

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:09,600

Over a hundred years ago, Ram Stoker created a monster that's still claiming victims to

2

00:00:09,600 --> 00:00:10,600

this day.

3

00:00:10,600 --> 00:00:17,360

A ravenous hunter with an insatiable appetite for blood.

4

00:00:17,360 --> 00:00:25,880

He can transform himself into a bat, a wolf, or even disappear in a cloud of mist.

5

00:00:25,880 --> 00:00:33,800

And everyone who meets him falls under his irresistible spell.

6

00:00:33,800 --> 00:00:37,800

Count Dracula is coming to Truth or Scare, and nothing can stop it.

7

00:00:55,880 --> 00:01:17,880

In 1897, Ram Stoker wrote a horror novel about a Romanian count with a taste for human

8

00:01:17,880 --> 00:01:18,880

blood.

9

00:01:18,880 --> 00:01:24,000

It wasn't a huge success at the time, and it didn't make him rich or famous.

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00:01:25,000 --> 00:01:29,000

Over the years, the Dracula legend has grown to epic proportions.

11

00:01:29,000 --> 00:01:33,560

What you might not know is that Stoker was inspired by some of the real people in events

12

00:01:33,560 --> 00:01:35,560

from his own life.

13

00:01:35,560 --> 00:01:38,560

I'm here to uncover the facts behind the fiction.

14

00:01:38,560 --> 00:01:48,040

And now, the real story of Count Dracula.

15

00:01:48,040 --> 00:01:50,040

Evil comes in many forms.

16

00:01:51,040 --> 00:01:56,040

But there's never been a monster more terrifying than the Count from Transylvania.

17

00:01:56,040 --> 00:02:03,960

In 1922, he came to life on the big screen in the German film *Nosferatu*, the first of

18

00:02:03,960 --> 00:02:05,960

many adaptations.

19

00:02:05,960 --> 00:02:09,760

Of course, the most famous will always be...

20

00:02:09,760 --> 00:02:12,760

I am Dracula.

21

00:02:12,760 --> 00:02:14,760

...Bella Lugosi.

22

00:02:15,480 --> 00:02:22,480

The novel starts off with a character named Jonathan Harker, a young British lawyer.

23

00:02:22,480 --> 00:02:27,280

He leaves his home in England to deliver some papers to a mysterious client, a count who

24

00:02:27,280 --> 00:02:31,280

lives in Eastern Europe.

25

00:02:31,280 --> 00:02:36,720

When Harker asks directions to the Castle Dracula, he gets a dramatic reaction from the local

26

00:02:36,720 --> 00:02:38,720

villagers.

27

00:02:38,720 --> 00:02:40,720

No, no, no, no, no!

28

00:02:40,720 --> 00:02:41,720

Doam nefereste!

29

00:02:41,720 --> 00:02:43,720

They beg him to turn back.

30

00:02:43,720 --> 00:02:45,680

No, no, no!

31

00:02:45,680 --> 00:02:50,680

For your mother's sake!

32

00:02:50,680 --> 00:02:53,680

It is a chilling plea.

33

00:02:53,680 --> 00:02:59,680

Harker is entering unknown territory, but he refuses to let local superstitions keep him

34

00:02:59,680 --> 00:03:01,680

from doing his job.

35

00:03:05,680 --> 00:03:08,680

The Count seems to be a considered host, at least.

36

00:03:08,680 --> 00:03:10,680

And wealthy.

37

00:03:10,680 --> 00:03:13,680

He has the carriage to bring Harker to his estate.

38

00:03:13,680 --> 00:03:16,680

How considerate.

39

00:03:18,680 --> 00:03:26,680

At the stroke of midnight, they pull up to the castle.

40

00:03:27,680 --> 00:03:31,680

Harker knocks at the door.

41

00:03:32,680 --> 00:03:38,680

And the nightmare begins.

42

00:03:42,680 --> 00:03:45,680

Welcome to my home.

43

00:03:49,680 --> 00:03:56,680

Harker can see there's something odd about his client, but he doesn't suspect the truth until...

44

00:03:57,680 --> 00:04:04,680

Exploring the castle one day, he finds his host asleep in a coffin.

45

00:04:04,680 --> 00:04:12,680

Only then does he realize Count Dracula is a vampire.

46

00:04:12,680 --> 00:04:17,680

Stories about the dead coming back to life are told all over the world.

47

00:04:17,680 --> 00:04:21,680

Some of these legends actually started from historical facts.

48

00:04:21,680 --> 00:04:25,680

Dr. Leonard Wolfe explains.

49

00:04:26,680 --> 00:04:31,680

The particular image of the vampire we have rises out of Slavic folklore.

50

00:04:31,680 --> 00:04:41,680

And it has its origins in the real lives of real people who, in an age when you could not tell when people were absolutely dead,

51

00:04:41,680 --> 00:04:46,680

sometimes buried people who were simply in a catatonic stupor.

52

00:04:46,680 --> 00:04:50,680

Sometimes the victims would wake up trapped underground.

53

00:04:50,680 --> 00:04:58,680

In desperation, they clawed at the inside of their sealed coffins, screaming for their lives.

54

00:04:58,680 --> 00:05:06,680

Later, when they were found with blood on their hands and faces, a myth was born.

55

00:05:06,680 --> 00:05:12,680

Stoker made the myth much larger than life or death.

56

00:05:12,680 --> 00:05:16,680

His fictional vampire can practically defy gravity.

57

00:05:16,680 --> 00:05:21,680

The Count is superhuman and, at the same time, a beast.

58

00:05:21,680 --> 00:05:29,680

Author David Skull says this is a reflection of the fear that people had of a strange new idea that came out in Stoker's day.

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00:05:29,680 --> 00:05:32,680

Charles Darwin's theory of evolution.

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00:05:32,680 --> 00:05:42,680

One of the most revealing images in Dracula is that moment where Jonathan Harker looks down and sees Dracula emerge from the window

61

00:05:42,680 --> 00:05:52,680

and crawls down the face of his castle, becoming a lizard or a bat, literally going down the evolutionary scale.

62

00:05:59,680 --> 00:06:05,680

Bloodthirsty predators of the night come out to feed, and they're not fiction.

63

00:06:07,680 --> 00:06:10,680

When truth or scare continues.

64

00:06:12,680 --> 00:06:16,680

Your adventure continues when Discovery Kids comes right back after these messages.

65

00:06:16,680 --> 00:06:19,680

Are you ready for a real scare?

66

00:06:19,680 --> 00:06:26,680

Only Discovery Kids has a brand new spooky series about how reality can be stranger than fiction.

67

00:06:26,680 --> 00:06:29,680

It's a show where real kids get real scared.

68

00:06:29,680 --> 00:06:34,680

Wolves, vampires, haunted castles. Are they truth or scare?

69

00:06:34,680 --> 00:06:40,680

Watch Truth or Scare Friday nights at 8-7 central, hosted by Bucky the Vampire Slayer and Shell Dry Timber.

70

00:06:40,680 --> 00:06:45,680

If you're scared on Discovery Kids, it's your world. You're very afraid of it.

71

00:06:45,680 --> 00:06:50,680

Now stay tuned for more real adventures right here on Discovery Kids.

72

00:06:52,680 --> 00:06:56,680

One of Dracula's best tricks is turning into a bat.

73

00:06:56,680 --> 00:07:02,680

It's just one of the ways the count terrifies his victims and escapes when he needs to.

74

00:07:02,680 --> 00:07:07,680

There's something even scarier out there. Real vampire bats.

75

00:07:07,680 --> 00:07:10,680

And they drink real blood.

76

00:07:16,680 --> 00:07:20,680

Long before Dracula, bats had a fearsome reputation.

77

00:07:20,680 --> 00:07:24,680

In mythology, they would symbolize evil, the enemies of light.

78

00:07:24,680 --> 00:07:28,680

But common vampire bats don't compete with the count.

79

00:07:28,680 --> 00:07:31,680

They won't bite your neck or suck your blood.

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00:07:31,680 --> 00:07:35,680

Instead, they feed on livestock and other animals.

81

00:07:37,680 --> 00:07:42,680

After making a quick bite, they lick up the blood as it gushes from their prey.

82

00:07:44,680 --> 00:07:49,680

Jonathan Harker is the victim of a much more dangerous kind of vampire.

83

00:07:49,680 --> 00:07:52,680

He's a prisoner in Castle Dracula.

84

00:07:55,680 --> 00:07:57,680

And confined no way out.

85

00:07:57,680 --> 00:08:00,680

There's one room that he still hasn't searched.

86

00:08:00,680 --> 00:08:03,680

A place that the count has forbidden him to enter.

87

00:08:03,680 --> 00:08:08,680

And Dracula says, whatever you do, don't go in this room. Stay out of this room.

88

00:08:08,680 --> 00:08:12,680

Of course, Jonathan immediately goes to this room to find out what's going on.

89

00:08:12,680 --> 00:08:15,680

The room seems to be empty.

90

00:08:15,680 --> 00:08:19,680

Then, Harker is suddenly overcome with sleep.

91

00:08:20,680 --> 00:08:25,680

When he wakes up, he finds three female vampires ready to make a meal of him.

92

00:08:28,680 --> 00:08:33,680

Then, at the last possible moment, it's Dracula who comes to his rescue.

93

00:08:33,680 --> 00:08:37,680

In a way, Harker should be grateful to the count.

94

00:08:37,680 --> 00:08:44,680

But he's terrified, powerless, trapped, and completely under Dracula's spell.

95

00:08:45,680 --> 00:08:48,680

Stoker may have known the feeling himself.

96

00:08:48,680 --> 00:08:54,680

For years, he worked for the famous actor Henry Irving, managing his Lyceum Theatre in London.

97

00:08:54,680 --> 00:08:59,680

Irving was a superstar in his day, and Stoker was impressed.

98

00:08:59,680 --> 00:09:04,680

He puts everything second to Irving, including his marriage to Florence Malcolm.

99

00:09:04,680 --> 00:09:08,680

When he got his job at the theatre, he was very impressed.

100

00:09:08,680 --> 00:09:12,680

David's skull sees a connection between real life and fiction.

101

00:09:12,680 --> 00:09:16,680

You can almost envision the Lyceum Theatre as kind of Castle Dracula,

102

00:09:16,680 --> 00:09:24,680

in which Stoker is trapped for decades at the beck and call of his own personal vampire in the form of Henry Irving.

103

00:09:24,680 --> 00:09:28,680

Dracula might have been the first to come to the theatre,

104

00:09:28,680 --> 00:09:32,680

but he's not the only one who's been trapped in the theatre.

105

00:09:32,680 --> 00:09:36,680

He's the first vampire in the form of Henry Irving.

106

00:09:36,680 --> 00:09:40,680

Dracula might have been partly based on Henry Irving,

107

00:09:40,680 --> 00:09:46,680

but Stoker must have also known about a certain murderous ruler from the history of Eastern Europe.

108

00:09:46,680 --> 00:09:52,680

He lived 500 years ago in Romania, Transylvania, to be exact.

109

00:09:52,680 --> 00:09:58,680

They called him the Devil, or in Romanian, Dracula.

110

00:09:58,680 --> 00:10:02,680

He was Vlad the Impaler.

111

00:10:02,680 --> 00:10:06,680

Vlad would terrorize his enemies with a uniquely cruel torture.

112

00:10:06,680 --> 00:10:14,680

He'd impale them on a wooden stake and then eat his dinner nearby, while they slowly led to death.

113

00:10:14,680 --> 00:10:20,680

This is the face of the tyrant known as Dracula.

114

00:10:20,680 --> 00:10:28,680

In Stoker's story, Castle Dracula is Jonathan Harker's prison.

115

00:10:28,680 --> 00:10:36,680

The Count leaves him there, and sails for England.

116

00:10:36,680 --> 00:10:44,680

Sleeping all day below decks, the vampire comes out of his coffin at night, feed on the sailors.

117

00:10:44,680 --> 00:10:48,680

Dracula docks the ship at the village of Whitby.

118

00:10:48,680 --> 00:10:54,680

There is where the Count finds Harker's fiance, Mina and her best friend Lucy.

119

00:10:54,680 --> 00:10:58,680

Since he's been away, Mina has barely heard from her boyfriend.

120

00:10:58,680 --> 00:11:00,680

She can only wonder what's been keeping him.

121

00:11:00,680 --> 00:11:04,680

She's about to find out.

122

00:11:04,680 --> 00:11:06,680

Mina and Lucy are very different types of girls.

123

00:11:06,680 --> 00:11:12,680

While Mina's serious and competent, Lucy's a little more... flighty.

124

00:11:12,680 --> 00:11:16,680

One week, Lucy has gotten three different marriage proposals.

125

00:11:16,680 --> 00:11:22,680

She chooses the aristocrat Arthur to be her husband.

126

00:11:22,680 --> 00:11:29,680

But competition has arrived from Transylvania, and Lucy cannot resist.

127

00:11:29,680 --> 00:11:40,680

When her friend goes missing one night, Mina finds her in the cemetery on a bloody rendezvous with Dracula.

128

00:11:40,680 --> 00:11:44,680

Now that Lucy has felt Dracula's bite, her life will never be the same.

129

00:11:44,680 --> 00:11:48,680

It's the cruelest trick of the vampire's curse.

130

00:11:48,680 --> 00:11:52,680

His victims become predators themselves.

131

00:11:52,680 --> 00:12:06,680

Now, Lucy's friends and loved ones will have to face their own fear, and a new kind of enemy.

132

00:12:06,680 --> 00:12:11,680

The men of England are running scared from something even more dangerous than vampires.

133

00:12:11,680 --> 00:12:16,680

The women's liberation movement.

134

00:12:16,680 --> 00:12:21,680

When truth or scare returns.

135

00:12:21,680 --> 00:12:27,680

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136

00:12:27,680 --> 00:12:30,680

Welcome back. Our story so far.

137

00:12:30,680 --> 00:12:33,680

The Prince of Darkness is terrorizing England.

138

00:12:33,680 --> 00:12:37,680

His latest victim lies sick in bed. Could Lucy rise up from her bed?

139

00:12:37,680 --> 00:12:41,680

A new woman? A vampire?

140

00:12:41,680 --> 00:12:46,680

It's no surprise that Stoker was thinking about strong female characters that threatened the system.

141

00:12:46,680 --> 00:12:53,680

While he was writing Dracula, the women's liberation movement was starting right outside his door.

142

00:12:53,680 --> 00:13:01,680

Lucy is fading. Desperate for a way to help, her friends turn to the medical expert, Dr. Van Helsing.

143

00:13:01,680 --> 00:13:08,680

When Van Helsing examines Lucy, he immediately decides she needs a transfusion.

144

00:13:08,680 --> 00:13:11,680

But nothing helps.

145

00:13:11,680 --> 00:13:17,680

When night comes, Dracula empties Lucy of every drop the men have given her.

146

00:13:17,680 --> 00:13:24,680

Finally, her strength fails. Her life is over.

147

00:13:24,680 --> 00:13:27,680

And the horror is just beginning.

148

00:13:27,680 --> 00:13:33,680

The next time the men see Lucy, she's walking through the cemetery, undead and hungry.

149

00:13:33,680 --> 00:13:41,680

Her victims? Any people she can find. Lucy has become a vampire.

150

00:13:41,680 --> 00:13:45,680

Only one thing can stop her.

151

00:13:45,680 --> 00:13:49,680

For Lucy and Arthur, it was supposed to be their wedding night.

152

00:13:49,680 --> 00:13:53,680

Instead, a very different kind of ceremony will take place.

153

00:13:53,680 --> 00:13:59,680

The men arrive at her crypt, the tomb where she sleeps during the day.

154

00:13:59,680 --> 00:14:06,680

The only way to let Lucy rest and stop her from killing again is to drive a stake through her heart.

155

00:14:06,680 --> 00:14:12,680

It's Arthur, her own fiance who does the job of hammering in the stake.

156

00:14:12,680 --> 00:14:18,680

Do I even have to say it? Never try this at home.

157

00:14:18,680 --> 00:14:23,680

It's the Battle of the Sexes, Gothic style.

158

00:14:23,680 --> 00:14:30,680

In the late 1800s, the world was a very different place, especially when it came to equal rights for women.

159

00:14:30,680 --> 00:14:35,680

At the time of the Dracula was written, things were starting to change.

160

00:14:35,680 --> 00:14:43,680

Early feminists were taking it to the streets, organizing and protesting for the same opportunities that men had.

161

00:14:43,680 --> 00:14:49,680

The new woman is what they called any female who was a part of the movement.

162

00:14:49,680 --> 00:14:58,680

Bram Stoker didn't see women as equals. His version of the new woman was Harker's girlfriend, Mina.

163

00:14:58,680 --> 00:15:03,680

She's described as being an amazing typist. Big deal.

164

00:15:03,680 --> 00:15:10,680

Victorian women wanted the right to be the boss, not just the secretary.

165

00:15:10,680 --> 00:15:21,680

Dracula doesn't have a lot of respect for Mina either. He finds her in London and appears in her room as white mist.

166

00:15:21,680 --> 00:15:27,680

When he takes human form, he drinks deeply from her neck.

167

00:15:27,680 --> 00:15:36,680

Harker has escaped the castle Dracula and returned to England, but he's no match for the Count.

168

00:15:36,680 --> 00:15:45,680

One night, the men burst into Mina's room. Harker is lying there unconscious as Dracula feeds Mina blood from his own heart.

169

00:15:45,680 --> 00:15:50,680

He's turning her into a vampire.

170

00:15:50,680 --> 00:15:59,680

Now it's up to the men to save Mina.

171

00:15:59,680 --> 00:16:06,680

Next, the final showdown between the Victorian gentlemen and the Prince of Darkness.

172

00:16:06,680 --> 00:16:11,680

And truth or scare returns.

173

00:16:11,680 --> 00:16:17,680

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174

00:16:17,680 --> 00:16:24,680

In Bram Stoker's novel, Dracula is not only frightening because of his powers. He's from Transylvania.

175

00:16:24,680 --> 00:16:29,680

And in the 19th century, just being a fordnner was very scary to some people.

176

00:16:29,680 --> 00:16:41,680

So we return to our story as the Vampire Slayers are on a mission to save both their friend Mina and their entire country.

177

00:16:41,680 --> 00:16:49,680

The key is the dirt that Dracula has to sleep on. He brought it from his homeland and hid it in different spots around London.

178

00:16:49,680 --> 00:16:58,680

To chase him out of the shadows, the men in Stoker's novel search out his supply of native soil.

179

00:16:58,680 --> 00:17:07,680

Without a place to sleep, Dracula can't survive. The plan? Destroy all of the Count's resting places.

180

00:17:07,680 --> 00:17:13,680

If they can do it, he will have to return to his homeland.

181

00:17:13,680 --> 00:17:23,680

When they find each box, Dr. Van Helsing blesses the earth, sterilizing it so the Count won't be able to sleep there anymore.

182

00:17:23,680 --> 00:17:35,680

Van Helsing knows that this is no ordinary killer. If Dracula wins, he'll keep turning people into vampires everywhere he goes.

183

00:17:35,680 --> 00:17:41,680

Elizabeth Miller thinks Stoker took real events and reworked them for his own purposes.

184

00:17:41,680 --> 00:17:51,680

Dracula can be read as a novel about British feelings of supremacy at the end of the 19th century, coupled with a distrust and a hatred and a fear of foreigners.

185

00:17:51,680 --> 00:18:03,680

At the end of the 1800s, there was a wave of Europeans moving to England. A lot of the English were unhappy about this.

186

00:18:03,680 --> 00:18:11,680

It's possible that the fear of Dracula was not too different from the way some people felt about the new immigrants.

187

00:18:11,680 --> 00:18:17,680

While most of the Europeans who came at that time made their homes in England, the vampire ran for his life.

188

00:18:17,680 --> 00:18:23,680

The men and Mina chase him back to Transylvania, where the drama builds to a fevered pitch.

189

00:18:23,680 --> 00:18:35,680

Stoker, as if he was a major film producer or film director, organizes the chase so that there's the coach, there's the horseman, and there's Dr. Van Helsing with Mina.

190

00:18:35,680 --> 00:18:39,680

The three of them are converging on Dracula's castle.

191

00:18:39,680 --> 00:18:47,680

As the sun sets and the wolves start to howl, the horror story becomes an action movie.

192

00:18:47,680 --> 00:18:51,680

Suddenly you're in this John Ford Western and this mountain shootout.

193

00:18:54,680 --> 00:19:00,680

As the sun just goes down, the men converge, Dracula leaps up.

194

00:19:00,680 --> 00:19:04,680

And Quincy Morris drives him through the heart with a booina.

195

00:19:04,680 --> 00:19:10,680

When he's stabbed, Dracula gets a look of peace on his face and crumbles to dust.

196

00:19:10,680 --> 00:19:14,680

But is he dead? It just doesn't sound right.

197

00:19:14,680 --> 00:19:26,680

It's probably not crumbling to dust at all. He's just turning to moonbeams the way vampires can and sort of floating away when they think they've killed him.

198

00:19:26,680 --> 00:19:32,680

Because you obviously can kill Dracula with a bowie knife. That's silly.

199

00:19:32,680 --> 00:19:38,680

Even though they didn't use the right tool for the job, the story of Dracula does have a happy ending.

200

00:19:38,680 --> 00:19:43,680

The count turns to dust, just the way vampires are supposed to.

201

00:19:46,680 --> 00:19:53,680

Mina is freed from the curse and lives happily ever after with Jonathan and their son Quincy.

202

00:19:53,680 --> 00:19:57,680

Stoker's own life didn't have such a storybook ending.

203

00:19:58,680 --> 00:20:02,680

Oly's mother truly appreciated what he had done in his novel.

204

00:20:02,680 --> 00:20:08,680

She wrote to him that it was his best work and one of the very best horror stories of all.

205

00:20:08,680 --> 00:20:12,680

Bram Stoker died the same week that the Titanic sank.

206

00:20:12,680 --> 00:20:17,680

For all the hoopla about the shipwreck, most people missed his obituary.

207

00:20:17,680 --> 00:20:24,680

But it's hard not to wonder, did the great writer have something else in store for Jonathan Harker's family?

208

00:20:25,680 --> 00:20:31,680

In a final journal entry, Harker described returning to visit the castle Dracula with their son.

209

00:20:31,680 --> 00:20:36,680

He said, it was almost impossible to believe that the things which we had seen,

210

00:20:36,680 --> 00:20:41,680

with our own eyes and heard with our own ears were living truths.

211

00:20:41,680 --> 00:20:45,680

Every trace that had been was blotted out.

212

00:20:46,680 --> 00:20:51,680

That's what he thinks.

213

00:20:51,680 --> 00:20:55,680

Dracula is a long way from being blotted out.

214

00:20:55,680 --> 00:21:01,680

There has never been a creature in history or fantasy that compares to the count.

215

00:21:04,680 --> 00:21:11,680

The master of our darkest fears, wild beasts, the night, torture, death.

216

00:21:11,680 --> 00:21:16,680

Dracula is every nightmare rolled into one.

217

00:21:18,680 --> 00:21:20,680

And what about Bram Stoker's novel?

218

00:21:20,680 --> 00:21:24,680

Was he secretly planning to bring his monster back someday?

219

00:21:24,680 --> 00:21:27,680

Maybe Stoker never really meant for Dracula to die.

220

00:21:27,680 --> 00:21:32,680

That would explain why it was a hunting knife that supposedly finished him off.

221

00:21:32,680 --> 00:21:40,680

Well, one thing I know, no matter how many times he's killed, Count Dracula will always return.

222

00:21:41,680 --> 00:21:44,680

Harker, you fool.