



Dear Vampa

Ross Collins

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The Pires are cursed with new neighbors. Things were just fine on Nostfer Avenue until the Wolfsons arrived. There seems to be no end to the new family's strange rituals. They stay up all day long, lock their windows at night, and bathe—in sunshine. What's a nice vampire family to do?

Ross Collins has created an ironic, laugh-out-loud story that invites you to think about accepting others—perhaps your neighbors are less different than you think.

Dear Vampa Details

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Author : Ross Collins

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From Reader Review Dear Vampa for online ebook

Alexandria Hiam says

A family of vampires (illustrated simply in black and white) have their schedule and lives turned upside down when the new neighbors (illustrated colorfully) move in. The neighbors are up all day, they lock their windows at night and they do not have good taste in drink or pets. The last straw is when the family is going out for a flight (in the shape of bats) and the neighbor's kids knock them out with slingshots. They decide to move back to Transylvania with Vampa. When they are leaving the neighbors think it is quite a pity. what's funny is the neighbors are actually werewolves.

janetandjohn says

Yes it's a graphic novel (picture book then). Yes it's for children. Yes you should read it (before you pass it on to a child of course. Brilliant!

Kara says

I absolutely loved the dark humor in this book! The pictures and text work together to make this a fun reading experience, and it's great choice to read out loud during story time.

Caitlin Sabers says

A funny and entertaining tale of a vampire family with werewolves as new neighbors, this book is written from a child vampire complaining in letters to his grandfather, Vampa. The two families are very opposite. The werewolves are awake all day, making too much noise for the poor vampires who want to sleep so they can be up all night. Kids love the story and giggle throughout this great read-aloud. This is also really cute to read around Halloween, but connections could be made throughout the year.

Koorihime-sama says

CHECKED OUT THE BOOK FROM MY PUBLIC LIBRARY.

APART OF THE GOODREADS 2011 READING CHALLENGE.

Review/Rating:

4 out of 5

Ease of Reading Text: 4 out of 5

Illustrations: 5 out of 5

Plot: 5 out of 5

It's hard to find good neighbors. Though, when the Pires get the Wolfsons as new neighbors, they discover they are as different as day and night. They think the Wolfsons have strange rituals — staying up all day, liking sunshine, and other non-nocturnal activities. What does this Vampire family do in response to this new neighbor problem?

Who doesn't have problems with new neighbors or neighbors in general? This book puts a new twist and outlook on neighbor problems by using vampires and what appears to be humans. Though, you will find out later that these humans are more than they appear to be. :) The plot might seem very simple, but it really is very cute and a little bit funny — it actually made me smile a couple of times.

You can also see/read the text pretty easily, but it gets a little bit hard to see/read when it is against a black background with little white lines on the black. And the type of font they used for the book matches the vampire/supernatural theme of the book very well, which I liked a lot. However, I just wish they made the font a little bigger or made it in bold to make it even more easier to see/read. The illustrations of the book are also very well done and cute.

Overall, I like the book very much, except the font could have used a little work. However, it is still a good read despite that, and I like the twist and supernatural use of the classic neighbor problem since it made the story a lot cuter than if it was just ordinary people. :)

Cassie says

Having new neighbors move in can be an exciting time, and also absolutely terrible if those new neighbors are the complete opposite of your family. Little Bram is writing to his grandpa explaining just what a horrible time they are having getting used to the new people next door. They like sunlight, and flowers, and stay up all day long. The Pires have had it and decide to move back to Transylvania. If they had only waited a bit longer to discover just how much they really do have in common with the Wolfsons! Cleverly created illustrations with a fun twist at the end.

Seema Rao says

A book about a family of vampires who don't warm to their weird, "normal" neighbors. Funny. Perfect for Halloween.

Andi M. says

A fun little picture book. The illustrations really put this one over the top. The vampire family's black, white, and red illustrations are just gorgeous, and the "normal" family's illustrations are lovely and bright and fun in contrast. Good stuff. Going on my keeper pile.

Jon(athan) Nakapalau says

A happy family of vampires...living the suburban 'vampire dream' - UNTIL - those horrible new neighbors the Wolfsons move in next door! Funny and thoughtful look at our neighbors and how they often do things we do not understand.

Chelsea says

While I enjoyed the idea of this book, and the illustrations were wonderful, when read aloud during story time, the kiddos did not quite understand everything that was going on. Some of the kids found it challenging to grasp that the Pires were vampires and that the Wolfsons were werewolves; of which the latter you did not find out until the last page. There was also one specific part in the book that may be considered unsettling; when the book mentioned that the Wolfsons locked their windows so the Pires couldn't get in (to drink their blood). I had attempted to read this book during two story times, but ultimately, it did not go over well and I do not plan to read it again.

Read during a school visit on October 18th, 2018.

Read during Preschool Play on October 19th, 2018.

Christy says

The Pires are cursed with new neighbors. Things were just fine on Nostfer Avenue until the Wolfsons arrived. There seems to be no end to the new family's strange rituals. They stay up all day long, lock their windows at night, and bathe—in sunshine. What's a nice vampire family to do?

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Laurel says

Cute!

Simone says

Author: Ross Collins

Publisher and Date: Katherine Tegan Books, 2009

Summary: Bram, a young vampire, write a letter to his Grandfather about his new neighbors the Wolfsons. The Pire family are not fond of their new neighbors and find them to be quite odd. Perhaps the new

neighbors are not as different as Bram suggests they are.

Review: Using supernatural elements of vampires, sleeping in coffins, avoiding daylight and having a monster for a pet, Ross Collins shares a story that is not that far off from reality. This would be a fun story to read aloud to kids because of the ironic ending. If only Bram and his family could figure it out, the neighbors have some supernatural lifestyles as well. I would talk to students about judging people who look different before taking the time to get to know them. This is a humorous story with a good lesson for children!

Tori says

A family of vampires has problems when a new family moves in next door. A cute story that might be fun for October or Halloween storytimes.

Scottsdale Public Library says

Good neighbors are hard to find! This short picture book chronicles the troubles the Pires, a family of vampires, have with their new neighbors. This clever picture book with a surprise ending is a great pick to share with your little monsters at Halloween. -Erin J.
