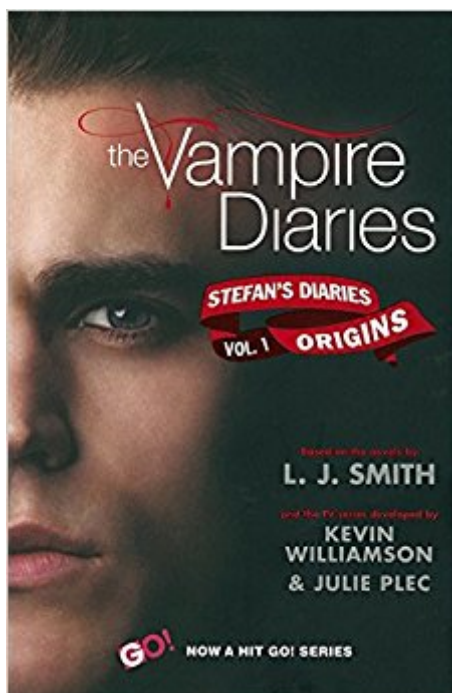


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Origins (The Vampire Diaries, Stefan's Diaries, Vol. 1)



Synopsis

The first book in the New York Times bestselling series by L.J. Smith. *Origins* is the first book in L.J. Smith's bestselling *Stefan's Diaries* series, which reveals the backstory of brothers Stefan and Damon from *The Vampire Diaries* series. This paperback features cover artwork from the hit CW TV series *The Vampire Diaries*, starring Nina Dobrev, Paul Wesley, and Ian Somerhalder. Set in mid-19th century Mystic Falls, Virginia, three teenagers enter a torrid love triangle that will span eternity. Brothers Stefan and Damon Salvatore are inseparable until they meet Katherine, a stunning, mysterious woman who turns their world upside down. Siblings turned rivals, the Salvatores compete for Katherine's affection, only to discover that her sumptuous silk dresses and glittering gems hide a terrible secret: Katherine is a vampire. And she is intent on turning them into vampires so they can live together forever. Full of dark shadows and surprising twists, the first book in the New York Times bestselling *Stefan's Diaries* series raises the stakes for the Salvatore brothers as they face new loves, old treacheries, and unimaginable threats. Fans of L. J. Smith's New York Times bestselling *Vampire Diaries* series as well as the hit television show won't be able to put the latest Salvatore adventure down.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Set during the Civil War, against a backdrop of grand estates, unimaginable riches, and deadly secrets, three teenagers in Mystic Falls, Virginia enter a torrid love triangle that will span eternity. Brothers Stefan and Damon Salvatore are inseparable until they meet Katherine, a stunning,

mysterious woman who turns their world upside down. Siblings turned rivals, the Salvatores compete for Katherine's affection, only to discover that her sumptuous silk dresses and glittering gems hide a terrible secret: Katherine is a vampire. And she is intent on turning them into vampires so they can live together-forever. Based on the popular CW TV show inspired by the bestselling novels, *Stefan's Diaries* reveals the truth about what really happened between Stefan, Damon, and Katherine—and how the Vampire Diaries love triangle began.

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. Kevin Williamson is the show runner and executive producer of *The Vampire Diaries*. His credits include the critically acclaimed television series *Dawson's Creek* and the blockbuster horror franchise *Scream*. Julie Plec is the co-show runner and executive producer of *The Vampire Diaries*. She was most recently a writer-producer of the fan-favorite television series *Kyle XY*.

Okay so if you're new to *Vampire Diaries*? This is the book based on tv show that is based on the book series. Got that? No? Allow me to explain. LJ Smith wrote the original *Vampire Diaries* series (which she is still writing as of the time I am posting this review). Then they go and make a tv show based on those characters (on the air as of the time I am posting). This book, if you just glance at it states she is one of the authors on the listing, but really if you look closer it's just based on her characters. Also based both on the cover and a reading of the book it's clearly targeted at the people who love the show specifically more than the fans of the books. In fact if you've watched the show, it will seem eerily familiar as it sticks fairly true to the Stefan backstory as presented to us thus far in the show. If you've been keeping up with the more recent LJ Smith *Vampire Diary* books, you'll definitely feel the difference both in that this is written by others and that it's meant to be a companion piece to the show instead of the book series. It has a slightly darker more adult tone than the book series and doesn't feel as shall we say "out there" as some of the LJ Smith ones have felt recently. If you're a fan of the series I don't think you'll be disappointed though you won't feel as though there is anything new here if you've been watching the show. The second Stefan diary sounds a bit more promising in that department.

I watched all the episodes on Netflix and wanted more. More in depth of Stefan's life before

Katherine. I think it did just that and it followed the show a bit also. I had heard the other v.d. Books were not as good as these. Glad I gave these a chance the only thing that I don't like is the price. I usually never pay this much for a book and less for a kindle book. Well maybe it could have been longer also cause I read it in one day. But through all of these faults I say if you are a fan of the show probably not a fan of the original books or read them at all then you will be pretty happy with this series. Now I'm off to read the next one with yummy Damon on the cover.

I was pretty upset by this book and don't hold much hope for the next ones. I feel that the author (LJ Smith) is a sell out. The rest of the Vampire Diaries books are great, Stefan's diaries, however, are based off the tv show, which is based on the other books. Reading this is like reading fan fiction by someone who didn't really read the books. Like the tv show, there are characters that don't look the same as they had in the original books, Katherine doesn't act the same, it is set in a completely different time period and place, and things happen differently than we were originally told, along with other discrepancies. If you enjoy the show then maybe you'll enjoy this book, but for fans like me that had and still have no interest in the show what so ever, this book is greatly disappointing and honestly kind of makes me angry to read it.

The danger of having too many books in a series is they become almost like a soap opera. I do think this book was one of the better ones; it doesn't get too far out with demon foxes and spirits; it is based more on realism (as real as one can get with vampires!). The history of Stephan and Damon's family was interesting (more Damon would have been nice). I have no complaints with the writing and the book was entertaining enough. But like all the Vampire Diary books, it lacked a certain depth. For what it was, it was pretty good though. I have to say, if you are going to write a soap opera style book (a harlequin romance with vampires) - then price it accordingly.

While this book provides some new information about Katherine that you wouldn't have guessed if you have been watching the show, it doesn't really provide the interesting backstory that I would have hoped for. I really enjoy the show and I have read several chapters of the L.J. Smith Vampire Diaries (The Awakening). It's very hard for me to believe the time setting in this novel because the language that is used isn't historical. I definitely enjoy pretty much anything labeled "The Vampire Diaries" though, so I think that's why this was interesting to me. If you were planning on buying this and you haven't watched the show, I would recommend reading the L.J. Smith novels first and watching the show on TV before you read this. I think this was written for the hardcore fans. I DO

recommend the show and the L.J. Smith novels though!

I love L.J. Smith as a writer and she didn't disappoint with this one. I don't want to give anything away so I'll just say it was a really fun read and sucks you into that vampire worlds we've all come to love from her. So if you haven't already read the vampire diaries *The Vampire Diaries: The Awakening* – you should definitely do so. And if you are like me and love this type of book I can also recommend the Sookie Stackhouse books – *Definitely Dead: A Sookie Stackhouse Novel* or really anything by Charlaine Harris. As well as a great book about a young witch. *The Magic Within* – or anything by S.B. Stewart – *The Alchemist's Gift (Adventures of Rhonda Lewis)* HAPPY READING!!

I was very disappointed in this book. The storyline is nothing like the rest of the books. What happens with Stefan, Damon and Katherine is not what is explained in the series. They are not even living in Italy and Katherine's father is not supposed to be dead. Katherine is supposed to fake her death not get burned in the church. Damon is the one who accepted becoming a vampire, not Stefan. The brothers were supposed to kill themselves not their father. Very disappointed!

This book gave a lot of depth to the Stephan character. Much more than the television series. I like how it explained how both Stephan and Damon became who they were.

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