

AUTHOR INFLUENCES

Bram Stoker

- Stoker was the author of *Dracula*.
- *Dracula* was inspired by:
 - Transylvanian folklore
 - Vlad the Impaler
 - Elizabeth Báthory
- Stoker chose the name “Dracula” because he thought it meant “devil” in Romanian.



Anne Rice

- Rice was author of *Interview with the Vampire* (1976).
- She was born in New Orleans and raised by Irish Catholic parents.
- Her mother died of alcoholism when she was a teen.
- Her daughter died at six years old from leukemia, a form of blood cancer.
- *Interview* was inspired by Stephen King’s *Firestarter*.



Guillermo del Toro & Chuck Hogan

- Authors of *The Fall*, which was the inspiration for the television show “The Strain.”
- *The Strain* aired from 2014–2017.
- Guillermo del Toro was raised a strict Catholic in Mexico.



Charlaine Harris

- Harris was author of *The Southern Vampire Mysteries* series of novels.
- The television series “True Blood” adaptation aired from 2008–2014.
- Rather than acknowledging the legend that vampires are deceased humans who have risen from the dead to prey on the living, the vampires insist they are simply the victims of a medical condition that makes them allergic to sunlight and affects their dietary needs.



Stephanie Meyer

- Meyer was author of the *Twilight* saga.
- Her Mormon faith influenced certain themes in her writing:
 - Moral dilemma of mortal temptation
 - Overcoming the natural man
 - Immortality and eternal life
- She was also influenced by literary classics:
 - *Twilight: Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen
 - *New Moon: Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare
 - *Eclipse: Wuthering Heights* by Emily Brontë
 - *Breaking Dawn: A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare



Joss Whedon & David Greenwalt

- Whedon and Greenwalt created the character Angel for the television show *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*.
- The series aired from 1997-2003.
 - The spin-off series, *Angel*, aired from 1999-2004.
- The series offered a dichotomous look at good versus evil
 - Angel is an Irish-Catholic from 18th century Ireland.
 - Angel is a vampire whose human soul was restored to him by a curse as a punishment.
 - This restored soul torments him with guilt and remorse.
 - According to Whedon, the story takes place in Los Angeles because “there are a lot of demons in L.A. and a wealth of stories to be told.”



Sources:

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