Dracula by Bram Stoker

# Book summary (English)

"Dracula" by Bram Stoker, first published in 1897, is a gothic horror novel that has become a classic in the vampire genre. The story is told through a series of letters, diary entries, and newspaper articles, giving it a realistic and immediate feel.

The novel begins with Jonathan Harker, a young English solicitor, traveling to Transylvania to assist Count Dracula with a real estate transaction. Harker soon realizes that he is a prisoner in Dracula's castle and that the Count is a vampire. After enduring several terrifying encounters, Harker escapes.

Meanwhile, in England, Harker's fiancée Mina is worried about his absence. Her friend Lucy Westenra begins to act strangely, suffering from an unknown illness. Dr. John Seward, a suitor of Lucy, enlists the help of his mentor, Professor Abraham Van Helsing. Van Helsing quickly deduces that Lucy is the victim of a vampire and identifies Dracula as the culprit.

As Lucy's condition worsens, the group attempts to save her by giving her blood transfusions and guarding her at night. Despite their efforts, Lucy dies and becomes a vampire. Van Helsing and his group track her down and kill the vampire Lucy to save her soul.

The narrative then focuses on the group's efforts to destroy Dracula. Mina, who has also been victimized by Dracula, aids the group with her knowledge and bravery. The story climaxes in a chase back to Transylvania, where the group confronts and ultimately destroys Dracula, freeing Mina from the vampire's curse.

"Dracula" is renowned for its atmospheric description and suspenseful storytelling. It explores themes of good versus evil, the fear of the unknown, and the clash between modernity and ancient superstitions. The novel has had a profound impact on popular culture, establishing many of the conventions associated with vampire lore and inspiring countless adaptations and interpretations in various media.