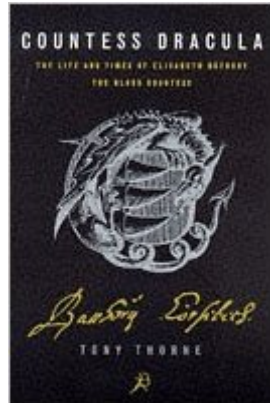


The book was found

Countess Dracula: Life And Times Of Elisabeth Bathory, The Blood Countess



Synopsis

This is the story of Elisabeth Bathory, a 17th-century Transylvanian countess. She was tried as a vampire and became an inspiration for depraved murderers up to the present day. Based on research conducted at archives in Eastern Europe, this account includes both the recorded truth and the legend that has grown up around her. Tony Thorne is the author of the "Bloomsbury Dictionary of Slang".

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Bloomsbury Publishing PLC (February 19, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0747536414

ISBN-13: 978-0747536413

Product Dimensions: 7.7 x 5 x 0.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #689,671 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #47 in [Books > History > Europe > Romania](#) #1079 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Leaders & Notable People > Royalty](#) #2753 in [Books > History > World > Women in History](#)

Customer Reviews

I'm always grateful to find a book handling E. Bathory's story in a sensible manner, since you find plenty of trashy things written about her. To me, the book *Countess Dracula* seems carefully researched, it's also good that the Countess' story gets related with the turbulent history of her country in her times. Also, the book shows that Bathory's story can be read in different ways (concerning her motives for murder, e.g.). And her character is very difficult to access. Another book I definitely recommend about her is "Heroine des Grauens", edited by M. Farin. It has just been re-edited, unfortunately I've not heard of an English version of it (it's written in German).

Exhaustively researched, fascinatingly detailed history of one of the most reviled characters in history, Countess Elisabeth Bathory (1560-1614). Bathory was a Hungarian Countess accused of the torture and murder of as many as 650 maids during the first decade of the 17th century. She was placed under house arrest in 1610 and died after four years of solitary confinement. She was the wealthiest woman of her time, richer than the King of Hungary even, who owed her a substantial

debt through her late husband, Ferencz Nadasdy. Thorne chronicles her life and times through letters, trial documents, and the motives of those closest to the case, including her sons-in-law and Palatine (Prime Minister) Thurzo. The little-known fact that Thurzo's wife Elizabeth, a cousin to Bathory, finds herself accused of similar crimes after Thurzo's death in 1616 by the new Palatine casts doubt on Bathory's own guilt. The same Elizabeth Czobor Thurzo was allowed to pilfer Bathory's jewelry while Bathory was under arrest half a dozen years earlier. Thorne takes the account of the four servants accused of being Bathory's accomplices and subjects their testimony to twentieth-century legal scrutiny. All four servants were tortured (twice) and executed while the Countess was never formally charged. The only minor complaint I have is that Thorne seems a tad too incredulous about the scope of Bathory's sadism. I wish he had included other examples of female serial killers (Russian Countess Darya Saltykova, South American La Quintralla, American Delphine LaLaurie, etc.) in history to give the prosecution side a little more credence.

Who was Elizabeth Bathory? Was she a witch or an exceedingly vain woman who bathed in the blood of others? Was she a vulnerable widow or a haughty Countess meddling in men's affairs? Could she have been a little bit of each? This well researched book provides details regarding Elizabeth, her family, and her country. The author combs through fact and fiction with an eye towards remaining at all times unbiased. Conclusions drawn are explained by historical and political implications in a straightforward manner. Rich widows were persecuted universally for lands and wealth. Countess Bathory had an abundance of both. But was she solely targeted for financial gain? What do we really know about Elizabeth? This scholarly story gives insight into all the pieces of Elizabeth Bathory: young bride, protective mother, lonely spouse, arrogant Countess, etc. Just as important are the mini educational lessons regarding Hungary: the nobility, local customs, religious practices, and ongoing warfare with Turkey. The book can read a bit like an Encyclopedia at times, but the information is always relevant and interesting. A must have for anyone seeking the truth about Elizabeth Bathory.

This book is a fairly well written and extremely well researched account of Elisabeth Bathory's life and times. Thorne discusses the Bathory myths and legends, then delves deep into the archives of eastern Europe to find and translate firsthand accounts, letters, and reports from the trials. Thorne presents all the possibilities: was Bathory a sadistic murderess as accused? Or was she simply a woman with a lot of power and money and some big political enemies who wanted her out of the way? Thorne doesn't draw any definite conclusions, but he looks at evidence from all sides. He also

presents research onto the lifestyle of Hungarian aristocrats in Bathory's day, giving us a window into what her life may have been like and providing some reasons and explanations for her "crimes". This is definitely more of a scholarly account than a mass-market page turner--the book is extensively end-noted and includes a substantial bibliography, and the language is much more scholarly than not. Still, though, if you're interested in the subject matter, this is a pretty darn definitive survey.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Countess Dracula: Life and Times of Elisabeth Bathory, the Blood Countess Blood Type Diet: An Essential Guide For Eating Based On Your Blood Type (blood type, blood type diet, blood type a, blood type o, blood type ab, blood type b, blood type diet success,) Vlad III Dracula: The Life and Times of the Historical Dracula Como Se Llama Este Libro / What is the Name of this Book?: El Enigma de Dracula y Otros Pasatiempos Logicos / The Riddle of Dracula and other Logical Puzzles (Teorema / Theorem) (Spanish Edition) High Blood Pressure Cure: How To Lower Blood Pressure Naturally in 30 Days (Alternative Medicine, Natural Cures, Natural Remedies, High Blood Pressure ... Cures for High Blood Pressure, High BI) The New York Times Monday Through Friday Easy to Tough Crossword Puzzles: 50 Puzzles from the Pages of The New York Times (New York Times Crossword Puzzles) The New York Times Acrostic Puzzles Volume 9: 50 Challenging Acrostics from the Pages of The New York Times (New York Times Acrostic Crosswords) Meals by Blood Type: Getting Your Life Back on Track With 35 Recipes That Fit Your Blood Type (Blood Type Diet & Low Cholesterol) From the Shadow of Dracula: A Life of Bram Stoker Blood Pressure Box set: Blood Pressure Solution - How To Lower Your Blood Pressure & Cholesterol Without Medication, Just By Using Natural Remedies and Diet! All Blood Counts: A Manual for Blood Conservation and Patient Blood Management Blood Pressure Solutions: Blood Pressure: 28 Super-foods that will naturally lower your blood pressure (super foods, Dash diet, low salt, healthy eating) Eat Right For Your Blood Type: A Guide to Healthy Blood Type Diet, Understand What to Eat According to Your Blood Type Mediterranean Diet: Mediterranean Diet For Diabetes-A Beginners Guide On Weight Loss While Lowering Your Blood Sugar To Reverse Type 2 Diabetes (Mediterranean ... blood sugar diet, the blood sugar solution,) Lower Your Blood Sugar For Diabetes: An Essential Treatment Guide For Diabetes (Beginners Guide to Reverse Type 2 Diabetes, insulin Resistance, Inflammation) ... blood sugar diet, the blood sugar solution,) Courting the Countess The Countess: Demanding Husband (An Erotica Victorian Series BDSM, Spanking Book 1) Countess by Coincidence (House of Haverstock, Book 3) What Is the Name of This Book?: The Riddle of Dracula and Other Logical Puzzles (Dover Recreational Math) Hollywood Gothic: The Tangled Web of Dracula from Novel to

Stage to Screen

[Dmca](#)