



# Jessica's Guide to Dating on the Dark Side

By *Beth Fantaskey*



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The undead can really screw up your senior year . . .

Marrying a vampire definitely doesn't fit into Jessica Packwood's senior year "get-a-life" plan. But then a bizarre (and incredibly hot) new exchange student named Lucius Vladescu shows up, claiming that Jessica is a Romanian vampire princess by birth—and he's her long-lost fiancé. Armed with newfound confidence and a copy of *Growing Up Undead: A Teen Vampire's Guide to Dating, Health, and Emotions*, Jessica makes a dramatic transition from average American teenager to glam European vampire princess. But when a devious cheerleader sets her sights on Lucius, Jess finds herself fighting to win back her wayward prince, stop a global vampire war—and save Lucius's soul from eternal destruction



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## **Jessica's Guide to Dating on the Dark Side** By Beth Fantaskey Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. A romance involving a high school girl and a handsome vampire may sound a little too familiar, yet this first novel quickly bursts ahead of the pack of *Twilight*-wannabes. Down-to-earth mathlete Jessica Packwood is completely horrified when, a few months shy of her 18th birthday, a Romanian named Lucius Vladescu shows up on her doorstep, claiming that he and she are vampire royalty betrothed to each other since infancy—what's worse, her adoptive parents verify the betrothal story and explain that her birth parents identified themselves as vampires, too. Fantaskey makes this premise work by playing up its absurdities without laughing at them, endowing Jessica with a coolly ironic sensibility and Lucius with old-world snobberies that Jessica's girlfriends find irresistible. Jessica's laidback parents serve as foils for imperious Lucius (Can I ever again be happy in our soaring Gothic castle after walking the halls of Woodrow Wilson High School, a literal ode to linoleum? he asks sarcastically); a scene at a steakhouse where the vegan Packwoods meet the carnivorous Vladescus is first-rate comedy. The romance sizzles, the plot develops ingeniously and suspensefully, and the satire sings. Ages 14–up. (Feb.)

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From School Library Journal

Grade 7 Up—Jessica Packwood is a normal teen attending Woodrow Wilson High School. Her mathematical nature has even given her a slightly geeky reputation, which is about to change with the arrival of Lucius Vladescu, who seems to be stalking her. She tells her mother about him and learns that she is really a Romanian vampire princess who has been betrothed to Lucius at birth. She knew she was adopted, but this revelation comes as a shock. It is this agreement that has kept rival vampire clans, the Dragomirs and the Vladescus, at an uneasy peace. If the marriage does not take place, war will ensue and threaten the ultimate destruction of Jessica's vampire family. To say that this is a lot for the teen to take in is an understatement. Lucius is gorgeous, old world, tender as well as arrogant, and very overprotective of her. However, she chooses to date Jake, a handsome but rather dull boy. But not all is as it seems in the vampire world, and as the story progresses, circumstances force Jessica and Lucius to take matters into their own hands; in doing so, they examine their true feelings about themselves, family, and duty. Fantaskey's fast-paced story is full of plot twists and turns that keep readers guessing until the very end. The story is highly entertaining with plenty of action, drama, romance, as well as self-discovery.—Donna Rosenblum, *Floral Park Memorial High School, NY*

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From [Booklist](#)

Combine the romantic vampires of Stephenie Meyer with Meg Cabot's princess-in-disguise, and the result is Fantaskey's lighthearted debut. Born in Romania as Antanasia Dragomir to royal vampire parents, high-school senior Jessica Packwood was adopted as an infant and raised in rural Pennsylvania by yoga-practicing vegans. The true nature of her identity comes to light when foreign exchange student Lucius Vladescu comes to live with them. Lucius is arrogant, condescending, demanding, and impossibly handsome. He is also Antanasia's betrothed, and as soon as she is 18, a family pact decrees that she is supposed to marry him to unite their royal vampire clans and avert war. Fantaskey sustains a wholly believable contemporary teen world against a backdrop of vampire romance—Jessica and her friends look and talk like real teens, and her wry sense of humor is delightful, especially when describing an archrival who has her eye on Lucius. Girls obsessed with vampires and romance will welcome this clever, amusing take on teen vamps in love. Grades 8-12. --Debbie Carton

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Celeste Silver:**

Here thing why this particular Jessica's Guide to Dating on the Dark Side are different and reliable to be yours. First of all studying a book is good nevertheless it depends in the content of it which is the content is as tasty as food or not. Jessica's Guide to Dating on the Dark Side giving you information deeper as different ways, you can find any e-book out there but there is no publication that similar with Jessica's Guide to Dating on the Dark Side. It gives you thrill looking at journey, its open up your current eyes about the thing in which happened in the world which is maybe can be happened around you. It is easy to bring everywhere like in area, café, or even in your means home by train. When you are having difficulties in bringing the paper book maybe the form of Jessica's Guide to Dating on the Dark Side in e-book can be your substitute.

#### **Mary Bunch:**

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#### **Robert Eslinger:**

A lot of people always spent their particular free time to vacation or go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Do you know? Many a lot of people spent they will free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity honestly, that is look different you can read any book. It is really fun for you. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a e-book. The book Jessica's Guide to Dating on the Dark Side it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. We were holding enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy often the e-book. You can m0ore simply to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book offers high quality.

#### **Charles Towns:**

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