



## First Bite

*Khelsey Jackson*

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Victory isn't your average seventeen year old girl. Her best friend is the only person in the world that knows her secret. She's a vampire and is trying to come to terms with her own bloodlust she didn't realize existed until she met Jason. Her mom wants her to learn who she is by sending her to a boarding school called Darkwood Manor. There she wrestles with her bloodlust and her unbinding attraction to Jason. Will she ever learn to control her blood lust?

## First Bite Details

Date : Published March 11th 2013 by Crushing Hearts and Black Butterfly Publishing

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Author : Khelsey Jackson

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Genre : Young Adult, Romance, Paranormal Romance, Fantasy, Paranormal

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## From Reader Review First Bite for online ebook

### Christoph Fischer says

"First Bite" by Khelsey Jackson is the first book in a new Vampire series in which young Vampire Victoria moves to a boarding school called Darkwood Manor. Trying to keep her identity as a Vampire hidden she struggles with her blood lust. She is determined not to succumb to it as her father once did but it is proving difficult in her new environment. The book establishes the tension and problems that will feature more prominently in the second of the series; it is a great set up piece.

Jackson has created a set of great characters, including Victoria's best male friend and the attractive new love interest Jason, who is not a Vampire. Aimed at young adults this should be well received, particularly by female readers.

A new series to watch.

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### Jeannette Weber says

This was a fast pace read. I love all things vampire and this was a really tasteful story. I can't wait to read what happens next. I love the fact that the main character has pink hair and she is different then your norm vampire.

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### Jocelyn Sanchez says

Khelsey Jackson is truly an amazing writer. She has a way of drawing you into the story and then throws twists and turns at you. But you can't complain because the book is so good because of her creativity and plot twists. I never see the ending coming and end up being shocked and happy.

From the outside, Victoria seems like an ordinary teenage girl...but she's not. You see, Victoria is a vampire living only with her mother after her father left them. Now Victoria's mother is making her do something that she hates, making her go to a boarding school called Darkwood Manor. Not only does Victoria have to see humans everyday, but she will have to be away from her best friend, Nathan. Soon after Victoria enters Darkwood Manor she meets a enchanting boy named Jason with bright green eyes that seem to see into her soul. She has a weird reaction to him and her mother starts to worry. When she's around Jason her heart beat quickens, her gums hurt from her fangs wanting to elongate, and her bloodlust increases. Nathan tries to help Victoria control her bloodlust but she can't seem to say away from the beautiful and mysterious Jason. Will Victoria end up becoming a monster like her father, draining and killing humans? Or will she stick to her morals and refuse to kill a human? Will Victoria ever find a place she belongs in her world? And most importantly, how far will she go to protect the one she loves?

Fangtastic read! Something vampire fans would want to sink their teeth into. A story that everyone would enjoy, short yet so entertaining. I even cried a little at the end. This author just loves to make my emotions go

crazy :) Loved the storyline and the characters were really relatable and interesting to read about. If you like vampires, twists, suspense, romance, or just a good book to read, this is your book. I highly recommend this book to everyone.

Favorite quotes from the book:

"You see I am a vampire; I don't sparkle or drink animal blood."

"I look at him and raise my eyebrow at him. "Vamptoria?" I have to bite my bottom lip to stop myself from laughing."

"Thanks. I like to be different, plus it pisses my mom off."

"I need you. You're my rock that holds me down when it's windy."

"Victoria, I can feel myself falling for you. I just hope I don't crash and burn."

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## Candy says

There was a lot of heart and emotion in this short story. Khelsey Jackson spins a story that pulls you in and has you hanging on every word until the end. It is easy to lose yourself in the story of Victoria and Jason's complicated relationship and by the time you come back to reality you mind will be reeling with the twist and turns that you never see coming. This a great start to a series that will keep you wanting the next book as soon as possible so you can continue the journey through the lives of Victoria and Jason.

Victoria is a vampire who refuses to kill and instead lives off of bagged blood her mother gets from the hospital. Her dad is no longer in her life because he insists on living like a "true vampire" which means draining humans for food. Victoria has fared well living on bagged blood and having the support of her best friend, Nathan to keep her from giving into blood lust. Victoria has vowed never to kill a human for blood but that becomes a much harder task than she imaged when she meets Jason. She meets him when her mother decides it is best for her to attend a small boarding school. They are drawn to each other and though Victoria tries, she can't stay away from him. Both Victoria and Jason hold secrets from that could destroy them if they are revealed. But how can you love someone without trusting them with all of yourself? Will keeping their secrets from each other help or hurt their relationship and if their secrets do come unhidden could it prove devastating? Can Victoria let herself trust again after the hurt she feels from her father abandoning her for his own selfish reasons? And can she be close to Jason long enough to have a relationship with him without draining him?

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## Valerie Mcqueen says

This book was provided from the author in exchange for honest literary review.

rating 5\*\*\*\*

Victoria is a vampire. she doesnt sparkle in the sun or turn to dust. She has chosen to live her life free from harming humans. instead, her dinner comes courtesy of the nearest blood bank.

Once she starts boarding school at the exclusive Darkwood Manor her world becomes pure chaos. First, its full of a bunch of catty females. Next Jason is there. Lastly Jason is there and his blood is calling her. For the first time ever, Victoria doesn't know whether to kiss or drain someone.

This is a very fun short read. It reads like a television episode almost. Vistoria and Nathan have a great sibling like vibe which was comical at times. I have to say it was very wel. written and detailed. I am off to read book two now.

Fun teenage recommended read that gets you hooked on the story!!!!

Michelle McQueen

WaAR

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## **S. Policar says**

\*I received this book from the Author in exchange for an Honest Review\*

Let me begin by saying, that's it about time someone reintroduced some of the other lore about vampires. People have heard about the overplayed lore about sunlight and infertility.

But in those being so played out, the older lore was all but forgotten. Most people forget Vlad Tepes (Vlad the Impaler) the "father" of vampire lore was a father himself. The oldest of vampire myths tell of pure blood vampires, ones born to vampiric parents.

Khelsey used this lore for her serial "Darkwood Manor", and the first known blood born vampire, Victoria, is born after decades of "vampires can't have kids".

I must say I like this book, I love the whole premise of the series really. It's a refreshing change after all the played out vampire lore.

Being the series is a serial, they're quite short and without a doubt leave the reader wanting more which is a pain all unto itself since serials normally only come out monthly. Whatever shall I do once I finish Love Bite?!

I spotted a couple of small errors here and there but they weren't major and won't hang up the reader's flow at all.

This is the first book of Khelsey's I've gotten the opportunity to read, though I'd heard of her since before Kallos released. I do have to admit her work is very good for the genre. It's got that "new" twist feel and honestly regardless if the reader prefers sparkly vampires or "real" vampires, this series is a sure pleaser to any fan of the race.

I give this book 5 of 5 paws

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## **Juli says**

Dieses niedliche kleine Ebook mit seinen niedlichen wenigen Seiten habe ich für eine Challenge gelesen und habe genau eben dieses ausgewählt, weil ich ein absoluter Akademie Junkie bin. Ich wollte herausfinden ob man eine Akademie Geschichte auch in einer Kurzgeschichte aufblühen lassen kann. Und oh Wunder, aber der Autorin Khelsey Jackson ist es tatsächlich gelungen mich auf 35 Seiten zu fesseln.

Für alle deutsche LeserInnen, die sich bisher noch an kein englisches Buch heran getraut haben und gerne Fantasybücher lesen. Hier ist die perfekte Lösung: Darkwood Manor Series. Die Autorin schreibt in einem wahnsinnig einfachen Englisch. Ich konnte wirklich JEDES Wort verstehen ohne nach zu schlagen. Um zu

testen, ob eure Englischkenntnisse ausreichen, ist dieser Roman nahezu perfekt, schließlich kostet dieser erste Band nur 0,89€.

Ich hätte wirklich niemals nie, nie, nie und nochmals niemaals eine solch gute Geschichte und extrem durchdachte, komplexe Handlung hinter diesem Ebook erwartet. Zu Beginn wusste ich noch nicht, dass Band 2 auch bereits bei amazon.de erschienen ist, das wäre mir wohl am Ende dieses ersten Bandes zum Verhängnis geworden. Denn dieser hat einen echt fiesen Cliffhanger, so fies, dass ich mir direkt den zweiten runter geladen habe und weiter lesen musste. Die Autorin hat einen tollen, einfachen Schreibstil. Welcher perfekt für ein Jugendbuch ist. Mit viel Gefühl und Liebe und natürlich Magie haucht sie ihrer Darkwood Manor Leben ein und macht sie liebens- und lesenswert.

Die Charaktere die Khelsey Jackson geschaffen hat sind greifbar und für die Kürze des Lesens sehr prägnant. Die Protagonistin Victoria ist dazu gezwungen die Schule zu wechseln und auf das Darkwood Internat zu gehen, da ihre Mutter beruflich in nächster Zeit viel rumkommen wird. Ein klitzekleines Problem stellen allerdings ihre Vampirgene dar. Natürlich ist die Darkwood Manor ein ganz normales Internat, wo nicht unbedingt tagtäglich Vampire ein und ausgehen. Und Vicky fällt nicht nur aufgrund ihrer Gene auf, denn sie hat violette Haare und eckt direkt von der ersten Sekunde bei ihren weiblichen Mitschülerinnen an. Das könnte natürlich an dem äußerst unpraktischem Umstand liegen, dass ausgerechnet der absolute Akademie Schwarm Jason ein Auge auf sie wirft. Vicky würde sich ihm am Liebsten auch gleich an den Hals werfen, oder an die Halsschlagader? ;)

Besonders einzigartig und liebeswürdig ist Victorias bester Freund. Der sie überall hin begleitet und sie über alles liebt, aber eben nur als bester Freund. Denn er selbst fühlt sich nur vom männlichen Geschlecht angezogen. Er ist witzig, gefühlvoll, absolut sakastisch, eben perfekt! Ich hoffe, dass er im zweiten Teil auch wieder eine Rolle spielen wird. Ansonsten bin ich super gespannt, wie sich die Liebesgeschichte zu Jason entwickelt und natürlich ob sich Victorias familiären Probleme klären lassen.

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### **Sónia Tigol says**

OMG!!! FIRST BITE is beyond amazing. I absolutely love it! This book was amazing, I was completely engrossed from start to finish. I can't wait to read what happens next.

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### **Bella Doerres says**

First Bite

Khelsey Jackson

Victoria is sent off to boarding school. Her mother thinks it will be good for her maybe even help her find herself. Victoria already has a pretty good grasp on herself she is a born vampire. School will be another place to hide and be alone. Her mother keeps her supplied with the blood that she needs because Victoria does not want to kill.

Once at the school she meets Jason Kaye and for the first time she thinks someone likes her for herself. Things go well with their friendship but Jason has some secrets of his own and they are not good for Victoria. When her mother can't make her usual visit Victoria starts to get concerned. The werewolf attacking at the lake brings out more secrets and then her father shows up and she knows what he is. All of a sudden there are so many things going on Victoria is trying to figure out what will happen. You will just have to read to find out what does. Khelsey Jackson gives YA readers a fantastic paranormal story. I give it five stars.

Bella Doerres Ma Ed 03/16/2013

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### **Jacque Talento says**

I won a copy from the author and will be giving my honest review. Tori is going away to college and doesn't want to leave her best friend Nathan but knows she has no choice. What she doesn't expect is to be filled with the intoxicating scent of Jason when she gets there. Being someone that won't feed from humans this is going to be a tough time for Tori but the pull to Nathan is just too strong. Will she be able to resist him? This is a short, tease as you may, to an upcoming novel in the future.

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### **Wanda Hartzenberg says**

Ok so a wee bit of editing is needed but it is hardly an issue. This story for me set up a triangle although a unique one. This is not a lovers triangle it is one of need and friendship and doing what is needed within a friendship. Said triangle did wonders of introducing the main protagonists of the series and the academy itself got introduced and the worldbuilding was sufficient to get a grip on the scenes. A short read with a tragic ending serving as a brilliant introduction to what I am sure is a brilliant series. WaAr.

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### **Crystal says**

I love the start of this series!

Victoria is a vampire. Her mom supplies her with blood and the only people who knows Nathan and her parents. She has never killed or fed from animals or humans for that matter. But being sent to a new school has her worried. Then she sees the boy with the green eyes...

Kelsey has a way with creating a great storyline. Of course she left me hanging at the end of First Bite but that only guarantees a Book 2 =)

First Bite is imaginative and a fast read but it gets you geared up for what is to come up next. I love Victorias best friend! He's gorgeous, sweet, funny and uber supportive. All the qualities of what a best friend should have =)

My only complaint is that I think the "love connection" between the two leads moved a little fast but it could be a side effect of Victoria's vampirism. Either way, I enjoyed reading First Bite and look forward to reading Love Bite.

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## Alexia Purdy says

This is a super-fast read and if I had sat down and read it in one sitting, it'd take about twenty to thirty minutes tops. With that out of the way, I enjoyed this little tale of vampires, vampire hunters, love and...of course...werewolves. I didn't want it to end and it ends right at a critical point. Fair warning.

Now, the story itself is a cute tale about a teen vampire named Victoria. She's trying out a new boarding school and is used to not fitting in, but it's still no fun. She's not too happy about it and missing her best friend, Nathan, who happens to be her very gay otherwise soul mate. Such a shame because she does say he's perfect for her. She also doesn't drink from humans, but lives off blood bags and doesn't know any better. Walking into the school, she meets Jason, who smells absolutely divine. In fact, he smells absolutely appetizing and she struggles to control her ferocious vampire appetite and not bite into him to suck out his yummy blood.

These two fall in love instantly, and the rest is history. I did enjoy their little chats and the tragic twist at the end. I do hope this series takes us deeper into her world, it seems like it might be a fun episodic ride. Love bite is the next story in line in this series, and it looks promising.

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## Mehsi says

Watch out, may contain spoilers.

This was an interesting book, it pulled me in. Though there were some things that I didn't like.

1. All the strange coincidences. Like suddenly there is a werewolf (wait what??), and though my suspicions were right, it was still a bit too cliché to find out Jason was a vampire hunter. \*rolls eyes\*
2. Seriously, how is she going to hide the cooling box with blood? Where does she leave the empty bags, just throw them away or something else?
3. Victoria and Nathan's relationship. I found it strange and awkward. Like they were lovers, yet they were not.

Other than that, I loved the writing style, it drew me in the book. I loved Victoria, though she wasn't really smart sometimes.

The romance was ok, though a bit fast, but I guess you have to when a book is only 35 pages.

I hope there will be more, the ending felt a bit open and left some stuff still unanswered.

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## Claire Taylor says

Khelsey Jackson  
First Bite  
Darkwood Manor Series

This book was amazing, from start to finish I was completely engrossed. Short and sweet, this book is fun to read and will have you laughing at parts, then the end will leave you completely shocked. A great introduction to the author's writing style and sense of humour, you won't be disappointed if you love paranormal reads.

I received an e-copy from the author in exchange for an honest review.

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