking out a boy in the office. When Jessica asks who they are looking at, the girls simply walk away. Jessica looks in the office and is surprised to see a young man who looks exactly like the main character in her books "Tiger, Tiger" and "Dark Flame", Aubrey. Jessica tells herself this is impossible, but the thought keeps with her even after the young man, Alex Remington, joins her homeroom class.

Chapter 6. Jessica sits in the courtyard at lunch and watches the other kids while she sketches, her eyes moving instantly to Alex. Jessica finds herself sketching Alex as he talks to another boy, and is surprised to find she has drawn a pendant just like Aubrey's around Alex's neck even though she has yet to see the pendant he wears. When Alex



comes to speak with her, Jessica is again surprised to see that the pendant is indeed just like Aubrey's. Jessica and Alex speak. Jessica learns that Alex knows Caryn.

Chapters 1-6 Analysis

Jessica is a bitterly unhappy girl who has become an outcast at her high school for reasons beyond her understanding. This has caused Jessica to turn inward, to begin writing fiction as a way to express herself. Jessica's novels, one of which has been published under the name Ash Night and another that is waiting on the editor's desk, are about vampires. The first novel proves to be somewhat popular with Jessica's schoolmates, a fact she finds amusing considering their deep dislike of her.

Two new students come to Jessica's school, Caryn and Alex. Caryn is a witch who has come to Ramsa to protect Jessica from the fallout of her novels. Alex is a young man who closely resembles Jessica's main character in her novels, Aubrey, a vampire. Jessica does not think he really is Aubrey, but the boy knows Caryn and there is a great deal of tension between them. This suggests to the reader that Alex is Aubrey.

As the novel progresses, Jessica finds herself drawn to Alex and annoyed with Caryn. At the same time, Jessica has frequent dreams about the same woman, Jazlyn, a vampire who was somehow changed back to human after being a vampire for more than twenty years. The reader has no clue what these dreams might mean, but suspects it might have something to do with the fact that Aubrey and Caryn have suddenly arrived in Jessica's world.



Chapters 7-12

Chapters 7-12 Summary

Chapter 7. Caryn watches from the library as Alex and Jessica talk. Alex gets into Caryn's mind and answers her thoughts, making Caryn push him out.

Chapter 8. After school, Jessica goes to the local bookstore to see her books on the shelf. Jessica is surprised to find Caryn there. Caryn tries to ask Jessica how she would feel if she learned the things in *Tiger, Tiger* are real, but Jessica brushes her off. Then Alex arrives. Alex offers Jessica another vampire book, *Renegade*, that is written by a woman who claims to be a vampire. They joke about the idea before Alex gets into words with Caryn's mother, Hasana, who is the manager of the bookstore. Then Alex sees the book Jessica has "*Tiger, Tiger*" and he leaves the store in a rush. Hasana then tells Jessica she can keep the copy of "*Tiger, Tiger*" since she is Ash Night.

Chapter 9. Alex, aka Aubrey, is upset about "*Tiger, Tiger*". A vampire in the editing offices holding "*Dark Flame*" gave him a copy of "*Dark Flame*", but he had no idea there was another. Many in the vampire community want Ash Night killed. Aubrey went to the school with that purpose in mind, but finds himself fascinated with Jessica and unable to kill her. Aubrey goes to Las Noches, a bar in New Mayhem, and learns that Moira and Fala, two vampires, want to talk to him about Ash Night.

Chapter 10. Aubrey is still at the bar when Jager approaches. Jager wants to know if Ash Night is dead, clearly more amused by the situation than upset. Fala, however, is angry when she learns Aubrey did not kill Ash Night. Fala threatens to kill Jessica if Aubrey will not, but Aubrey tells her to stay away. Fala accuses Aubrey of having a crush on Jessica. Fala agrees to back off but insists Jessica be disposed of one way or another.

Chapter 11. Aubrey goes to a party on the outskirts of Ramsa that a girl from school, Shannon, told him about. Aubrey draws Shannon out and begins to drink from her.

Chapter 12. Caryn is at the party and can sense Aubrey outside. Caryn follows Shannon out of the party and catches up with her and Aubrey seconds before she might have died. Caryn tells Aubrey to put Shannon down and asks him not to hunt anyone else at the party. When Aubrey refuses, Caryn does the one thing she has been trained to do, she offers him her own blood. Aubrey drinks from Caryn, but leaves her alive.

Chapters 7-12 Analysis

It is soon clear to the reader that Alex is the vampire called Aubrey. First the reader witnesses Aubrey speaking to Caryn without words and then Aubrey takes over narration and tells the reader the truth. Aubrey has gotten a copy of Jessica's second novel, "*Dark Flame*", that tells Aubrey's complete story. Aubrey is annoyed by this, but



the entire vampire community is concerned because Jessica's books give away details to vampire hunters that could help them find the vampires, especially their main community in New Mayhem, outside of Ramsa.

Aubrey is supposed to kill Jessica and most of the vampire community is confident he will. However, Fala, another vampire, is not so confident in Aubrey. Fala wants Jessica dead because she does not like the way Jessica portrayed her in the novels. Fala promises to kill Jessica if Aubrey fails to do so for some reason. The problem is, Aubrey finds himself attracted to Jessica and he cannot bring himself to kill her. Aubrey is unsure what he will do with Jessica.

Caryn is a witch and most witches have become vampire hunters over the years. However, Caryn's line, Smoke, have all become healers instead of killers. For this reason, Caryn cannot defend herself from a vampire or anyone else. Instead, Caryn offers Aubrey her blood to keep him from killing an innocent. This leaves the reader wondering how Caryn might protect Jessica from Aubrey if it comes to that.



Chapters 13-20

Chapters 13-20 Summary

Chapter 13. Jessica has been writing all afternoon and she decides to take a break by walking in the woods. Jessica climbs into a tree and falls asleep, having another dream about Jazlyn. Jessica wakes when Alex/Aubrey joins her in the tree. They talk for a time and Jessica sees a tattoo on Alex/Aubrey's wrist that her book's character has as well. Jessica begins to worry that Alex/Aubrey is a crazed fan of her book and he is stalking her.

Chapter 14. Fala confronts Aubrey and claims to have been following Jessica. Aubrey worries that Fala might have harmed Jessica, but is assured when Fala fails to brag, something she would have done had she killed Jessica.

Chapter 15. Caryn comes to Jessica's house to speak to her. Caryn tries to tell Jessica that her books are true, but Jessica will not listen. Caryn leaves Jessica with a letter.

Chapter 16. Jessica reads Caryn's letter and is shocked when she sees that Caryn has signed it Caryn Smoke. Jessica has not published, nor has she shown anyone, a manuscript she has written about the witches that includes the Smoke line. This makes Jessica wonder if her books really are true. Jessica decides to look for proof.

Chapter 17. Jessica searches through her manuscripts for proof of where New Mayhem is located. Jessica then sets out on foot to find it. When Jessica finds a path that has a rose bush at the entrance, a black rose bush, she knows she has found the path to New Mayhem. When Jessica reaches the town and enters Las Noches, she is surprised to see she knows most of the faces there, including Fala. However, when Fala makes a silent threat, Jessica leaves.

Chapter 18. As Jessica makes her way back to Ramsa, she is confronted by Aubrey. Jessica knows now that he really is Aubrey. Aubrey makes a veiled threat and Jessica becomes annoyed, slapping him.

Chapter 19. Jessica tries to goad Aubrey into killing her, but instead, he kisses her.

Chapter 20. Jessica is stunned by the kiss. At home, Jessica again dreams about Jazlyn, learning Jazlyn resisted Seite's desire to change her for a long time before finally giving in. The next morning, Anne wakes Jessica with a request that she attend church with Anne, Hasana, and Caryn. Jessica refuses, but decides to go seek out Caryn to ask her some questions. While speaking with Caryn, Anne is attacked by a vampire. Jessica tries to rescue her, but finds she is too late. Anne's neck is broken. Jessica knows Fala is behind this attack.



Chapters 13-20 Analysis

Jessica dreams frequently about a woman named Jazlyn. Jazlyn was a grieving widow before Seite, an ancient vampire, offered to give her immortality. Jazlyn apparently consented, but the dreams do not tell yet why or when. However, Jazlyn would be a vampire for more than twenty years before she met Monica, a witch who offers to give her back life. Jazlyn apparently did return to life because the first of Jessica's dreams show Jazlyn struggling as the life comes back into her body. The reader must wonder what this woman has to do with Jessica and why Jessica is having these dreams.

Jessica comes to believe that her vampire world is real. What Jessica does not know is how she knows these things and why she feels compelled to write about them. However, Jessica does realize the danger she is in. In fact, Jessica confronts Aubrey and dares him to kill her. Instead, Aubrey kisses her. This shows both Jessica and the reader that Aubrey's reasons for not killing Jessica are just as romantic as Fala has accused him of. However, Aubrey's affection for Jessica does not protect her, as the reader can clearly see when Fala sends a vampire to kill Jessica's adopted mother, Anne. Fala is dangerous and even Aubrey's protection of Jessica is not going to keep her safe.



Chapters 21-33

Chapters 21-33 Summary

Chapter 21. Aubrey struggles with his feelings for Jessica and the danger she is in. Aubrey tries to argue on Jessica's defense to Fala, but Fala is not buying any of it.

Chapter 22. Jessica goes home with Hasana and Caryn against her will, especially unhappy when she finds vampire hunter Dominique Vida there. After sleeping and again dreaming about Jazlyn, this time learning that Jazlyn allowed Seite to turn her because she was pregnant.

Chapter 23. Jessica asks Caryn who Monica Smoke was. When she learns Monica was Hasana's sister, Jessica questions Hasana about Monica and Jazlyn. Hasana admits that Monica did want to turn Jazlyn human again, but she died attempting it. With this information, Jessica begins a new novel.

Chapter 24. Jessica argues with Dominique and Hasana when she decides to leave the house.

Chapter 25. Jessica returns to Las Noches where she finds Aubrey. Aubrey offers to turn Jessica into a vampire, but she does not want to be turned willingly because her strength as a vampire will not be great.

Chapter 26. As Aubrey speaks with Jessica and tries to decide what to do, he hears the human Kaei crying outside. Aubrey rushes to her aid and discovers that Dominique followed Jessica to New Mayhem. Aubrey attacks Dominique, taking her far away before returning to Jessica. However, Jessica is not there when he returns.

Chapter 27. Jessica is walking back to the Rashida home when Fala attacks. Jessica fights bravely, but Fala is stronger. Soon Jessica is badly injured and weak with blood loss.

Chapter 28. Fala continues to fight Jessica, impressed with her strength but determined to win. However, Jessica manages to get the upper hand at the last minute, wounding Fala badly in the arm with a knife Aubrey once took from a vampire hunter.

Chapter 29. Aubrey waits for Fala in her rooms, forcing her to tell him where Jessica is. When Aubrey reaches Jessica and sees how badly wounded she is, he goes to Caryn for help.

Chapter 30. Caryn works hard to save Jessica, but she is too badly wounded and suffers for too huge a loss of blood. Aubrey lets Caryn use his power to heal Jessica, but she continues to suffer from blood loss.



Chapter 31. Aubrey asks Jessica if she wants to go to a hospital, or if she wants him to change her. Jessica chooses to become a vampire. As Jessica sleeps after the change, she dreams of Jazlyn hoping her child will never have to know the vampire world.

Chapter 32. Aubrey takes Caryn and Jessica back to his house where they can recover in peace. Aubrey then visits Fala and tells her to leave Jessica alone. Jessica appears and Fala knows that Jessica can kill her, but Jessica chooses to let Fala live.

Chapter 33. Jessica returns to Aubrey's after feeding for the first time and pledges to continue with her writing.

Chapters 21-33 Analysis

Jessica finally puts together the dreams she has been having and the fact that she seems to know all about the vampire world. Jessica realizes that Jazlyn is her mother and that she was carried in her mother's womb for more than twenty years. After returning to life, Jazlyn gave birth, but rather than having her biological father's characteristics, Jessica was born with the appearance of Seite, the man who changed Jazlyn and whose blood has flown through Jessica's veins all those years. It is also Seite's blood that gives Jessica information about the vampires she could not have gotten any other way.

Even though Jessica knows how dangerous it is for her, she returns to New Mayhem to be with Aubrey. However, Dominique follows her, causing Aubrey to have to take care of the vampire hunter. Jessica makes the mistake of leaving New Mayhem even though she knows a vampire cannot kill a human in the city. Jessica is promptly attacked by Fala and nearly killed.

Jessica has expressed a desire to be a vampire to the Rashidas, Dominique, and Aubrey. Therefore when her injuries prove to be overwhelming, Aubrey turns her. Jessica is happy with this change and now she becomes the bigger threat in her fight with Fala. Not only this, but Jessica now has the strength to protect herself as she plans to continue writing her books.



Characters

Jessica Ashley Allodola

Jessica is an outsider, an angry young high school student. Jessica does not get along with her adopted mother and finds herself an outcast among all her peers at school. This causes Jessica to turn inward, to become a writer.

Jessica writes about vampires and has sold two of her books. Jessica has many other books she plans on publishing one day. Jessica finds it amusing that her fellow students are reading her book even though they do not know she wrote it.

Jessica learns that her stories are true. Jessica eventually realizes that Jessica knows these things because her birth mother was changed into a vampire while pregnant and then was given back her life more than twenty years later. When the child, Jessica, was born she had the characteristics of the vampire who changed her mother instead of those of her birth father. For this reason, Jessica was placed for adoption.

Now Jessica has become an object of dislike to the vampire community and many want her dead, including Fala. In a fight with Fala, Jessica nearly dies. However, Aubrey saves her by turning her into a vampire.

Caryn Rashida aka Caryn Smoke

Caryn Rashida is a new school at Jessica's school. Jessica rebuffs Caryn's attempts at friendship. However, when Caryn comes to Jessica and tells her that her books are real, and then reveals her real name is Caryn Smoke, Jessica begins to believe her.

Caryn is a healer, therefore she cannot fight Aubrey or his kind. Instead, when Caryn finds Aubrey about to kill innocent students in Ramsa, she offers him her blood instead. Later, Caryn uses Aubrey's power to heal Jessica, an act that could leave Caryn with vampire characteristics and make her an outcast among her own people. Caryn does this because she wants to save Jessica.

Alex Remington aka Aubrey

Alex Remington is a new kid at Jessica's school who looks eerily like the main character in her vampire books, Aubrey. As Jessica gets to know Alex, she notices more and more comparisons between him and Aubrey. Eventually, Jessica learns that Alex is Aubrey.

Aubrey is an ancient vampire who was changed against his will as a young man. Aubrey has lived a long life building a vicious reputation. Aubrey has only lost one fight in his life and this continues to be his humiliation. Therefore, when Ash Night attempts to publish a book that reveals this fight Aubrey decides to kill Ash Night. However, when Aubrey



meets Ash Night, aka Jessica, he finds himself attracted to her. In the end, Aubrey turns Jessica into a vampire after she fights Fala.

Hasana Rashida aka Hasana Smoke

Hasana Rashida, or Hasana Smoke, is a witch who is a part of the smoke line, therefore she is not a vampire hunter but a healer. Hasana's sister, Monica, is the witch who healed Jazlyn, Jessica's mother, and brought her back to life after being a vampire for more than twenty years. This leads to Jessica's birth and her blood that contains Seite's blood, giving Jessica his memories and her ability to write about a vampire world she did not know existed.

Dominique Vida

Dominique Vida is an ancient witch who is so powerful that she is one of the leaders of all the lines of witches. Dominique is also a vicious vampire hunter. Jessica meets Dominique soon after the death of Anne and immediately dislikes her. Jessica claims she would rather join the vampires than to allow Dominique to kill another one of them. After Jessica leaves the Rashida home to see Aubrey, Dominique follows her and attacks Kaei. Aubrey attacks Dominique, transporting her far from New Mayhem.

Anne Allodola

Anne is Jessica's adopted mother. Jessica is a very unhappy girl and she often treats Anne badly even though Anne is the only person who has ever shown any affection to Jessica. Anne tries to be a good mother despite Jessica's anger and resistance. In the end, Anne is killed by a vampire sent to her by Fala. Jessica knows that Fala has done this as a warning and that Jessica is Fala's true intended victim.

Fala

Fala is a vampire who was turned when she was a young woman in Egypt. Fala was turned by choice, therefore she is a weak vampire. Fala dislikes Ash Night because of her betrayal of Fala in the book "Dark Flame". For this reason, Fala wants Ash Night killed. When Aubrey fails to kill Ash night on several occasions, Fala goes after her. When they fight, Ash Night, or Jessica, is badly wounded and would have died if Aubrey did not find her and, with Caryn's help, heal her enough to turn her into a vampire.

Kaei

Kaei is a human who is bound to Jager. For this reason, Kaei will not age as long as Jager lives. Kaei once caused a fire that destroyed the original Mayhem. The vampires rebuilt the town, now called New Mayhem, but it has been hidden from vampire hunters



until the publication of Ash Night's books. Kaei is attacked by Dominique toward the end of this novel, but the author does not reveal her fate.

Jager

Jager is an ancient vampire who is nearly as old as Aubrey. Jager turned Fala and has bound Kaei to him in punishment for a fire Kaei began three hundred years ago that destroyed the original Mayhem. Jager is aware of Ash Night and her books, but he finds the whole things somewhat amusing. Jager stands back and watches as Aubrey and Fala fight over Jessica and her fate.

Ash Night

Ash Night is the pseudonym Jessica uses when she publishes "Tiger, Tiger". The vampire world becomes very upset when they receive a copy of Jessica's second novel, "Dark Flame" that is waiting on the editor's desk in preparation for publication. This leads the vampire world to send vampires in search of Ash Night. When Aubrey finds Ash Night, he is surprised to find Jessica to have a strong aura that he admires greatly and begins to fall in love with. At the same time, Fala vows to kill Ash Night for her portrayal of Fala in "Dark Flame".



Objects/Places

Aubrey's Pendant

Aubrey wears an upside down cross in Jessica's books. Jessica is surprised to see Alex wears the same sort of pendant.

Aubrey's Tattoos

Aubrey has several tattoos of mythical creatures on his arms. Jessica is surprised to see these same tattoos on Alex's arms.

Aubrey's Knife

Aubrey has a knife that he once took off of a vampire hunter that he often uses against other vampires to protect himself. Fala steals this knife and uses it against Jessica, but Jessica manages to turn the tables and wound Fala with it.

Caryn's Letter

Jessica begins to believe her fiction is real when she reads Caryn's letter, which Caryn has signed with her true name, Caryn Smoke.

Tiger, Tiger

"Tiger, Tiger" is the name of the first book published by Jessica under the pseudonym of Ash Night. This book features Aubrey, among other vampires.

Dark Flame

"Dark Flame" is the name of the second book Ash Night plans to publish. It is a copy of this book, which tells Aubrey's story, that causes the vampire community to become aware of Ash Night.

Ramsa High School

Jessica attends Ramsa High School. Caryn becomes a student there to protect Jessica from vampires. Aubrey becomes a student there under the name Alex Remington to get close to the writer, Ash Night.



Las Noches

Las Noches is the name of a bar in New Mayhem where there is no bartender and the vampires drink at their own risk since none of the bottles are marked. Jessica goes here twice, both times running into trouble with Fala.

Ramsa, New York

Ramsa is the name of the town where Jessica lives with her mother.

New Mayhem, New York

New Mayhem is a secret community that is the main community of vampires in the United States.



Themes

Fiction versus Reality

When the novel begins, Jessica believes her novels are pure fiction. Jessica was inspired by a visit to Concord, Massachusetts and has been writing the novels for four years. Jessica has twenty-nine manuscripts finished, but only two have already been sold. The first, "Tiger, Tiger" was released just the week before the novel begins and the second, "Dark Flame", is waiting on her editor's desk.

Without Jessica's knowledge, a vampire working for her editor has passed a copy of "Dark Flame" to the vampire community. For this reason, Aubrey, the main character of the novel, has come to kill the author. Jessica meets Aubrey as Alex Remington, but she cannot help but notice the similarities between Alex and Aubrey. At the same time, Caryn Rashida has come to town and tries to befriend Jessica. Jessica rebuffs her, but Caryn is persistent. Each time Jessica meets Caryn, Caryn asks if Jessica thought it might be possible that vampires really exist. Jessica thinks Caryn is crazy.

However, as time passes and Jessica gets to know Alex better and better, she begins to realize that Caryn might be right. Finally, when Caryn tells Jessica her real name and Jessica finds the town of New Mayhem, she knows that her fiction is real. In the end, Jessica puts it all together, realizing that she carries the blood of Seite, an ancient vampire, and this is how she came to know the truth about vampires.

Stigma of Adoption

Jessica is an angry young woman. Part of her anger is focused at Anne, her adopted mother. Jessica repeatedly reminds Anne that she is not her mother, that she adopted Jessica. This comes from Jessica's deep feelings of having been abandoned by the woman who gave birth to her.

Children who have been adopted often respond to this information in a variety of ways. Jessica reacts with anger, assuming that her birth mother did not want her. However, in dreams Jessica learns that her mother gave her away in an attempt to protect her from the vampire world. Rather than protect her, Jessica has been isolated because of the darkness in her aura and the blood from the man who turned her mother into a vampire while she was pregnant. For this reason, Jessica embraces the vampire world. The author never says if Jessica learns to forgive her birth mother, though she does show some grief when her adopted mother, Anne, is murdered by a vampire.



Good versus Evil

Good versus evil is a common theme in these fantasy type novels. In this book, the good side are the witches who fight to kill the vampires and who fight to protect the innocent. The evil are the vampires who kill in order to feed their blood lust.

Caryn has been taught from childhood that the innocent must be protected. Due to the fact that Caryn's line of witches no longer live as vampire hunters, Caryn cannot fight a vampire. However, she can offer her own blood in exchange for the life of an innocent. Caryn does just this when she catches Aubrey draining the blood of an innocent high school student.

Caryn is also a healer. When Jessica is attacked and almost killed by Fala, Caryn comes at Aubrey's request and tries to save her life. Caryn is not powerful enough to heal all of Jessica's injuries, so she uses Aubrey's power. In the end, however, Jessica chooses the life of a vampire and allows Aubrey to change her.

Aubrey proves himself to be both evil and good in this novel. Aubrey is evil when he attempts to kill an innocent high school student to feed. However, when Jessica proves to be a strong aura, Aubrey cannot make himself kill her. Instead, Aubrey makes Jessica a vampire and his mate.



Style

Point of View

"Demon in My View" is written in the third person omniscient point of view. In this novel, the author uses Jessica, Aubrey, and Caryn as narrating characters. Each character shares with the reader their thoughts, feelings, and action throughout the novel. In this way, the reader is able to see the plot not only from one character's point of view, but several points of view.

The third person omniscient point of view is often used in modern literature. In this novel, the author does a fairly good job of warning the reader when a new character takes over narration. However, the author switches around somewhat unpredictably, making it a little confusing for the reader to follow the narration of the plot. The author does tell an interesting story that might be different if she had not used more than one narrator, therefore the point of view works with the plot.

Setting

The novel is set in the fictional towns of Ramsa and New Mayhem. Ramsa is a typical small town where everyone knows everyone else. Ramsa is suffocating to the main character, Jessica, because for some unknown reason most people there do not like her. New Mayhem is a secret town that is like the headquarters for vampires in the United States. This is a unique place that is safe for humans who live there because of the rules that keep vampires from killing humans in New Mayhem, but proves dangerous for those who live nearby because of the vampires' need to feed.

The setting of the novel is basically a backdrop to the story. Ramsa is just a little town whose only impact on the plot is the smallness of the place that leaves Jessica feeling like an outsider. However, the setting of New Mayhem is more interesting as it is the headquarters for vampires, therefore it is full of menace. However, the author does not describe either of the towns in much detail, therefore they both end up being a simple backdrop rather than an interesting setting that impacts the plot with more than mild description.

Language and Meaning

The language of the novel is simple English. The novel is written for young adults, and the main characters are each young, therefore the language remains simple to reflect both the intended audience and the main characters.

The language of this novel has the potential to be quite complicated should the author want to add a great deal of language that deals with the vampires and the witches in the plot. However, that author keeps her language simple, including very little in the way of

made up words that might embellish the fantasy genre of the novel. For this reason, the language remains simple enough for even the youngest readers to understand.

Structure

The novel is divided into thirty-three short chapters. The novel is told in both narration and dialogue. The author tells her story in a linear fashion, using dreams to give the reader backstory to explain Jessica's knowledge of the vampires for her fictional stories.

The novel contains one main plot and several subplots. The main plot follows Jessica as she learns that her stories of vampires are true. A subplot follows Jessica's growing relationship with Aubrey. Another subplot follows Caryn's involvement in Jessica's situation. Another subplot deals with Fala's desire to kill Jessica. All the plots come to a satisfying conclusion at the end of the novel.



Quotes

"The black oblivion of sleep was shattered by the caterwauling of some singer on Jessica's clock radio." Chapter 1, pg. 7

"Within five minutes Jessica was writing quickly, lost in the bubble of her own imagination." Chapter 4, pg. 16

"A bit reluctantly, Jessica headed down the hall, leaving Alex to the mercy of Shannon the Conqueror." Chapter 5, pg. 20

"Aubrey had left the store to avoid hurting someone—probably the witch." Chapter 9, pg. 30

"His canines, which looked normal enough most of the time, expanded to razor-sharp points. These fangs pierced the skin of her throat quickly and precisely, and within moments he was lost in the sensation of the rich human blood that ran over his tongue and quenched his thirst." Chapter 11, pg. 39

"If he was Aubrey, and vampires did exist, and he and his kind knew who she was...her life could end up being a great deal shorter than she had intended." Chapter 13, pg. 48

"It was cleverly done, she admitted reluctantly. Alex's portrayal of Aubrey was perfect. She wondered who Caryn was trying to be. If it was a game, it was well practiced and planned between them." Chapter 16, pg. 54

"Though vampires were not allowed to kill humans inside New Mayhem, Jessica doubted that anyone would object to Fala's making an exception in the case of the author Ash Night." Chapter 17, pg. 60

"Before she could react, he caught her lips with his own." Chapter 19, pg. 65

"Who, she wondered, would finish it if she died?" Chapter 23, pg. 79

"Fala disappeared, cradling her arm against her chest. That was all Jessica saw before she sank into unconsciousness." Chapter 28, pg. 95

"Jessica's heart had stopped." Chapter 32, pg. 105



Topics for Discussion

Who is Ash Night? Why type of novels does she write? Why is Aubrey angry with Ash Night? Why are Moira and Fala upset with Ash Night? Why does Fala threaten to kill Ash Night if Aubrey does not? Why does Aubrey want Ash Night dead? Why does Aubrey fail to kill Ash Night?

Who is Jessica? Why do people in her town dislike her? Why does Jessica dislike her adopted mother? Why is Jessica resistant when Caryn tries to befriend her? What is the first thing Jessica notices about Alex Remington? What does this mean to Jessica? Why does Jessica deny her first instincts with Alex? Why does Alex befriend Jessica? What does this suggest about her immediate future?

Who is Caryn Rashida? Why does she come to Ramsa? Why does Caryn try to befriend Jessica? How does she respond when Jessica rebuffs her attempts? How does Caryn know Alex Remington? How does Caryn respond when Alex first comes to school? Why? How does Alex speak to Caryn in her mind? How does Caryn protect herself?

Who is Alex Remington? Why are all the girls instantly attracted to him? How does Alex respond to this attention? Why does Alex get into an argument with a boy on his first day of school? How does Alex end the confrontation? Why does Alex seek out Jessica? What does Alex want from Jessica? For what reason?

Who is Aubrey? Why does Aubrey dislike the fact that Ash Night has written a novel about him? What danger do these fiction novels pose for the vampire community? Why does Aubrey not kill Jessica when he realizes she is Ash Night? Why does Aubrey continue to speak to Jessica? Why does Fala tease Aubrey about his fascination for Jessica?

Who is Fala? Why does she dislike Jessica? Why does Fala want Jessica dead? Why does Fala wait for Aubrey to kill Jessica? How does Fala respond when Aubrey does not kill Jessica? Why does Fala have Jessica's mother killed? What message does this send to Jessica? How does Jessica respond? What happens between Jessica and Fala?

Why can Caryn not completely heal Jessica? What does she do to help Jessica after her fight with Fala? What does Caryn tell Aubrey Jessica needs to save her life? What option does Aubrey give to Jessica? What does she choose? How does Jessica convince Fala to leave her alone? Why does Jessica decide to continue writing her novels? What danger does this represent for Jessica?