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The Darkness Can Turn Your Heart Black

We tend to have such sensation of knowing our fears, but, it’s the opposite. Our fears tend to understand us better than we see them, in fact, they are the reasons why we have nightmares in the night. Our capacity in our head makes us think and feel from another people’s perspective. Fear is what we imagine not what we see, and that’s what Bram Stoker is trying to persuade in his novel Dracula. Stoker uses his creative imagination by using a spine-chilling writing that makes the audience connects to the characters in the book. Stoker unknown disease as a child causes him to write about a character with a strange illness that he later explains in his novel Dracula. Overall, Dracula has a wild, spooky storytelling that most people in this society can contribute too. We, see how human turn themselves into evil people by having someone else manipulating them which is why most people argue that Dracula is a book that impulses people to do dreadful things in real life even if they know it’s wrong. I opposed to this argument because I think that Dracula is a novel that shows how a human can transform themselves into different persons not because they want to but because there are easily fooled into corruption that others are doing. This relates to the human condition because we see how vampires manipulate humans in a way where humans turn themselves into arrogant and evil people.

The characters in Dracula tend to have such a scary background that makes us shiver. Dracula who’s the main character, is the vampire who has been "Un-Dead" for numerous

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hundred years who keeps his energy by sucking blood from live victims. He is the Transylvanian Count for whom the book is named after. Then we got Jonathan Harker who is engaged to a young schoolmistress named Mina Murray. Jonathan will try to track down Dracula to kill him as well as his fiancée Mina who hates Dracula too. Mina grew up being an orphan as well as her sister Lucy. They are both two orphans who are victims of Count Dracula. Lucy desire for sleepwalking allows her to become Dracula's first victim, and after her "death," she becomes one of the "Un-Dead." Lucy who was known for having a sweetheart, later transform herself into a bad person who starts sucking young children’s blood. Then we got Dr. Abraham Van Helsing, who is a lonely, unmarried old bachelor who is both kindly and fatherly. He’s a doctor, who tries to cure Lucy illness. He then finds out that Lucy’s illness is vampirism which is why he’s the main person who wants to kill Dracula. Here’s is where Stoker introduces Lucy illness to compare similarities between his childhood illness and the relationship between the character Lucy. He’s trying to show the reader that his illness was a disease that he couldn’t be cured but somehow writing became his biggest strength in fighting the evil monster that he had inside of him. We then have Renfield who is under the influence of Dracula. He’s the only one that knows things about Dracula that other people don’t know about. Vampires were well known for coming into people rooms in the night to kill them while they were asleep. After they killed them, they had the power to read their mind and take control of their will. Vampires are dark shadows that will haunt people everywhere they go if you got their attention. While I was doing some research online, I came to a stop and found an interesting article that was first published as a broadcast audio and then became an article. This article mentions about the traditional concept that monsters have in our daily life and how they don’t tend to scare us. A source from “Weekend

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Edition” in 2015 did a broadcast explaining how the monsters in Dracula are not scary at all because they are only fictional characters in the novel that portraits personalities that people will have an understanding too. This article is explaining how we create our fear of monsters in our head and that monsters aren’t real at all unless we think of them like that. Monsters have a weird way of frightening us to the argument where we have nightmares in the night about them. In Dracula, the monster has the power to mess with our minds and make us do dreadful things. In a way, they commit sexual abuse every time they kill a person. It’s scary how Dracula is described every time he shows up in a place. They give us this nasty affection of creepiness and threatening. They only come at a specific time of the day which makes it very horrifying because you don’t know when they’re going to show up. For example, Dracula can turn into any animal to trick people, and to make himself less suspicious. In May 2016, a student at the University of Iowa wrote an essay stating that the novel ‘Dracula’ presents an overview of female sexual abuse and how the Characters in the book tend to see it as a “normal thing.” This student from Iowa probably wanted to influence people to the point of view of how the book Dracula should be more serious about what the story is portraying and how we should view it as a negative theme. I don’t think Stoker thought Dracula storyline was a sexuality theme because he would have known that this would have brought controversy to society. We have seen and heard why these monsters tend to frighten us, but now it’s time to explore the anxiety that these monsters can bring to our life.

The fear to know that there is a monster somewhere and not knowing when they will attack petrifying. At the beginning of the novel Jonathan finds out that Count Dracula is not a human. He begins to fear for his Life; he is shocked that a human can turn into a beast. He begins to

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doubt his ability to think of what is real or fake. Jonathan also grows his suspicion toward the monster and feels that soon or later he will die. People fear to turn evil or into a deadly monster. They fear to work with a monster that might represent the devil, but also working with him to harm human existence. Mina is one of the characters that fear this; she asks Jonathan to kill her if she ever turns into one of these monsters. Dracula only attacks at night. He makes people fear that night. Dracula can change the weather to make it feel creepier and more intimate it. This brings fear into the characters by making them believe that they are not safe at night. There’s also a lot of anxiety about getting an attack at night when asleep. When they are sleeping, they have no way to protect themselves from Dracula. For instance, Lucy is a character that gets bitten by Dracula when she’s asleep. We also have the anxiety to stay awake at night. The characters develop sleep deprivation because they fear that they might die when they are sleeping. There are many parts of the novel where the Characters keep each other watch, so they can sleep peacefully and don’t have to worry about fear. This article written by the New York Times talked about how the novel Dracula has become a trendy book which people have loved and hate at the same times. The story is a remarkable story but at the same it’s scary, and some people can get traumatized from reading it. According to an article from “The New Yorker Magazine” stated that Dracula is a book with a horrifying description that could traumatize any human being in the night while they are sleeping. The article states that there is some writing texture that is so well written that sometimes can bring real images in our head that will leave us impacted. The fear of dying, but also fear to kill a loved one that has been possessed by Dracula. Holmwood is afraid to kill Lucy after she turns into a Vampire because he still sees her as a human, not a monster. I find this very sad because Lucy is forever going to be a vampire and

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must leave her fiancé behind. It’s very amusing seeing these monster’s tinder our guts and making us feel trapped in their little world. All these anxiety that these monsters provoke us relates to the human condition that we have now in our world. We don’t exactly have to be vampires to be a “monster,” people these days are murdering other people for no reason which makes them nastier and cruel than an actual monster.

We learn that death is immoral for humans when they turn into vampires. We see how human turn themselves into evil people. They become corrupt and arrogant. Their souls transform into a nasty black personality. According to the source “why Dracula won’t die” by, Mathias Clasen, states that the novel interprets a biocultural viewpoint of how Dracula gives strong emotional form to fights and fears that are deeply fixed in human nature, but also how the story is a product of its time. We see how human tend to have such a narrow way of thinking and to see a thing in a perspective way where they don’t know what’s wrong or right. The article is stating that the time Dracula takes place doesn’t matter to today’s world. Monster back then are still the same monsters as today because we even fear them the way we would back then. The most common mistake that we see in Dracula is how we look at human turning into something they’re not, which relates to today’s society because people tend to do anything they can do to make themselves look ‘professional.’ We also see how a person mentality can change from one night to the other day and it’s scary knowing that we have that inside ourselves. I believe that human can be worst monsters than an actual monster. Humans can do crazy things as same as a monster, and that’s why I think we should fear ourselves more.

In conclusion, we discover how all the monsters in Dracula tend to frighten us on varieties of reasons. We first can assure how Dracula, who’s one of the leading characters in the

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novel has significant power of making someone scared of him. His mastery of controlling other people’s mind makes him more robust in many ways. Dracula has his manipulating means of having people on his knees which is why most people hate him throughout the book. Monsters are not scary at all; it’s about how we interpret them and how we make them look as. The real monster is us; we walk around being ourselves without not knowing that we can be the worst human being on earth. We are the worst people compared to other monsters because we sometimes make people feel bad with our words and we don’t tend to see it. At least monster can acknowledge their corrupt behavior. In Dracula, we can assure the possibilities of how a monster can change into characters the way a human being can alter personalities, and to me, this is fascinating because no one will acknowledge this as a fact. Monsters will always be monsters and the more we think of them, the more we will get scared. Monsters tend to have a connection with our brain so that we can get right by them. What I meant by that was that each monster will always stay in our head even if we tried so hard to forget about it. Dracula is a very possessive character with no moral that makes people feel like they’re not worth it. He intends to make people feel horrible within themselves so that they can fall into his trap. Bram Stoker obviously had his reason for writing this book; one can be to show people the true colors of a human being and the things they’re capable of doing. I like how Bram wrote this book in a very symmetric way where all stories are mixed up and how it goes from place to place. We learned that humans would do whatever it takes to become an entirely new person. We create our monsters in our head, and sometimes we can make them come true. We as human are worse than monsters, and we will never know where our desire will take us on life.

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