

Tenth GradeBleeds

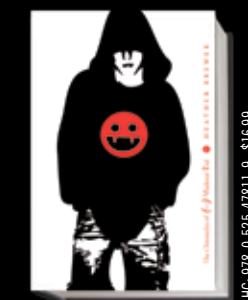
Ninth Grade Slays

Eighth GradeBites

High School *Bites*.
Especially When
You're a Vampire.

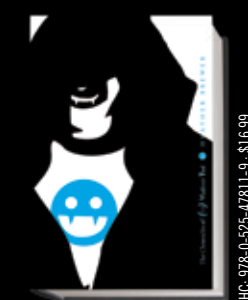
The Chronicles of
Vladimir Tod
Eighth GradeBites · Ninth Grade Slays · Tenth GradeBleeds

SERIES DISCUSSION GUIDE



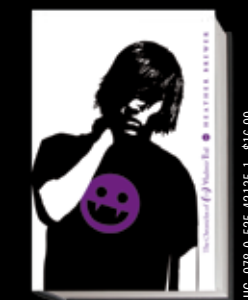
HC: 978-0-525-47811-9 · \$16.99
PB: 978-0-14-241187-2 · \$7.99

Eighth GradeBites



HC: 978-0-525-47811-9 · \$16.99
PB: 978-0-14-241187-2 · \$7.99

Ninth Grade Slays



HC: 978-0-525-42135-1 · \$16.99

Tenth GradeBleeds

Coming Summer 2010
Eleventh Grade Burns

Eighth GradeBites · Ninth Grade Slays · Tenth GradeBleeds

HEATHER BREWER

Ages 12 up · Grades 7 up

High School *Bites*.
Especially When You're a Vampire.



Coming Summer 2010
Eleventh Grade Burns

Vladimir Tod
Normal Teenager?
Or Powerful Vampire?

Witty, suspenseful, and darkly funny,
The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod is the perfect series for students
(undead or otherwise) to sink their teeth into.

The Chronicles of *(Vladimir Tod)*

HEATHER BREWER



Eighth GradeBites
Ninth Grade Slays
Tenth GradeBleeds

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Why does Vlad question his relationship with Meredith? Do you think they're well-suited? Is he really the loser he thinks he is? Do you think people are really, deep down, afraid of him, as Vlad believes?
- In this book, Vlad and Henry switch roles in certain respects. Vlad gets a girlfriend and becomes Henry's protector. What effect does this role reversal have on their friendship?
- Exactly what power does being the vampire who made Henry into a drudge give Vlad? How does he choose to use this powers? Do you agree with his decisions?
- Why do you think Vlad's father's journal contained a ritual to destroy him?
- Vlad is very conflicted about feeding from the source. How does he deal with his cravings? Do you think he'll change his habits going forward? Why do you think he keeps his meetings with Snow a secret from Otis?



Dutton Children's Books · Speak
Divisions of Penguin Young Readers Group
www.penguin.com/teens

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Discuss the role betrayal plays in this novel.
- What does Vlad learn from the *Compendium of Conscientia*?
- In your opinion, are Henry's actions as Vlad's drudge a result of the bond Vlad created or a result of their friendship?
- Who is Vikas? Why does Otis take Vlad to visit him in Siberia? What happens during this visit that changes Vlad?
- Compare and contrast Vikas and Tristian to Vlad and Henry.
- Describe Vlad's friendship with Joss. How is it different from Vlad's friendship with Henry?
- Vlad tells Joss, "You fear what you don't understand." Discuss this statement and how it applies to the book and to your own life.



Dutton Children's Books · Speak
Divisions of Penguin Young Readers Group
www.penguin.com/teens

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What does Vlad learn from the passages he reads in his father's journal?
- How does meeting Mr. Otis change life in Bathory for Vlad?
- As Otis asks Vlad's class to do, research creatures that our society believes to be mythical, including werewolves, vampires, and witches. Are there any truths to their legends? Where and how did they start?
- Otis tells Vlad that vampires invented cities, Latin, chess, and PlayStation. What other pieces of our world do you think the vampires in this book could have been responsible for creating? Why?
- What is the significance of the mark that Otis gives Vlad?



Dutton Children's Books · Speak
Divisions of Penguin Young Readers Group
www.penguin.com/teens



Dutton Children's Books · Speak
Divisions of Penguin Young Readers Group
www.penguin.com/teens



Dutton Children's Books · Speak
Divisions of Penguin Young Readers Group
www.penguin.com/teachersandlibrarians.com • www.penguin.com/teens

This discussion guide has been provided by Penguin Young Readers Group for classroom, library, and book club use. It may be reproduced in its entirety or excerpted for these purposes.

ABOUT THE BOOKS



Eighth Grade Bites

Junior high really stinks for thirteen-year-old Vladimir Tod. Bullies harass him, the principal is dogging him, and the girl he likes prefers his best friend. Oh, and Vlad has a secret: his mother was human, but his father was a vampire. With no idea of the extent of his powers and no one to teach him, Vlad struggles daily with his blood cravings and his enlarged fangs. When a strange substitute teacher begins to question him a little too closely, Vlad worries that his cover is about to be blown.

But then he realizes that he has a much bigger problem: he's being hunted by a vampire killer who is closing in . . . fast! Filled with dark characters and mystical sylphs, secret identities and hidden agendas, unearthly powers and teenage angst, this first book in a darkly funny series is a nail- (and neck-) biting adventure.



Ninth Grade Slays

High school is turning out to be a real drain for Vladimir Tod. Besides being a punching bag for bullies, he's still stalled with dream girl Meredith, and he's being tailed by a photographer for the school newspaper who suspects his biggest secret. Needless to say, practicing his vampire skills hasn't exactly been a priority for Vlad—until now.

A monumental trip to Siberia with Uncle Otis is Vlad's crash course in Vampire 101. Training alongside the most gifted vampires is exactly what Vlad needs to sharpen those mind-controlling skills he's been avoiding. And he'd better get it right, because the battle brewing back home with the slayer who's been stalking him could be Vlad's last.



Tenth Grade Bleeds

It's another sucky year at Bathory High for Vladimir Tod. The evil vampire D'Ablo is hunting for a ritual that could steal Vlad's powers. His best friend, Henry, doesn't want to be his drudge anymore. His girlfriend, Meredith, seems to like him, but for the invincible life of him Vlad can't figure out why. And worst of all, it's getting harder for Vlad to resist feeding on the people around him—even those he holds most dear.

With the threat of D'Ablo looming closer and the too realistic nightmares haunting him more each night, Vlad realizes that having a normal high school year is the least of his concerns. He needs to act fast if he wants to stay alive, and even his Pravus powers won't save him this time . . .

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



HEATHER BREWER was not your typical teen growing up, and she's certainly not your typical adult now. Her favorite colors are black and black. She believes it's quite possible that vampires are running our world's governments. She lives in Missouri with her husband and two children.

Ms. Brewer is the author of *Eighth Grade Bites*, which VOYA called “highly recommended,” and its sequels *Ninth Grade Slays* and *Tenth Grade Bleeds*. Visit Heather at www.heatherbrewer.com.

SERIES DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The following questions can be used in discussions of any of the three titles in The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod series.

- How does Vlad's view of Elysia and the vampire world change throughout the series? What influences this?
- Vlad is greatly affected by the loss of his parents. Talk about how not having them around for guidance, company, and love influences his life, the decisions he makes, and his development as both a teenager and a vampire.
- Discuss Vlad's relationship with Nelly. Why do you think she is able to be as accepting of Vlad (and of his parents) as she is? Do you think she's more of a mother, friend, or older sister to Vlad? Explain your reasoning.
- Why does Henry keep Vlad's secret for him, even when it would be easier to reveal it? What do you think would happen if Vlad trusted Meredith with his secret, the way Vlad's father trusted his mother?
- Vlad, Otis, and Vlad's father all have a different opinion of humans than is accepted by Elysia. Which position do you agree with more? What do you think would happen if vampires and humans were allowed to intermingle openly and freely?
- Throughout the series, Vlad encounters many examples of bullying by both teenagers and adults, including situations where he is the victim and situations where he comes to another person's aid. How does he deal with these encounters? Would you have handled the situations differently? How?
- Eddie Poe has some definite suspicions about Vlad's true nature. What do you think his motives are for constantly sneaking around after Vlad? What—if anything—do you think he'll be able to prove? Are there other students or members of the community who have their own suspicions that Vlad might be different from them? Explain your theories.
- Do you believe Vlad to be the Pravus? Discuss whether or not you think the prophecy will hold true or whether you think Vlad will be able to influence its outcome with his actions and decisions, as Otis suggests.

The Chronicles of (≡) Vladimir Tod

H E A T H E R B R E W E R

The Chronicles of (≡) Vladimir Tod ①

Eighth Grade Bites

H E A T H E R B R E W E R

The Chronicles of (≡) Vladimir Tod ②

Ninth Grade Slays

H E A T H E R B R E W E R

The Chronicles of (≡) Vladimir Tod ③

Tenth Grade Bleeds

H E A T H E R B R E W E R