# The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod

### Eleventh Grade Burns

# Venth Grade Bleeds

# Ninth Grade Slavs

# Eighth Grade Bites



#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

• Vlad, Otis, and Tomas all have a different opinion of humans than is accepted by Elysia. Which position do you agree with more? What do you think would happen if vampires and humans were allowed to intermingle openly and freely?

- Are there students or members of the community who have their suspicions that Vlad might be different from them? Explain your theories.
- How does Vlad's view of Elysia and the vampire world change throughout the series? What influences this?
- Vlad is greatly affected by the loss of his parents. Talk about how not having them around for guidance, company, and love influences his life, the decisions he makes, and his development as both a teenager and a vampire.
- Do you believe Vlad to be the Pravus? Discuss whether or not you think the prophecy will hold true or whether you think Vlad will be able to influence its outcome with his actions and decisions, as Otis suggests.

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#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Not everyone is thrilled by the idea that Tomas might still be alive. In fact, Otis and Nelly become quite upset. Why do you think they are so angry? Are they justified?
- At the beginning of this book, Vlad worries that Dorian's blood is causing him to hallucinate: later. he realizes that it might be granting him glimpses of the past and future. Do you think these side effects of Dorian's blood are curses or gifts?
- Vlad finally chooses between Meredith and Snow. Does he make the right choice? What do you think are the main reasons that Vlad chooses the person he does?
- A number of human characters in this novel want to be changed into vampires. Vlad does not think life for them would be any easier if they were vampires. Why would Vlad think this? Do you agree with his reasons?
- Vlad now feels a strong connection and even friendship toward Dorian. How are Vlad and Dorian similar? Why does Vlad feel a kinship with the vampire who wanted to drink Vlad's blood?
- Bill and Tom bully Vlad again, even though Vlad is now the Pravus. Should Vlad use his powers against the bullies, since those powers are a part of who he truly is? Why or why

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#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Discuss Vlad's loyalty to Joss. How is he able to still believe in their friendship despite the fact that Joss is determined to carry out his orders from the Slaver Society?
- Joss mentions more than once throughout the course of the series that it was his fault his sister Cecile died. Is there truth to his belief? Do you think Joss ever regrets becoming a Slayer?
- When Vlad sees Otis on the hunt in New York, he reflects that "the real Otis" and "the vampire Otis' are two different people. What do you think he means by this? Do you agree?
- Vlad says he feels "a strange sort of connection" to Dorian, even though Dorian has repeatedly tried to drink Vlad's blood. What do you think he means by this?
- When Vlad sees Joss and Meredith dancing at the Snow Ball he begins to think that "maybe he hadn't been a big part of their lives. Maybe they'd just been a big part of his.' What does he mean by this? Do you agree?

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#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Why does Vlad question his relationship with Meredith? Do you think they're well-suited? Is he really the loser he thinks he is? Do you think people are really, deep down. afraid of him. as Vlad believes?
- In this book, Vlad and Henry switch roles in certain respects. Vlad gets a girlfriend and becomes Henry's protector. What effect does this role reversal have on their friendship?
- Exactly what power does being the vampire who made Henry into a drudge give Vlad? How does he choose to use this power? Do you agree with his decisions?
- Why do you think Vlad's father's journal contained a ritual to destroy him?
- · Vlad is very conflicted about feeding from the source. How does he deal with his cravings? Do you think he'll change his habits going forward? Why do you think he keeps his meetings with Snow a secret from Otis?

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#### DISCUSSION OUESTIONS

- Discuss the role betraval plays in this novel.
- What does Vlad learn from the Compendium of Conscientia?
- In your opinion, are Henry's actions as Vlad's drudge a result of the bond Vlad created or a result of their friendship?
- Who is Vikas? Why does Otis take Vlad to visit him in Siberia? What happens during this visit that changes Vlad?
- Compare and contrast Vikas and Tristian to Vlad and Henry.
- Describe Vlad's friendship with Joss. How is it different from Vlad's friendship with Henry?
- Vlad tells Joss, "You fear what you don't understand." Discuss this statement and how it applies to the book and to your own life.

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#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Discuss Vlad's relationship with Nelly. Why do you think she is able to be as accepting of Vlad (and of his parents) as she is? Do you think she's more of a mother. friend, or older sister to Vlad? Explain your reasoning.
- What does Vlad learn from the passages he reads in his father's iournal?
- How does meeting Mr. Otis change life in Bathory for Vlad?
- As Otis asks Vlad's class to do. research creatures that our society believes to be mythical, including werewolves, vampires, and witches. Are there any truths to their legends? Where and how did they start?
- Otis tells Vlad that vampires invented cities, Latin, chess, and PlayStation. What other pieces of our world do you think the vampires in this book could have been responsible for creating? Why?
- What is the significance of the mark that Otis gives Vlad?

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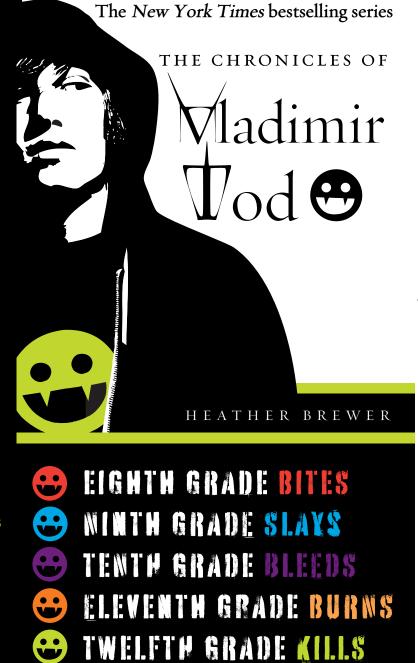
The Chronicles of Vladimir Vod Eighth Grade Bites · Ninth Grade Slays Tenth GradeBleeds · Eleventh GradeBurns Twelfth Grade Kills HEATHER BREWER Ages 12 up · Grades 7 up High School **Bites**. Especially When You're a Vampire.  $\nabla$ ladimir Tod Normal Teenager? Or Powerful Vampire? Witty, suspenseful, and darkly funny, The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod is the perfect series for students (undead or otherwise) to sink their teeth into. Dutton Children's Books · Speak **Divisions of Penguin Young Readers Group** 

The New York Times bestselling series

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**SERIES DISCUSSION GUIDE** 



#### **ABOUT THE BOOKS**



#### lighth GradeBites

Junior high really stinks for thirteen-year-old Vladimir Tod. Bullies harass him, the principal is dogging him, and the girl he likes prefers his best friend. Oh, and Vlad has a secret:

girl he likes prefers his best friend. Oh, and Vlad has a secret: his mother was human, but his father was a vampire. With no idea of the extent of his powers and no one to teach him, Vlad struggles daily with his blood cravings and his enlarged

fangs. When a strange substitute teacher begins to question him a little too closely, Vlad worries that his cover is about to be blown. But then he realizes that he has a much bigger problem: he's being hunted by a vampire killer who is closing in . . . fast!



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#### Ninth Grade Slays

**High school is turning out to be a real drain for Vladimir Tod.** Needless to say, practicing his vampire skills hasn't exactly been a priority for Vlad—until now. A monumental trip to Siberia with Uncle Otis is Vlad's crash course in Vampire 101. Training alongside the most gifted vampires is exactly what Vlad needs to sharpen those mind-controlling skills

he's been avoiding. And he'd better get it right, because the battle brewing back home with the slayer who's been stalking him could be Vlad's last.



#### lenth GradeBleeds

It's another sucky year at Bathory High for Vladimir Tod. The evil vampire D'Ablo is hunting for a ritual that could steal Vlad's powers. His best friend, Henry, doesn't want to be his drudge anymore. His girlfriend, Meredith, seems to like him, but for the invincible life of him Vlad can't figure out why. And worst of all, it's getting harder for Vlad to resist feeding on the people around

him—even those he holds most dear. He needs to act fast if he wants to stay alive, and even his Pravus powers won't save him this time . . .



#### Eleventh Grade Burns

Things are looking dark this year for Vladimir Tod. With Uncle Otis awaiting trial, Vlad seeks the help of a mysterious and powerful vampire, Dorian. Unfortunately, Dorian has a taste for Vlad's rare blood and on top of that, Joss is back in Bathory with strict orders from the Slayer Society to eliminate Vlad once and for all. More alarming still, D'Ablo has somehow secured a seat

on the Council of Elders. With death threatening from all sides, Vlad will have to use all of his skill and training to survive his junior year. But nothing can prepare him for what awaits him at the end  $\ldots$ 



#### welfth GradeKills

It all comes down to this. Vlad's running out of time. The Elysian Council has given him weeks to live, and that's if the Slayer Society doesn't kill him—along with all the citizens of Bathory—first.Then there's the issue of Vlad's father, who may or may not still be alive after all these years, and oh yeah, that tiny little detail in the Pravus

prophecy about Vlad enslaving Vampirekind and the human race. So much for college applications.

In this epic finale to Heather Brewer's heart-stopping series, dark secrets will be revealed, old friends will become enemies, and warm blood will run cold. Just be careful it isn't yours.

#### After reading The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod books discuss these questions:

- Joss's uncle Abraham calls him weak because he cannot bring himself to kill his friend, Vlad. What does this say about the Slayer Society's definition of strength? Do you agree with their definition?
- Vlad has been forced to accept many different ideas of "family" over the course of the series, from being raised by his mother's friend to finding out who his Vampiric ancestors are. How do you think Vlad feels about his family, both the one he has lost and the one he has created, after the events of this book?
- Throughout the series, Vlad encounters many examples of bullying by both teenagers and adults, including situations where he is the victim and situations where he comes to another person's aid. How does he deal with these encounters? Would you have handled the situations differently? How?

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**



Heather Brewer was not your typical teen growing up, and she's certainly not your typical adult now. She believes that teens are the answer to the world's problems, that spider webs are things of beauty, and that every occasion calls for black nail polish. When she's not dressing in black, she's dressing in black ...

and counts herself lucky to be the supreme ruler of the Minion Horde. Heather doesn't believe in happy endings . . . unless they involve blood. She lives in Missouri with her husband and two children.

Visit Heather at www.heatherbrewer.com. Learn more about The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod at www.vladtod.com.



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| High school bites.<br>Especially when you're a vampire.<br>The Chronicles of (N) Madimir Tod<br>H E A T H E R B R E W E R<br>www.vladtod.com |          |
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SERIES DISCUSSION GUIDE

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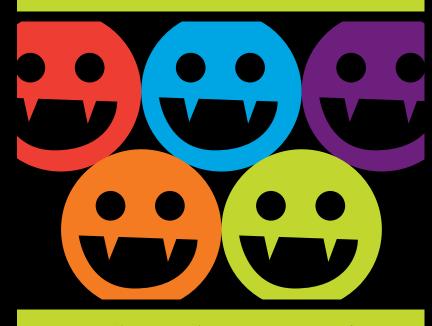
HEATHER BREWER



EIGHTH GRADE BITES
NINTH GRADE SLAVS
TENTH GRADE BLEEDS
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# SERIES DISCUSSION GUIDE

The New York Times bestselling series The Chronicles of Madimir Vod



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