



The Book of Blood: From Legends and Leeches to Vampires and Veins

By HP Newquist

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The Book of Blood: From Legends and Leeches to Vampires and Veins By HP Newquist

Winner of the Magnolia Award

HP Newquist takes young readers on an engaging tour of the world of blood, from ancient history to modern science—with an occasional trip to the very strange side of the most important tissue in our bodies. Oddly enough, scientists began to understand this fascinating fluid only within the past one hundred years and how its microscopic components nourish the entire body. Whether the tales of vampires, medieval medical practices, and Mayan sacrificial rites captivate or terrify, this comprehensive investigation into blood's past and present will surely enthrall. And if this account is a little bloodcurdling, well, that's half the fun!

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 5-8-Blood, writes Newquist, "is one of the most fascinating and fabled substances in history." In this compendium, readers will learn about the red fluid's biological function as well as its historical and cultural significance. Several chapters cover its importance in ancient cultures and explain how our knowledge about its role in the body developed over time. Information about early medical practices such as bloodletting (including the use of leeches) will grab students' interest, as will the sections on hematophagous (blood-drinking) animals and vampire legends. The chapters on the physiology of the circulatory system and the components of blood are more readable than those in many textbooks. The conversational tone and the faux blood-spattered pages, replete with sidebars, color photos, archival drawings, and medical illustrations, are sure to pull in readers. Unfortunately, there are no source notes to support blanket statements such as, "Everything you put in your body ends up in your blood," and "Your blood is more responsible for keeping you alive than anything else in your body." This book's content is similar to that in Trudee Romanek's *Squirt: The Most Interesting Book You'll Ever Read About Blood* (Kids Can, 2006), although it covers some topics in greater depth and has more of a narrative format.—Jackie Partch, Multnomah County Library, Portland, OR(c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Review

"A thorough and humorous exploration of our relationship with blood."—VOYA

"This transfusion of information offers a rewarding experience to readers whether they're after the specific differences between blood types and other biological data or just gore's icky lore."—*Kirkus*

"Blood-spattered pages play into the subject matter's potential for ickiness, even while Newquist makes it clear that blood is worthy of fascination, not fear."—*Publisher's Weekly*

"The conversational tone and the faux blood-spattered pages, replete with sidebars, color photos, archival drawings, and medical illustrations, are sure to pull readers in."—*School Library Journal*

"Newquist's prose is smooth enough that several chapters could actually function as nonfiction readalouds."—*Bulletin*

About the Author

HP Newquist (*The Book of Blood, Here There Be Monsters*) writes about all kinds of things, from human brains and giant squids to monsters and music. When he's not writing, he's traveling with his wife and two daughters, playing his guitar, or exploring new technologies. He and his family live in Connecticut and you can find out more about him at www.newquistbooks.com.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Timothy Bullock:

In this 21st millennium, people become competitive in each way. By being competitive currently, people have to do something to make these individuals survive, being in the middle of typically the crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that often many people have underestimated that for a while is reading. Yep, by reading a publication your ability to survive rises then having a chance to stand up than others is high. To suit your needs who want to start reading some sort of book, we give you that *The Book of Blood: From Legends and Leeches to Vampires and Veins* book as basic and daily reading reserve. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

Cora Conte:

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Thomas Burke:

Reading a guide tends to be a new life style in this era of globalization. With examining you can get a lot of information that could give you benefit in your life. Using books everyone in this world may share their idea. Guides can also inspire a lot of people. A lot of authors can inspire their own reader with their story or perhaps their experience. Not only the story that is shared in the ebooks. But also they write about the information about something that you need illustration. How to get a good score on toefl, or how to teach your sons or daughters, there are many kinds of books that exist now. The authors these days always try to improve their ability in writing, they also do some investigation before they write on their book. One of them is this *The Book of Blood: From Legends and Leeches to Vampires and Veins*.

Philip Brown:

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