



## The Vampire Code

*E.C. Adams*

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## **The Vampire Code** E.C. Adams

An Urban Fantasy Romance set in a United States where vampires are another oppressed minority in search of cultural acceptance, and featuring a ruling family that wants to change that — the Fiscards.

As part of their plan to connect with mainstream mortal America, when one of their own is unjustly accused of murdering a human, the Fiscards hire one of New York's hottest young attorneys — a young woman by the name Aurora Lake — to stand by them in Vampire Court.

But not every vampire wants to be assimilated, and not everybody approves of the obvious attraction between Aurora Lake and the vampire Sebastian Fiscard.

As they struggle with their own feelings and with unseen, ancient forces trying to put a stop to their work — and to Aurora — will Aurora and Sebastian overcome The Resistance? And what about their resistance to what their own hearts, mortal and immortal, know to be true?

## **The Vampire Code Details**

Date : Published May 4th 2013 by Smashwords (first published May 1st 2013)

ISBN :

Author : E.C. Adams

Format : ebook 367 pages

Genre : Paranormal, Vampires, Romance, New Adult, Fantasy, Urban Fantasy, Paranormal Romance

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## From Reader Review The Vampire Code for online ebook

### Jessica says

A refreshing take on vampires packed with action and intrigue. There is a legal mystery/thriller tone to the beginning of the book but the novel manages to encompass so much more.

I loved the heroine being the tough, plucky lady that she was. She was willing to risk everything for the chance of a career but at the same time had morals and the ability to uphold them. The hero was good, but for me, just not great. He was so reserved that I wasn't really able to get a good read on him. He was supportive and present just the way that a hero should be but I just didn't get the complete connection, especially the chemistry between the two.

I really liked the majority of the book although the ending was so long although it felt more like an extended epilogue.

Overall, a lively bump and jump read where the reader is galloping madly to keep up to the action! A fun ride.

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### Mlpmom (Book Reviewer) says

3.5 Stars!

It is so hard to find anything new and let's face it, even exciting when it comes to vampires. It seems for the most part, it has all been done before. From the scary take to the, well, not so scary sparkly variety, either way, it seems it has all been seen.

And while I wouldn't say this was something completely new or truly unique, it was something a little different and definitely something fun and something that I enjoyed.

It did take me awhile to warm up to all the characters and really get a feel for them and while I never connected to them like I wanted to, I did like them and the story was compelling enough that I wanted to get to the end to find out how it all worked out.

It will be very interesting to see where the author takes the story from here. The epilogue jumped about two years ahead so it does make me wonder how the next two books will play out It was definitely a good set up for the next book and one that I will look forward to reading.

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### Angela says

I was given a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Aurora Lake is a no-nonsense defense lawyer who doesn't back down from a challenge. This time the challenge comes in the form of a vampire named Sebastian Fiscard. Sebastian has asked Aurora to defend his vampire brother against murder charges.....against a human. The case will be tried in Vampire Court and if she takes the case, she will become the first human to ever set foot inside the court. The world is changing

and humans know of vampires but are still leery of them. Vampires are fighting for integration into society, but it is an uphill battle. Having Aurora try this case will help with the relationship between vampires and humans. But at what cost? What is Aurora willing to risk to see this through? Is there something else going on with this odd request other than what is on the surface?

I really liked this book a lot! The premise is so different because humans and vampires exist together. Humans aren't vampire food and vampires lead seemingly normal lives. But, there is so much more to the story. I can't divulge too much information because I don't want to give spoilers, but I can tell you that there are many twists and turns that you do NOT see coming. There is another dynamic involved than just the murder trial. That is a small part of this story but it sets everything in motion. I cannot wait until the next book comes out! I wish I could tell you more about what happens, but it would ruin it for you. If you want to find out, read it. You will not be disappointed. Well, maybe you will when the book is over and you have to wait for the next one!

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### **Natalie Owens says**

I was given an ARC of this book to review. And what fun I had reading this! I love stories that break the mold, and treat a theme or genre with a fresh take. The Vampire Code is definitely different from anything I've read in the vampire genre. There's a strong heroine (which I totally dig), and a delicious hero (sigh...Sebastian) - both well sketched and developed, showing growth over time - and an engaging plot and fast pace which leaves you breathless to the end. I really enjoyed seeing Sebastian and Aurora's attraction grow as the story progressed and the danger grew - and now I wait with bated breath for book two, which the author promises this year.

Aurora is an interesting character. She is a young, tough and ambitious lawyer who wants to succeed in her career. For this reason, and because of things that happened in her childhood, she often puts on a mask, and does not like to show her emotions. Because to her, this would mean being too vulnerable. Aurora is quite the character, and there's lots of humor among the seriousness in these pages. If there is such a thing as endearing snark, the author nailed it with Counselor Aurora Lake.

Sebastian, with his old world manner, charm, and chivalrous nature, turns out to be the perfect hero to melt the protective shield around Aurora's heart.

I won't give away much about the story except say that there are vampires, witches, a conspiracy, a prophecy, and all manner of goodies to keep you interested. I offer a full recommendation and 5 shiny stars. Read it!

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### **Farah \*Professor Dean's Beauty\* says**

Aurora is a young lawyer working in Manhattan who agrees to defend a vampire wrongly accused of killing a human.. She was specifically asked to take on this case alone by Ani Fiscard.

Aurora knew that taking on this case would change her entire career, little did she know that it was about to change her life too...

Sebastian is also a vampire who is actually the one who meets with Aurora to help him save his brother, the vampire...

Sebastian...

Sebastian serves the Council and is a member of the First four hundred- the largest and strongest Vampire covens.

**"vampires were prohibited from killing humans and drinking their blood without the prior consent of the human, unless the vampire's life was being threatened by the human or by other "exceptional circumstances"**

He is nearly 400 hundred years old but became a vampire when he was 32years old.

Aurora goes with Sebastian to New Orleans where they will get the information required for Aurora to help defend Robert the vampire.

**"He stood there, one foot in the hole, the other out, hand again outstretched towards me—looking like a demigod. He also had that particular look, the one that said I'll catch you should you fall, and I found myself moving towards him and taking his hand so I could follow him into the unknown, literally and figuratively"**

**"Welcome to The Repository," Sebastian whispered in my ear, sending a wave of excitement down my arm and straight to my stomach. "Let's get to work. This could be a long night."**

They are challenged by the Vampire Resistance- a group of vampires who refuse to mainstream and obey the Vampire code.

During great danger- the story turns into an exciting thriller that will keep you engrossed in the story!

Sebastian goes through great lengths to protect her- even doing it himself.

The more time she spends with him, she begins to develop feelings for him. He makes her feel strong and gives her courage to do things she never thought.

As Aurora knows it's crazy to feel this way about Sebastian so she tries dating someone else but fails miserably because the only person in her mind is the handsome Sebastian.

**"My heart fluttered in my chest a few times then started beating faster than I ever thought possible. I swallowed hard. He stopped two inches from my face, leaned in as if to kiss my cheek. "Your heart," he said into my hair, just above my ear. "It never did this for him."**

The trial- secrets and visions are revealed and the case of a lifetime becomes a change of Aurora's life.

After the trial Aurora is the target of the Ku Klux Klan- a human hate group and the Resistance.

Sebastian comes to her rescue again and takes her away from the violence that is targeting her.

Unusual circumstances make them fall into each others arms- little did Sebastian know that Aurora would change his life too.

**"He kissed the top of my head once, twice, three times, pulling me closer to him. I wanted to weld us together, but I could tell already that the reasons behind our contact were different. I was falling for him. He thought of me as a fragile doll he was honor-bound to protect."**

Yet another twist in the book-

Aurora gets a shock learning an ancient curse will kill her, does she just give in or do the right thing?

**"When a woman from our bloodline turns thirty, she dies unless she's passed her gift on to another and this can only happen if you have a child. Aurora, do you understand?"**

**"Here I was, in love with the only man with whom I could never, ever have the child that would save my life. The only man I would be with, the only man I'd want as my own. A vampire."**

Love will win and dreams will come true...

**"I cannot believe I found you. You're going to make my biggest dream come true. For once in my life, I feel like I am going to have it all—I am complete."**

Their fate was destined even before they even met!

**"My mother knows things," he said mysteriously. "She has a gift, an instinct that guides her. She sees things sometimes and just knows. It's hard to explain."**

Until the universe and the forces of nature come back to haunt them...

This is a gripping book with a great love story and we are kept waiting for the next part of this awesome trilogy!

*A big thank you to E.C Adams for providing me with this ARC for an honest review!*

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### **Christina (Ensnoced in Lit) says**

I was given this book by the author in exchange for an honest review.

The Vampire Code by E. C. Adams is about a young and talented lawyer, Aurora, who is approached by Sebastian Fiscard, a vampire in the most prestigious vampire families, to help him defend his brother in court. His brother is being tried for murder because the vampire that he turned (his wife) killed another woman in cold blood. Aurora learns that the Vampire Code is set up very differently than the human legal system, so she navigates through this new territory as well as fights off her growing feelings for Sebastian. She is also being pursued by the Resistance, who wants to see her dead for showing her face in vampire court. Can Aurora survive in this brave new world?

I loved this book. LOVED. I don't say that lightly. And I'm even more happy that this is a talented new writer. There has been a ton of speculation as to where this book lies-- it's either New Adult or Adult (I think it's the latter), but honestly, it doesn't really matter. I think young adult readers as well as adult readers will gravitate towards this book because the characters are great (I think I have my first ever vampire crush, and I've read a lot of vampire books), the pacing spot on, and the world building with the Vampire Code just fascinating. There are also a lot of great plot twists that I won't tell you about so that you can discover them on your own.

My one small issue (and this is really just a personal preference that did not change the rating) is with the medical stuff later in the book. The details don't really make sense to me, but I was okay with glossing over that (which I usually am not okay with!) to get back to the story at hand.

Overall, one of the best indie reads I've gotten my hands on this year. I will be closely following E.C. Adams' career from here out.

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### **Nadia says**

this book blew me away!

I love how E.C took a very popular subject Vampires and wrote about it in a way I have never seen done before, this book is such an original. I could not recall one book with the same storyline as this book.

Aurora is a legal criminal defence lawyer. She is handpicked by the matriarch of the Fiscard family, Ani Fiscard. Sebastian Fiscard Ani's 'son' is charged with getting Aurora to accept their case with defending a

vampire from their family wrongly accused of murder.

There were many things I was not ok with in this book, some of Aurora's actions and Sebastian's previous actions, they were morally wrong, but in a way that just made more human-ish. In my mind it made them flawed, but approachable, because mistakes and wrong decision making is part of being a human, it also made them more realistic characters.

For some unknown reason, Ani Fiscard specifically choose Aurora and only her to represent Robert in the Vampire Court. Aurora doesn't know what to do, take the biggest case of her life and become public enemy number one? or refuse and stay safe?

Aurora and Sebastian embark on a journey never seen before, there are many firsts. The first human to step a foot inside a Vampire court and defend a vampire. The first time meeting a vampire (for Aurora).

I absolutely loved being absorbed into the legal world, that I had knowledge of before, and factor in the vampires into the equation and I was a totally happy camper with this book. There were never a dull moment, there were so much action, the dangers lurking at every corner, the thrill of finding out the plot of the book.

I had absolutely no way of predicting the turns this book took. I mean from the synopsis, I already knew it was very mysterious and there would be surprises, but seriously, the direction/path E.C took the book? Waaauw, it was a total shocker.

The relationship between Aurora and Sebastian is intense and confusing. We can understand Aurora's side of things, but there re many mysterious layers to Sebastian that we have no knowledge of. There are so many things with their relationship, that I hope we get to learn more from in the sequel! I would LOVED to be able to read and see things from Sebastian point of view!

This book was [again] very original, and such a refreshing read from the usual vampire stories, adding the lawyer/legal element to it on top of the supernatural, made the world the book was set in very realistic and totally possible, if vampires actually existed, I know this is how our world would possibly be!

if you are looking for a vampire story, with a new and unused storyline, then this refreshing, amazing book is definitely what you're looking for! I highly recommend this book.

Looking forward to read more from you E.C and thank you for letting me read an early ARC of the book, for my review :D

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## **Nancy Lundrigan says**

I received this book from the author for an honest review.

Wow I enjoyed this a lot! It was a very good read. I won't try to go over the plot or tell you about the story, if you have read a review or the book jacket before this you already know it. The book is well told, and has a very interesting court/action feel to it. The vampire law code is an interesting twist in the old integration of vampires into society setting. The court and action was well paced and quick moving - to the end of the book Aurora is still justifiably fearing being attacked. The characters are well defined and interesting, with the introduction of characters and relationships to continue through the books, not too noticeably woven in. The romantic aspect of the story was well done as well a good contrast, the old (centuries) old fashion man and

the modern female. There is a large difference in attitudes that could come up in that relationship, they haven't yet but this is the first book so they might. The romance part of the book was not over done, and you got the feeling that they went with the heart instead of the head after a long period of trying not too. The end of the book was a rough segue into the next one and lacked a smooth transition.

I found this book interesting fast paced with a interesting twist to it and enjoyed it very much. I would like to thank the author for giving me the book to review and I will read the next book even if it isn't given to me. :)

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### **Alisa says**

This story is about Aurora who is a relatively new attorney. She is approached by a very powerful vampire, Sebastian, and ask to represent his brother in the vampire court of law. Aurora initially has doubts as humans never appear in the vampire court. She both suspects Sebastian has another motive and she is uncomfortable with her attraction to him. The story proceeds through the court hearing and troubles that follow them as a result. I liked that the book combines new age issues such as racism, legal proceeding, & in vitro into a story with a traditional vampire & his traditional family. Both the hero and heroine were likable and the story moved at a good pace. I will be looking forward to the next installment.

It should be noted that this books was provided to me by the author in exchange for a honest review.

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### **djdavis~\*Sivad\*Sex Pocket says**

**A special thanks E.C. Adams for providing book one in the Fiscard Vampires series in exchange for an honest review.**

**Rating:\*\*\*\***

**Read this review and more at The Book Wranglers.**

*DUAL REVIEW*

Where your favorite reviewers duke it out!

An Urban Fantasy Romance set in a United States where vampires are another oppressed minority in search of cultural acceptance, and featuring a ruling family that wants to change that - the Fiscards.

As part of their plan to connect with mainstream mortal America, when one of their own is unjustly accused of murdering a human, the Fiscards hire one of New York's hottest young attorneys — a young woman by the name Aurora Lake — to stand by them in Vampire Court.

But not every vampire wants to be assimilated, and not everybody approves of the obvious attraction between Aurora Lake and the vampire Sebastian Fiscard.

As they struggle with their own feelings and with unseen, ancient forces trying to put a stop to their work — and to Aurora — will Aurora and Sebastian overcome The Resistance? And what about their resistance to what their own hearts, mortal and immortal, know to be true?

**BEST THING by Liz B.**

This book really surprised me! From the beginning, I liked the mixture of real world/vampire world that was created. Aurora is a lawyer, which helps her strong female lead status and makes her character very relatable because she is practical and thinks through a number of different options in every scenario. Plus, she's just plain smart! My favorite thing was the way the relationship part of the story developed. Sebastian and Aurora don't do the "love-at-first-sight" thing that happens in too many supernatural romances.

Instead, each truly grapples with their feelings for the other and they spend months and months getting to know each other before the L-word ever comes up. I always appreciate this in any book, because, besides being more believable, it also lends itself to a robust plot. **And The Vampire Code DEFINITELY had plot in spades!** Just when you think you get the gist of what kind of book it's going to be, it switches and throws you a curveball. The plot has you on your toes so much that you'll think you're trying out for a ballet company!

### **WORST THING by Deidre D.**

Right from the start I'd have to say that cover did absolutely nothing for me or the story. Had I not been approached by E.C. Adams then I probably wouldn't have read this book because the first thing that grabs my attention is the cover. If the cover gets my attention then I read the synopsis. If the synopsis is good then I look at the average rating and decide if it's worth it. **I feel like the storyline for this book was too mysterious, action-packed and original to have such a boring cover.** I wish the cover could have been just as mysterious as the vampire race talked about in the book. One where you can't really tell what's going to happen or what it's about--not so literal. Obviously this was the worst thing for me. I kept thinking, "Gosh I wish I could change the cover!" Lol.

However, there was one more thing that irritated me...the ending. I thought the pace and scenes were good throughout the book until the last couple of chapters leading up to the epilogue. Things flowed well, then all of a sudden it was like rushing to the finish line. How fast can we finish this book? The actual last chapter ended in a weird way and then it randomly jumped into the epilogue where we'd fast-forwarded in time two years! It felt like the first chapter of book two, not an epilogue for book one. So, instead of ending it earlier when it would have made more sense, the reader is left with an odd cliffhanger.

### **OVERALL**

Both of the Wranglers really enjoyed reading this book! Though the ending was a little wonky, the book builds to a conclusion that both surprises and delights. We can't wait to sink our fangs into the next book in the Fiscard series and look forward to learning more about the wonderful characters E.C. Adams has created!

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### **Didi says**

You know that feeling when you're excited about something, waiting for it, anticipating how good it will be? Yes. You know that feeling.

I had that feeling. I was excited, impatient, gleeful even, about this book. But I then had another feeling. You know this feeling too. Disappointment, loss, grief, annoyance. A feeling of being let down.

That was my experience with The Vampire Code. A promise that was never realized.

Okay. Enough with the dramatics, hehe!

Seriously. I was very, very disappointed with this book. First off, let me speak of the positive. The premise was good, intriguing even. A society, possibly in our near future where vampires have come forward and proclaimed they do truly exist. And want their rights dammit! They are integrating into mainstream and face issues and problems many minorities before them have faced.

That was interesting.

The vampire legal system was also interesting. Almost like watching a game where the audience gets to speak their mind.

But aside from that there were so many discrepancies that I found myself constantly questioning things and eventually it got in the way of liking this story. Well, if I'm being honest, the story itself was also kind of boring--sorry.

So what kind of discrepancies? well, little things. For example, vampires are issued a different colored license and therefore when caught speeding are let off the hook. HUH? so a society like ours that is having major problems with vampire integration lets the vamps speed through traffic? really? doesn't make sense. And the reason is that vamps have heightened senses and therefore can maneuver without penalty. Sure.

I had other problems with pacing. Aurora for example falls for Sebastian. Okay, I can see why. Then all of a sudden towards the end he shares things with her that through me for a loop. A heads up would have been nice. I never saw that coming aside from what was written on the book jacket.

Little things like that happening too fast and with next to no build up. I can't say more or I'll end up giving the book away but I felt surprised most of the time and feeling like things were moving unbelievably fast--or at least seemed that way because there was no "building." Decisions that would take someone time to ponder were made almost instantaneously.

Anyways, this wasn't bad per se, but I felt very deflated by the end. I won't be continuing this series. But others have liked it so if you're on the fence, read it for yourself and decide, that's the beauty of reading and finding what you like.

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## **Tribala says**

The Vampire Code is not at all what I expected. The synopsis is somewhat misleading. I was ready for a story about court legal intrigue in the world of vampires and found a pleasantly surprising, easy reading, simple love story which I completely enjoyed!!!

Aurora is a lawyer but enjoys a simple lifestyle. Sebastian is a vampire who believes in the rights of vampires as they integrate into human society under the Vampire Code. As the story unfolds, Aurora and Sebastian continuously get thrown together as they face complications of her decision to defend a vampire, who was accused of killing a human. Various factions want her dead and Sebastian is forced to play the role of defender and savior. When Aurora is faced with a life changing decision, Sebastian finds he can no longer hide his love for her.

The tale is quite interesting, clearly written and somewhat innocent in the telling. Which make this story a good easy summer read. Being in first person, the sexual tension between the 2 characters is not as clearly defined but its there. It was a little far fetched in why suddenly Aurora had a life altering decision to make. I felt it didn't fit well into the world already established seemingly coming out of no where, but after continuing to read, I was able to get past that. The solution to the problem was revealed better and flowed with the world the author created. IMO there could have been more intensity and intrigue in the

conflict/climax sections with a little more cliffhanger resolution, as I am curious as to what will happen next, but not "dying" to read the next book.

I give this story 4 stars I did enjoy the book overall. It gave me a pleasant happy feeling at the end!!!

\*Note: Book provided by the Author through PNR NaUBA group Author/Reader Exchange in exchange for an honest review. \*

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### **Sherry Stanfield says**

I was entrusted with an ARC of the Vampire Code. Looking forward to a new and fresh approach to vampire fiction, it did not disappoint. A vampire accused of murdering a human is put to trial in vampire court - Genius! His defense, a human lawyer - Brilliant! And a love story to boot!

Brought together in the most unusual of circumstances, Sebastian and Aurora survive the Resistance only to fall into each other's arms ... And that is only the beginning. The twists and turns that follow are unexpected and magical - a great beginning to a unique vampire trilogy. No sparkly vampires in this series! Ready for the rest E.C., don't keep me waiting...

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### **witchypoo says**

Can I just say, I loved this book. It was given to me for free by the author to take part in a month long book discussion, but I read it in less than 2 days. I expected it to be a paranormal romance worked into a legal thriller, but although there were legal aspects to it, it was more of a general thriller/paranormal romance and it was good! Moved at a great pace with amazing, believable characters. The heroine was strong & didn't always need her man to come to her rescue, though he does a couple of times. The alternate scientific ingenuity towards the end was well explained & seemed plausible. All in all, a very well written novel that didn't even have the annoying typos that other indie novels I've read lately have had. Nice job, E.C.!

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### **Heather book whore & shifter slut extraordinaire says**

This book was given to me by the author as an R2R. I rate this book as at least 5 stars because it blew me away!

This starts out as legal mystery/thriller about the responsibilities of a vampire in regards to the behavior of his "children". The outcome of this trial is extremely important to the vampire world due to their continued hopes for future integration into all aspects of the world they share with humans. Just when you think this is going to be a legal thriller of a "whodunit" and who really is the bad guy the plot twists. And just when you recover from that zig you zag all the way around another corner, turning left when you were sure the plot was on a straight path down this book road. Finally, up ahead an answer lies at the end of this road and so, satisfied readers, we assume to continue down this interesting path for the rest of this exhilarating book.

But NO because here comes a magical curveball from a world filled with not just vampires but all kinds of beings we assumed were just "bumps in the night"!

We meet family - both human and other - and marvel at all the annoying complications and heartfelt salvations they bring.

This book has all the moments and elements that we readers love about romance, paranormal and mysteries and this author is able to combine these elements in a way that works! People have tried to write this book for years and wonderfully for us, E. C. Adams has accomplished this.

The set up for the next book (or books) is PERFECT as there are so many interesting, dramatic, terrifying and downright confusing elements in this book you could literally go almost anywhere with this.

In my opinion, this book was hilarious, exhilarating, annoyingly complex. It could be heartwrenchingly emotional one moment and secretive the next but it was so well written that all of this just made you want more.

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