

The vampire are cruel and violent, represent the eternal life which man dreams/ longs to reach but also the eternal damnation.

Interview with the Vampire (1976)

Anne Rice (1941 -) - A. Rice spent most of her early life in New Orleans, Louisiana, married to poet and painter Stan Rice, who died in 2002.

In 1998, after an experiment in Mormonism and spending most of her life as an atheist, Rice reaffirmed her Catholic faith. After her husband's and son's death, she left New Orleans before the disaster of Hurricane Katrina in August 2005, but she remained a supporter for the help of the city. She is considered one of the utmost authors of Gothic and religious-themed books.

Works - Anne Rice wrote a series of books about vampires, the best known among them is *Interview with the Vampire* (1976) . Some among the others are: *The Vampire Lestat* (1985) *The Queen of the Damned* (2002), and *Blackwood Farm* (1988). *The mummy or Ramses the Damned* (1989) a novel set in the early twentieth century, which follows the conflict between a British archeologist's family and a resurrected mummy. *The Witching Hour* (1990) is the first of the *Mayfair Witches* followed by *Lasher* (1993) and *Taltos* (1994). *Christ the Lord: Out of Egypt* (2005), first book of a trilogy about the life of Jesus Christ that A. Rice wrote after joining up with the Catholic Church in 1998. The others are *Christ the Lord: The Road to Cana* (2008) and *Called Out of Darkness: A Spiritual Confession* (2008)

Interview with the Vampire (1976)

Plot - In present time, in San Francisco, the vampire Louis de Pointe du Lac tells his story to a journalist. In 1791 Louis is the owner of the Pointe du Lac plantation, south of New Orleans. His wife dies while she was giving birth to their son and Louis is desperate. He is approached by the vampire Lestat who offers him to become a vampire; Louis accepts.

The novel was made into a movie, *Interview with the Vampire* (1994), directed by Neil Jordan.

The following extract is taken from the screenplay adapted by Anne Rice, and is the moment when Louis is turned into a vampire.

Louis lies on his bed

Louis: Who are You? What are you doing in my house?

Lestat: I have come to answer your prayers. Life has no meaning anymore....does it? The wine has no taste. The food **sickens** you. There seems no reason for any of it... .does there? What if I could give it back to you? **Pluck off** the pain and give you another life? One you could never imagine. And it would be ...for all time. And sickness.... and death... could never touch you again. Don't be afraid! I'm going to give you the choice I never had.

That morning I was not yet a vampire and I saw my last sunrise. I remember it completely and yet I can't recall any sunrise before it. I watched the whole magnificence of the down for the last time as if it were the first. And then I said farewell to sun-light and **set out** to became what I became.

Lestat: "Have you said your good-byes to the light?"

He bites Louis and leaves him on the ground.

Lestat: I've **drained** you to the point of death. If I leave you here you'll die. Or you can be young always, my friend... as we are now. But you must tell me... will you come ...or no?

Louis: Yes. Yes.

Lestat bites his wrist and offers his blood lo Louis. Louis drinks.

Lestat: Your body is dying. Pay no attention!. It happens to us all.

Louis turns into a vampire.

Lestat: ... and now look with your vampire eyes!"

Notes

sickens: disgusts

Pluck off: stop

set out: starts, be ready

drained: sapped, drank completely, exhausted

