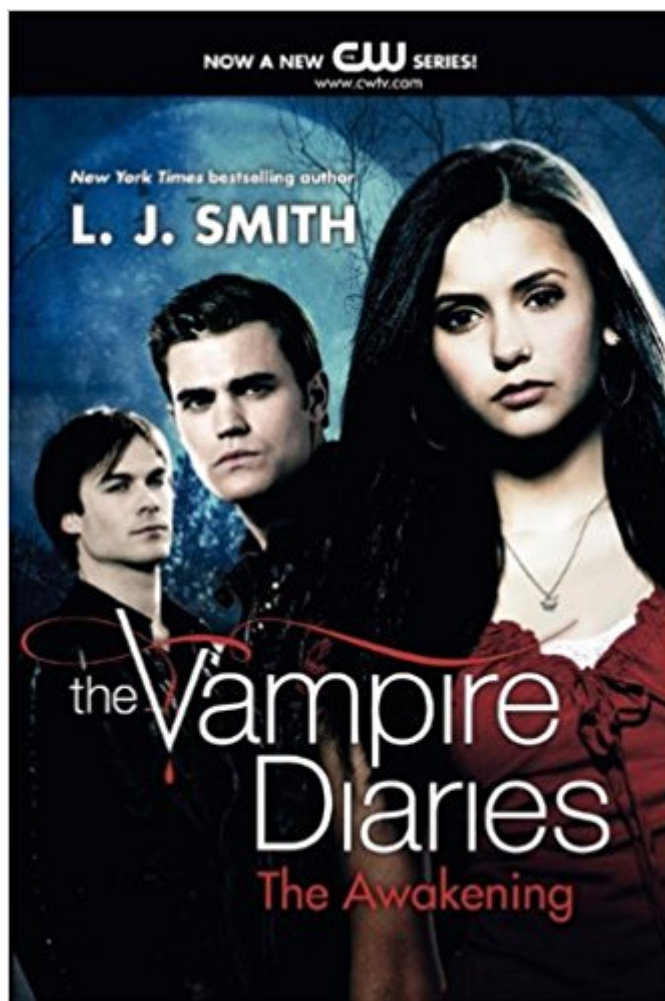


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The Awakening (The Vampire Diaries, Vol. 1)



Synopsis

New York Times bestselling series This special paperback TV tie-in edition of the first book in L.J. Smith's New York Times bestselling The Vampire Diaries series features cover artwork from the hit CW TV show based on the book, starring Nina Dobrev, Paul Wesley, and Ian Somerhalder. Elena Gilbert is a high school golden girl, used to getting what she wants. And who she wants. But when the boy she's set her sights on "the handsome and haunted Stefan" isn't interested, she's confused. She could never know the real reason Stefan is struggling to resist her: Stefan is a vampire, and Elena's in danger just by being around him. What's more, Stefan's dark, dangerous vampire brother Damon has just arrived in town. And wherever Damon goes, trouble always follows. Fans of The Vampire Diaries TV show will find this book packed with the same kind of heart-stopping suspense, fierce romances, and jaw-dropping surprises that they know and love, all brought to life by New York Times bestselling author L.J. Smith.

Book Information

Series: Vampire Diaries (Book 1)

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Customer Reviews

A deadly love triangle Elena: beautiful and popular, the girl who can have any guy she wants. Stefan: brooding and mysterious, desperately trying to resist his desire for Elena . . . for her own good. Damon: sexy, dangerous, and driven by an urge for revenge against Stefan, the brother who betrayed him. Elena finds herself drawn to both brothers . . . who will she choose?

L. J. Smith has written over two dozen books for young adults, including *The Vampire Diaries*, now a hit TV show. She has also written the bestselling *Night World* series and *The Forbidden Game*, as well as the #1 New York Times bestselling *Dark Visions*. She loves to walk the trails and beaches in Point Reyes, California, daydreaming about her latest book.

I have never said this before, but I enjoy the series far more than the book. I ALWAYS enjoy the books more. I do not really care for Elena's book character. She is spoiled, manipulative and in general not a very nice person. Maybe if I had read the book first, I may have liked it more. Too late for that though. I also hated Katherine in the book. She was weak. Her suicide was (to me) stupid. I love Katherine from the series. That woman is just plain evil. And the boys??? They did nothing for me either. Sorry but I will stick with the TV series.

I won't go on and on about how much I think the writing and the story are not good, because I've read a dozen novels like this. The premise is weak, the characters are cardboard cutouts, and nothing really interesting happens. I've been watching the show on the CW from the start and couldn't believe that it was aired -- it's too good. I heard a lot about the book and gave it a try. It was so disappointing, I couldn't believe it. The show makes each character a real person. The book doesn't care to. On the plus side, I finished it, which is unusual for poorly written novels on my end. Word of warning, do not expect the CW characters... this is an entirely different thing altogether. Elena is queen-bee-blonde, her friends are caricatures, the vampires are meh, the love story is... wait there was a love story? Ok, I've harped on this enough. Just don't expect the magic of the show in this novel.

I wasn't sure how I would like the story but really it's not that bad. It's not like the show. In some ways you can't compare it to the show because the book has its own story line and the show has its story line.

With all the hype and hullabaloo, I expected to fall in love with this series. I haven't watched the show and don't intend to. I'm judging the book solely on the writing. But, I didn't love it, at least not with this first installment. Still, I liked it enough to keep going. It has all the right ingredients to be a good series: a beautiful, thoughtful, longing heroine; a tragic, misunderstood, sexy hero; an ancient and deadly curse that stands in the way of their love. Yet, it still felt a little false to me, a little staged, and not quite real enough. A lot of the dialogue felt really forced. The main character, Elena, is very

hard to like or connect with in the beginning of the book. She is mean, petty, selfish, and shallow. I couldn't find a way to sympathise with her at all. Elena does show some promise. She starts opening up and change some, but her "love at first sight" devotion comes across as slightly false. I did like the character of Stefan. He is dark and brooding with a tragic past and a secret. There's enough in that to keep me coming back one more time. I also really liked how the story flashed back to Stefan and Damon's past--the how and why of becoming a vampire. It shows there's a reason for Stefan's angst. Stefan is a much more magnetic character and my only reason for the reading the next book. Still, I'm a bit worried about the next book. Elena most certainly doesn't deserve Stefan and he's only interested in her because she bears a striking resemblance to his dead love. That's not much to base a romance series on.

Loved this, but being someone who watched the TV show first, I don't really love Elena's character in this. Other than that, this was an enjoyable, quick read.

This is an incredible, breath taking, astonishing novel by L.J. Smith!!!! The compassion, the intensity, the power of the love that the two characters stefan Salvatore and elena gilbert have over each other is just incredible. This novel is truly a roller coaster of events that will get you so involved and deep into the story of the characters lives that you won't be able to look away from this story. You will get so involved in this novel that it will completely remove reality from you and just drown you in the pages making you imagine that you are actually in the story watching everything happen!!!! Truly, never in my entire life have I ever been so anticipated by a book like I have been with the vampire diaries. I would strongly recommend this novel by L.J. Smith to someone who loves fiction or fantasy, love stories, possibly adventure, and action. I gave a five star rating because of the reason that this book has the ability to completely take away any glimpse of reality from a person and just drown them in the story of the fantasy and fiction of the vampire diaries.

Overall, pretty decent but definitely enjoy the show a little better. Probably because the book is definitely more of the teenage girl demographic versus the show which I think targets a slightly older one. Funny and light read though

I picked up this book because I am obsessed with the show but the similarities are rare between the two. Elena is an obnoxious queen bee who gets what she wants and is unlikable. Damon is a one dimensional bad guy and Stefan is cookie cutter brooding vamp straight out of the twilight playbook.

I am sticking to the show.

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