



Solstice

Bryan W. Dull

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In Gavin Moxley's world, there is no thin line between right and wrong. In a personal crusade to help sever a line of disease carried by a clan of vampires; Gavin has no choice to be ruthless. The Vampires are purposely infecting the human population...waiting for humans to actively pass it on to each other. Gavin takes no chances and executes them one by one. Not strong or powerful, finding humans before they turn into full vampires is ideal and Gavin's best bet.

Yes, this is Gavin's life...

...And nothing ever changes it until a young half breed vampire with special abilities, Solstice, attaches and makes herself a fixture in his life when she asks for his help and protection and when a reluctant Gavin agrees he joins a dangerous game of cat and mouse. There is no safe place and the pair are constantly watching their backs. Torn between his hate and his love for Solstice Gavin is thrown into a moral dilemma that only he can figure out but two things are clear...

His faith and Humanity are being tested and the past is not always forgotten.

Solstice Details

Date : Published by Nevermore Press (first published September 11th 2011)

ISBN :

Author : Bryan W. Dull

Format : 132 pages

Genre : Horror

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From Reader Review Solstice for online ebook

Mary Ting says

I was hooked from the beginning and I couldn't put it down. Very gripping. This is a fantastic story that does not sugar coat vampires. I loved the father/daughter dynamic between Gavin and Solstice. The ending left me wanting more. ARC review, by the author.

Delphina says

I was very luck to receive an arc copy of this book before the amazing news that it has been picked up by a publisher and will not be available until it is re-released in January 2013. I have to say this was one of the most creative and dark vampire books I have read in a while and I loved that about it. I read an inordinate amount of vampire books and the "popular" common element lately is the happy good guy vampire. I have no problem with this. I enjoy my vamps however they come, but having this book being so much darker was refreshing. I know saying something being refreshing because it is dark sounds odd, but it really was.

I am not really sure how much I should say about this book since I am sure it will be revamped by the new publisher, so I will stay pretty generic. The story is very different and does not sugar coat much of anything. Watching Gavin and Solstice's worlds collide and merge was a very interesting journey. Their characters both have depths that the first installment of this trilogy only begins to scratch the surface of. I am excited to see where this story takes us. I hope that in the end everything will be shiny happy sunshiny rainbows, because I like them, but to get them through the journey ahead, I am not sure that would be possible or even fitting. I guess I will need to be patient and see ;).

W.H. says

ARC for Review ~ WOW! This is an amazing story. Talk about mysterious, dark adult reads, this is a fantastical story which faces one, and even more, of our evils in today's society and offers a paranormal battle to fight against it. The author has created a scary world chock full of danger, mystery, suspense, horror, well placed humor, action-packed from page one to the end. It kept me riveted to my seat. I LOVED IT!!

The main character has lost everything that meant anything to him, causing him to create a persona to mask all that pain, then he meets Solstice and their worlds are about to embark on a journey that will open his eyes to things that were unknown to him.

I highly recommend this spicy vampiric read to all 18+ due to strong language, and sexual content.

5 out of 5 Hearts

I am really loving the mystery, the story-line is new and refreshing and the humor has me giggling as I can picture Gavin saying it... I could see this becoming a movie.

Royce Hawkins says

ARC REVIEW. This was AWESOME. I loved the humor and wit of Gavin. It was like sitting down with a friend listening to him tell you what just happened. Gavin gets a second chance at fatherhood with Solstice, which is endearing. He is a one man crusade. There is action that will leave you panting as to who will be the victor. I can't say enough about this story or even find the words to do it justice. I will absolutely be picking up more from this new author in the future. Don't miss this read!!!! *****5stars

Alana ~ The Book Pimp says

Well, isn't this a pickle? I have to admit, this book ended up being far different than I anticipated. I found the opening chapters to be dark and intense, but some unidentifiable thing just seemed off. The kind of stark intensity I think could have been taken to an '11' to really just make it start off with such a *BOOM* that the reader wouldn't stop from being entranced. While it was a kind of shock value that grabbed me (there was some vivid scenes that left me squirming), I wish it had moved a little faster or something during the beginning. It seemed a little different and set apart from the rest of the book.

I will say, I think I underestimated this book before I read it. I didn't anticipate how dark the horror was, or how funny the well-placed snark was. I was even taken by surprise with all the ways I thought this book would go, but then *presto chango* a whole different route than I expected.

I also found the underlying mythology to be unique compared to many books out there with the same theme. Bryan Dull really took vampires by the fangs and made them into something I haven't read before. That is really so refreshing to see someone take an age-old horror and put a new spin on it while still not glossing over the fact that they are, indeed, horrors and monsters.

My biggest reservations that lead to a 4♥ review, is the beginning scene, and the myriad of questions the reader are left with. I have to admit, those first pages were so shocking, and just downright bloody, I worried the entire book was going to be like the beginning. Initially, I put it down for a while, because I was worried about the entire book making me squirm while reading. I'm glad I was able to pick it back up and continue on.

So, if you like dark stories, vivid and sometimes bloody descriptions, vampires, and something just a little different, check this out. But please, continue past that first section to get a true taste of the book. It's definitely worth it.

I received a free eBook from the author in exchange for a review.

Heather Badgwell says

This is an ARC review---This story is gripping, it holds you and never lets go. But definitely NOT for younger readers, or the faint of heart. But maybe that is what grabbed me. Its very detailed, and a whole different look at vampires than I am used to seeing. I would recommend it to adults only, but definitely worth the read. Gavin has a very important job. To protect the world from the rare infection that is spreading thru vampires. He knows how to spot them, then he has to kill the vampire. But how he does it, is definitely interesting to read about. 5 of 5 stars!!

Brandy Michelle says

AN ARC REVIEW!

Highly Recommended!!!!!! A MUST READ!!!!

First off let me start by saying that this is the 1st book this author has written and he has done an amazing job. If this is a foreshadowing of whats to come then i am very excited. This story has everything from love, friendship, action , suspense and horror in it. You not only get a healthy dose of vamps but you get to see an amazing relationship form between a man and a little girl he is helping to take care of. It is one of the most unconventional relationship i have ever encountered but it works for them and it works well. From what i hear this is going to be a book series and i for one cannot wait to read the next book and find out what will happen next. I can honestly say it looks like this author will be around for some time if he keeps putting out stories with this kind of quality.

Michelle Leah Olson says

Very interesting concept. I think the series has promise. There were a lot of editing issues though, and while I didn't let it detract from my overall feel of the story, it did detract from the enjoy ability of the read. :-/ -Full review coming soon

Courtney says

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Solstice was nothing like I had anticipated. It was soooo much better!!

Gavin isn't your typical vampire killer like you read about in other paranormal books. He is just a regular guy that has no special powers or weapons that he uses to kill them. And he has no special way of figuring out who is a vampire and who isn't. He just knows that they only come out at night (daylight will kill them) and they haven't completely turned yet, so he knows that he is fairly safe.

Solstice isn't a normal vampire and throws Gavin off a bit because she is able to do everything that vampires shouldn't be able to do. However, he doesn't feel the need to kill her off, he feels the need to protect her from others.

Having to protect Solstice definitely throws a wrench in Gavin's plans, if that's what you want to call them. His only goal is to stop these vampires from spreading the AIDS virus and hopefully end it all. He knows that his plans are the best but he has no other ideas as to how to stop this from continuing. He has no family and no friends because this has become his life. And his mind definitely does not let his past rest - will his past forever haunt him???

Solstice may seem like a young child, but she grows rapidly due to being part vampire - a hybrid of sorts. And she is wanted by others to be tested since she is able to walk in the daylight and not be affected. She has many gifts but she is not sure how to control them. She knows how she was created but not sure why or what will happen to her.

Solstice and Gavin are on the run for lives. They can't hide forever and know that they have to fight this "epidemic."

Bryan Dull does a fantastic job of being so original with his writing. He doesn't make up any new ways of killing off a vampire, but he is able to keep everything so entertaining. His writing it what keeps you locked in the story - very original and I love that!!

I can't wait for the next book in this series to see where Solstice and Gavin go from here.

Sheri says

I received this book as an ARC from the author.

Gavin is a vampire hunter. He hunts humans who have been 'infected' and kills them before they fully turn. Gavin, like any good main character hero sort, has a past that continually haunts him. Gavin's past has made him a bit cynical, but he is overall a good guy. When he meets Solstice, he can't just turn her out on her own, no matter how much he would like to. Gavin is the sort of guy that makes a great main character, and he might just be getting his second chance at life.

Solstice is a half vampire, half human. She is alone in the world, and all she really wants is to be normal. She appears sweet and innocent, but there is a danger lurking underneath the surface that we only get a very small glimpse of in this book. I love the mystery surrounding Solstice. Even though she is the book's namesake, we really don't know very much about her, but just enough to peak interest.

I enjoyed the author's writing style. The story flowed smoothly and was easy to read. Gavin's sarcastic wit and humor was refreshing in this dark story. Really the only thing that brought this book down for me was the prologue. The scene itself was powerful, and I really liked the potential there but felt it just didn't deliver. I can't really put my finger on what is bugging me about it, though. It very well could be the third person narration, which I'm not a huge fan of, but I just think it could have been given more force.

As I said above I received an unedited ARC, so there were many grammatical errors and a few timeline issues in this book. I heard that Solstice was picked up by a publisher, so going through that process and an editor should fix all of those issues. Overall I really enjoyed this story and am looking forward to see where the author takes it. Thank you to Bryan Dull for letting me read your book!

Ashely says

I'm extremely impressed. I loved it. Its so different from your typical vampire books and I love that. Looking forward to seeing what he comes up with next.

Kylie says

When I first begun to read Solstice I found it extremely difficult to get into, It didn't really flow. It was almost like the story went off track and got caught up in the details and then jumped back to the task at hand.

A few chapters in and I had caught the jest of what the SL was, which I must say 'It's Fantastic' The SL idea is like none I have ever read before. The transfer of aids and the vampire gene, and then there is Solstice herself... I have become intrigued by her and what may come of her, what her end roll is to become.

The ending left me a little disappointed, like when a T.V. series finishes and you have to wait for next season to begin so you can find out what's going to happen and what it all means for the cast. I hope there will be a book 2, I look forwards to finding out what becomes of Gavin, Solstice, her maker and Sarah.... what's she got to do with all of this.

Lisa Rayns says

Loved the vampire take!

(An ARC Review) One experiment and one vampire's ploy gone very, very bad for the human race. Infected vampires are much, much worse than regular vampires in this tale. At times the vampires reminded me more of zombies which makes them seem more undead. That is, until Gavin teams up with the object those vamp's desire. Then it's an action-packed race to the finish line. Great characters, great storyline. Loved this book and hope to read the next in the trilogy!

Bex 'n' Books says

ARC REVIEW

Expected release January 2013

Solstice! Wow, this book is so very different from other paranormal, particularly vampire books that I have read. And in a good way! From the opening of the novel, it is clear that this story breaks the paranormal conventions that have been laid out over last 10 years or so.

What is so very different, apart from the lack of sparkling vamps, is the element of reality that Bryan Dull

brings to the novel. His writing is so very visual; it was like watching a film. Admittedly, I am a very visual reader, and when I do watch a film adaptation, I get confused as it feels like I've already watched it when I was reading the book, but Solstice is something else.

I explored Bryan Dull's thoughts and response to Solstice in a recent interview, and he comments on how his novel started off as a screenplay; I really see this! There are still elements that are crafted like a screenplay. The language and way that Bryan describes the detail of the setting, and provides very explicit character detail is still very much like a screenplay. Please, do not misunderstand me however, Solstice is most definitely a novel, and a fascinating one at that, but the way that Bryan Dull crafted the novel blew me away.

Admittedly, it did take me a while to get into synch, or even the momentum of the book as it is a pretty unique read. However, once I accepted the stylistic lilt of Solstice, I really began to appreciate the novel for its action, plot and superb characters.

The novel opens with the introduction of Gavin, a man full of mystery and quite a heavy past. It is then that we are introduced to Solstice, a young girl who can only be described as unique (obviously because I don't want to give away any spoilers!). Their relationship is effectively created and developed, with a thought-provoking father/daughter like connection developing. I really liked this angle and appreciated the freshness for the genre.

Throughout the novel, there were many examples of well-crafted wit developed that successfully helped to make Solstice an entertaining read. This, in addition to the creation of suspense, was very well crafted, so much so that it had me on the edge of my seat in anticipation.

Bryan Dull has produced a very successful debut novel, on that I would most definitely recommend to paranormal and horror lovers. A well-deserved 4 stars.

1000 + says

I was instantly interested in reviewing this ARC when I saw the website dedicated to Solstice and the Moxley Trilogy.

It started out with this really great horrorish scene that in my head was BRILLIANT yet the initial writing was disappointing. It didn't match up to the intensity that the scene deserved. I chalk this up to a first edition of an Authors first book.

While it started off a bit slow, after the initial scene I was pleasantly surprised by the writing that followed. It almost felt like a different Author.

The most amazing parts of this book was the originality of it. I've never heard of a Vampire with Aids who can infect people with one bite to turn into a Vampire with Aids as well. Truly unique in ways that make the

book pop.

Another thing about this book that surprised me was that I was WRONG. That's right, I thought I knew what was going on, thought I knew where it was going and what the ending would be. But I was wrong. I couldn't predict it. The twists and turns that came up were ones I didn't expect.

Solstice is a character in this book that was pivotal in many ways and yet also we are left guessing as to what exactly she is. How does she know she's a half breed? How does she know anything? Given her age (I won't spoil this for you) I can't imagine how, unless she met her half creator, she knows anything about what she is or isn't for that matter. The book is named after her and yet we don't know much about her. I know that's part of creating a series or in this case a trilogy but I did expect more.

In a lot of ways I felt that I was left in paused mode, like the book isn't finished. The story isn't fully told. And that's why I'm anxious for the second book in this trilogy.

My interest is peaked, I enjoyed what I read and I WANT MORE!

If you are looking for something different, something unique and original, something without the current trend of Vampire/Human romance give this book a try. I don't think you'll be disappointed.

Melissa

Reviewer for 1000 + Books to Read
