



VAMPIRES TODAY, A MORE COMMON TABOO OF WHAT IT SEEMS

A vampire is a creature that feeds on the life essence of others, usually from blood, to be active and to have energy. The prototype of the most popular vampire has a Slavic origin, who is a human that after death becomes an active corpse or predator. The word "Vampire" began to be used in the XVIII century according to the folklore of some East Europe countries which believed that vampires are reincarnations of evil beings, suicide victims, or witches. The belief in such legends was so big that in some areas it caused mass hysteria and even public executions of people accused of being vampires. Nowadays, the facts don't speak about strange creatures, the facts speak about people who want to act like vampires within the parameters of contemporary society.

The world's history has some real vampire's stories that feed the taboo and increase the beliefs. One story talks about Jure Grando, who is the first person that appears in a historic document, he was an old farmer that died in 1656 but after his death he kept tormenting people of the region who had to desecrate the grave of the farmer and do an exorcism, it is said that tears came from the eyes of the corpse. Another story tells about Elizabeth Bathory, most known as the bloody countess who belonged to a powerful family of the 17th century

in Hungary. She enjoyed torturing and murdering farmers. Furthermore, she killed virgin girls and bathed in their blood to keep youth. These are just two stories that registered people acting after death and people who felt attraction for others' blood, probably there were a lot more stories that may never have been told.

Throughout history, people have tried to explain what the truth about vampires is and scientists have found medical conditions related to human behaviors associated with Vampirism. Thus, one of the most common beliefs about vampires is their desire to consume human blood; this is a disease known as porphyria, in which a person feels a deep need to drink this. In 1985 several cases of porphyria shook some European towns, this disease has a genetic origin, it causes anomalies in the levels of hemoglobin and the patient presents high sun sensibility, which is another typical vampire's feature.

Furthermore, there are other unknown diseases in past time that explain a vampire's behavior. The madness or rabies are some of them and are caused by a virus. The rabies attacks the nervous system and produces physical and psychological changes, leading a person to aggressive behaviors, for example to bite other

people and also hypersensitivity to light. In consequence, those are some reasons why humanity could have created and have believed in vampire's taboos considering that nowadays the world has much progress to explain all past phenomena's.



Perhaps, current vampires don't suffer some of those diseases, instead, they have developed a big interest about vampire's stories and try to look like vampires from movies. Those people have an especial

taste for blood and feel a strange pleasure when drink it. But, where do they get blood to drink from? A recent interview with a modern vampire, a young of 26 years old who didn't want to reveal his identity, says there are several groups of people meeting to show their knowledge about vampires and to drink blood from themselves or from other person in the group. He also believes that it's a sacred ritual but he is aware that still people reject those activities and see them as followers of evil. Furthermore, he ensures that they have never killed anyone to get blood, not even an animal, and he says they are a culture that people need to respect.

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