



# The Angel Chronicles, Vol. 1

*Nancy Holder , Joss Whedon (Creator)*

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## **The Angel Chronicles, Vol. 1** Nancy Holder , Joss Whedon (Creator)

After a century of killing without a care, the vampire Angelus was cursed with a conscience and eventually fled to Sunnydale, where he restricted his feeding to blood banks.

Until 16-year-old Buffy Summers, the Vampire Slayer, arrived in town to battle vampires, demons and the Forces of Darkness. First, he has to convince her not to kill him. Then, he has to convince himself not to fall in love with her.

Now, collected for the first time, are three stories from the cult-hit TV series chronicling the beginning of this star crossed love story.

'Angel' 'Reptile Boy' and 'Lie to Me'

## **The Angel Chronicles, Vol. 1 Details**

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Author : Nancy Holder , Joss Whedon (Creator)

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# From Reader Review *The Angel Chronicles*, Vol. 1 for online ebook

## **Brent Ecenbarger says**

There are a set of Buffy novelizations that are coming up in my reading order that focus on one of the supporting characters in the Scooby gang. Each book selects a few episodes that feature the chosen character prominently and do a novelization of those episodes. *The Angel Chronicles* is obviously about Angel and featured a two paragraph framing device prior to the first episode and another one after the final one that didn't add anything to the story but served to remind the reader that they had indeed just read a book of stories about Angel.

The three episodes revisited in this book are "Angel," "Reptile Boy," and "Lie to Me." I recalled the first two pretty well by their titles just from having watched the series a few times, but the third one didn't ring any bells until I got to the club of vampire wannabes. As far as episode quality, none are among the best episodes of the series, although "Angel" is certainly one of the more important ones.

In "Angel," Buffy learns that her mysterious and charming admirer is actually a vampire and the two of them must confront Darla in an abandoned Bronze shootout (this was a first season episode where I imagine budgetary constraints led all fights to taking place in the Bronze). For me the most memorable part of the episode is the crucifix kiss at the end which was nicely detailed in the book. "Reptile Boy" was a fun episode about Buffy and Cordelia being sacrificed to a demon at a frat party, and more than either of the other stories benefitted from this treatment but not for anything Angel related. Here Xander's jealousy and scheming at the end play well in a prose format. "Lie to Me," is about an old friend of Buffy's reappearance and a club of people interested in becoming vampires. As a written story, this one felt the most rushed and the opening scene of Angel and Drusilla is never explained and is an odd story to end the book on.

My biggest problem with this book is that the format seems like such a missed opportunity. If they were going to do quick novelizations all dedicated to one character, more space devoted to that character's perspective on the events would have been appreciated. The episodes selected range from the episode 7 of season one to episode 7 of season two (13 episodes in between). As a reader it's a bit jarring to have Buffy fall in love with a guy who lies to her in story one, then won't go out with her in story two, then is seen kissing another girl in story three, at which point Buffy then decides she loves him. I suspect my enjoyment of these books will depend a lot on the quality of the episode being revisited, but overall I'm not expecting any of these to serve as standouts in the history of Buffy prose novels.

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## **Randy says**

This book served as the "stuck late at work" book...so it took me a while to finish despite being so short. While I'm a huge buffy fan, this book is just boring. It basically recaps certain episodes relevant to the character, in this case, Angel. But doesn't do much to add to the story. I'd recommend avoiding the Chronicle books.

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## **Joe De la salle says**

didn't realize that these were three short stories that are not in order but taken from various places in the series. still all good reads though, just threw me between the first and second story.

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### **Apatricia says**

3.5

Foi super bom ler este livro, recordei totalmente a serie, não foi nada de mais no entanto super leve e relaxante! Adorei :)

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### **Ronald Wilcox says**

Novelization of three early Buffy episodes: Angel (when Buffy finds out Angel is a vampire), Reptile Boy (frat boys kidnap women to feed to large serpentman), and Lie To Me (previous friend of Buffy's shows up in town and she sees Angel with Drusilla). Holder did a very nice job taking the episodes and presenting them as stories.

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### **Angelique Minnaar says**

I chased through the first chapter, then put it aside for months, just not getting back to it. Finally read the last half of the book, just to clear it off my table.

I like Angel, but only started watching the series after the second season. So I found these early stories with Buffy rather boring. He definitely improved in the later books/seasons.

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### **Sati Marie Frost says**

I'm not a fan of the Buffy novels that are based on TV episodes, and I'm really not feeling the Buffy-Angel relationship, so it's probably not a huge surprise that I didn't much like any of The Angel Chronicles. I didn't hate them, and certainly liked them more than I liked the novelization of *The Harvest*, but they weren't anywhere near as enjoyable for me as some of the Buffy books that are fresh (i.e. non-TV) stories.

*Angel* was my least favourite of the lot, because it was just so darn angsty. I've never liked the Buffy-Angel relationship - though I'm probably the only person in the world who'd say this, I find them to be an extremely irritating, unhealthy couple. I like Angel a lot on his own (or later with Cordy, when they're in LA) and I can tolerate Buffy on her own and even quite like her when she's with Spike, but Buffy and Angel together do my head in. I never feel like there's much to their relationship, and in this book, aside from a hundred repetitions about how beautiful Buffy is and how brooding and mysterious and gorgeous Angel is, that's very evident. I find their relationship shallow and - well, young. Which is fair enough for Buffy - for all that everyone says how mature she is, she *is* only 16-17 - but I'd expect more from someone of Angel's advanced years.

YMMV, of course.

Aside from the relationship angst, I did quite enjoy *Reptile Boy* and *Lie to Me*, as I barely remembered the episodes. *Reptile Boy* is not the episode about the praying mantis teacher who tries to eat Xander, but is an episode that I totally forgot about a bunch of frat boys who try to sacrifice Buffy and Cordelia to a giant worm-snake-demon. *Lie to Me*, which I remembered a little, tells the sad story of Ford, an old friend of Buffy's, who shows up in Sunnydale ostensibly as a transfer student but really to sacrifice Buffy in the hopes of becoming a vampire. Naturally, this does not end well.

Overall, *The Angel Chronicles Vol 1* wasn't badly written, and I probably would have enjoyed it more were it not for the focus on Buff and Angel's ridiculously codependent relationship. 2 - 2.5 stars.

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### **Dharia Scarab says**

A novelization of three episodes.

Since I don't normally write reviews unless I have something specific to say, here's the break down of how I rate my books...

1 star... This book was bad, so bad I may have given up and skipped to the end. I will avoid this author like the plague in the future.

2 stars... This book was not very good, and I won't be reading any more from the author.

3 stars... This book was ok, but I won't go out of my way to read more, But if I find another book by the author for under a dollar I'd pick it up.

4 stars... I really enjoyed this book and will definitely be on the look out to pick up more from the series/author.

5 stars... I loved this book! It has earned a permanent home in my collection and I'll be picking up the rest of the series and other books from the author ASAP.

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### **Ivy says**

Very good novelizations. Just wish they would put more in on what the characters were feeling. Wish they would write something about Giles's days as Ripper.

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### **Atikah Wahid says**

So, a few months back, I went through my own personal Buffy Renaissance. I always tell people that I'm a Buffy fan but really I only started watching the show from season 4 and up. Yes, I missed Cordelia, Oz and most importantly, ANGEL. I have since watched all episodes in the first three seasons and hands down, the Angel/Angelus story arc is the best plotline on the show ever. I am now a BANGEL FAN 4 LYFE. SPIKE WHO? lol. So naturally, I had to pick this book up. Plus, 2017 is the 20th anniversary of the show!

This book is the novelisation of three episodes, season 1 "Angel" and season 2 "Reptile Boy" and "Lie to Me". I think these three episodes are chosen specifically because we get a look at Angel's backstory.

In "Angel", Buffy and Angel's sizzling sexual tension finally led to their first kiss and also the big reveal that Angel is a vampire. The forbidden love's angst is just oh so delicious. I've been scoffing at Twilight for years and I never knew there's a better paranormal romance out there! I love reading Angel's guilt-stricken POV. Also, you get to see more of the tension in the love triangle between Angel, Buffy and Darla.

"Reptile Boy" is a miss to me. I wasn't that keen on the episode itself and the novelisation is just not any better. The thing is, Bangel's super angsty relationship can be a bit much if you only focus on their tension and it's all tension in this episode! Meh. Also, I think this part shows Holder's weakness. She relies and follows too closely to the show. I wish she took more creative license.

"Lie to Me" is a pretty solid episode as itself. I always enjoy any interactions between the "holy trinity" of Angel/Spike/Drusilla. Angel interacting with the other Scooby gang is also a plus. The foreshadowing to Angelus is also really nice to read. Love this!

I think this book is strictly for fans even if you're interested in Angel or Bangel. It's nice to read the characters' POVs and get a different perspective of the show. But you just can't beat watching the show itself! My imagination can only go so far in picturing David Boreanaz's gorgeous but pained face. If anything, reading this book makes me want to rewatch the show again! One of the few upsides to reading the novelisations of the show is that I can imagine them in better clothes. 90's fashion is a disaster.

I'm still going to read the next books in The Angel Chronicles because I enjoy reading this too much. I hope the next book in this trilogy has happier episodes of Bangel because damn, we only have a few more episodes left before Angelus takes over!

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### **Yiota says**

Throwback to my 12 year old self. Loved these books - this one completely mirrors the shows. Angel, \*sigh\*

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### **Loucy says**

Ce tome reproduit fidèlement 3 épisodes de la série télé. La première histoire a clairement un lien avec Angel. Par contre, dans les deux suivantes, il n'apparaît pas très longtemps.

J'avoue ne pas trop voir l'intérêt d'adapter les épisodes TV en livres (je préfère les histoires inédites), mais c'est toujours sympa de retrouver cet univers.

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### **Mimi says**

I've always been a my big fan of 'Buffy the Vampire Slayer' for years but sadly have never read any of the books. This book is made up of three stories that are from episodes in the first and second season. 'Angel' is my favourite one. This is from series one and is when Buffy discovers the truth about the mysterious Angel who has just making brief appearances until then. 'Reptile Boy' wasn't a bad story, and is from series 2. At

this point you see how Buffy and Angel relationship have move on from the first series. In 'Lie to Me' Buffy finds out what Angel was really like as a vampire and the things he has done. It's a short book that is easy to read. If your a fan of Buffy I would recommend reading it.

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### **Dark-Draco says**

A really enjoyable read for a rainy weekend. This included the novelisations of three episodes of 'Buffy'. My favourite was 'Lie to Me' - I always thought this was a really sad, tragic episode and it comes across the same way in the book. Now that Buffy isn't on, I enjoyed revisiting the series like this, and the extra bits that Holder adds to make the scenes come to life are great.

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### **Katy says**

YES YES YES for Buffy/Angel fans. Repeat of episodes with povs.

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