



Blackwood Farm

Written by Anne Rice

Published by sanmarco-sf

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Blackwood Farm

By Anne Rice

Blackwood Farm Park

Lestat is back, saviour and demon, presiding over a gothic story of family greed and hatred through generations, a terrifying drama of blood lust and betrayal, possession and matricide. Blackwood Farm with its grand Southern mansion, set among dark cypress swamps in Louisiana, harbours terrible blood-stained secrets and family ghosts. Heir to them all is Quinn Blackwood, young, rash and beautiful, himself a 'bloodhunter' whom Lestat takes under his wing. But Quinn is in thrall not only to the past and his own appetites but, even more dangerously, to a companion spirit, a 'goblin' succubus who could destroy him and others. Only the unearthly power of Lestat combined with the earthly powers of the Mayfair clan could hope to save Quinn from himself and his ghosts, or to rescue the doomed girl Quinn loves from her own mortality. Shocking, savage and richly erotic, this novel with the deceptively gentle title bring us Anne Rice at her most powerfully disturbing. Here are vampires and witches, men and women, demons and a doppelganger, caught up in a maelstrom of death and destruction, blood and fire, cruelty and fate.

This was the last straw in my decade long relationship with Anne Rice. We had some good times but mutually decided to end our relationship. I loved her three witch books but the vampire stuff had been going downhill since Body Thief.

I hate this book. After years of okay to disappointing novels, this one was all I could stand. I didn't care about Quin and I hated that Rice felt the need to shoehorn Mona Mayfair into the vampire mythos. I found this book so uninteresting I actually stopped halfway This was the last straw in my decade long relationship with Anne Rice. We had some good times but mutually decided to end our relationship. I loved her three witch books but the vampire stuff had been going downhill since Body Thief.

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...more

Blackwood Farm Ky

This 3-star score I'm giving to Blackwood Farm is by far the hardest rating I've ever given, and I feel I should explain all my thoughts. Warning: this will be long!

This is a 9th book in a series, so the review is mainly targeted at people at least somewhat familiar with the Vampire Chronicles. Still, I'm keeping it spoiler-free.

While reading this book, my opinion was constantly jumping between 1 and 5 stars. In spite of all its flaws, Blackwood Farm is a much better book than many books out there. This 3-star score I'm giving to Blackwood Farm is by far the hardest rating I've ever given, and I feel I should explain all my thoughts. Warning: this will be long!

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While reading this book, my opinion was constantly jumping between 1 and 5 stars. In spite of all its flaws, Blackwood Farm is a much better book than many books out there, and at the same time, it's so much worse.

First, a quick background – I started the Vampire Chronicles quite late, when the first 11 books were already out and waiting for me to binge read them. And I nearly did! From page one, I fell into a deep hole of obsession. Seeing the world through the eyes of Rice's vampires is pure magic – everything is new, enticing, beautiful, alluring!

I flew through the first eight books at neck-breaking speed. While a few things did piss me off (e.g. David's creepiness in Merrick, the portrayal of Eastern Europe in Interview with the Vampire, etc), I mostly loved every bit of it. And then, I got to Blackwood Farm. I started reading, abandoned the book for a few months, started again, and abandoned again. At the third go, I finally fully got into it and managed to find much of the beauty I've seen in the earlier books.

Let's start with the plot. A young vampire, Tarquin "Quinn" Blackwood, has a problem. He's had a ghost companion, Goblin, even since his birth. Unfortunately, now that Quinn is a vampire, Goblin has become violent and dangerous, and Quinn decides to seek Lestat's help in destroying him. And, because this is Anne Rice, this "seeking help" involves Quinn retelling the entire history of his family, up to his great great ancestors, in maddening detail. And the history of his servants' families. And his tutors' families. And the families of random people he meets on the street. And, because this is Anne Rice, it still somehow works.

Blackwood Farm

The good:

- So atmospheric! Just like all other books in the series, it makes me want to visit New Orleans!
- Things really start to pick up after Rebecca's ghost appears. I haven't read many ghost stories and wasn't sure if it's my thing, but now I'm ready for more!
- Petronia and her companions. I wish we had seen more of them. I'm always fascinated by ancient immortals who've lived through different times.
- Revealing Manfred's and the family's epic past bit by bit. It had this air of nostalgia and sorrow hanging all over it. Beautiful writing.

The bad:

- I think it was a mistake to make this book a part of the Vampire Chronicles. Lestat is a framing device, just standing there, listening, and inexplicably fawning over Quinn. He isn't acting like himself or contributing anything, and it feels like he's there only to lure in old readers. Don't get me wrong, I love my golden-haired brat prince, but I really think this book would have fared better without him. Any connection with the rest of the Vampire Chronicles is so negligible, and the novel could easily stand on its own.
- Everybody loves Quinn for reasons I don't entirely understand. The few who refuse to fall in love with him are presented as horrible people. That's one of the defining traits of a Gary Stu, isn't it? Which brings me to...
- The treatment of Patsy. She suffers a terrible tragedy when she is young, yet no one has any sympathy for her mostly because she seems to be the only person in the world not completely fawning over Quinn. She's presented as a terrible being for wanting to use family money to invest in her music career. At the same time, Quinn uses obscene amounts of family money on excessive trips or rebuilding an island in the middle of a swamp, and no one criticizes him. And no one calls him out on what he does to Patsy at the end.
- Oh, and one of the main reasons everyone hates Patsy is because she chooses to pursue a career in music in the first place instead of staying home and being a proper debutante. Debutante, really? Is that still a thing? And that is why people dislike her??
- The Rebecca storyline led nowhere. She kept asking for a death for her death, and both people who wronged her are still alive / undead. They would have been perfect targets for her revenge, then at the end she doesn't get it and doesn't even try. Or is she satisfied with the innocent blood spilled (trying to avoid spoilers here)?

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- The Goblin reveal wasn't really a surprise.

- Most of the other newly made vamps are presented as trash that Lestat has no trouble destroying by the thousands. Suddenly, Quinn comes along and for some reason gets special treatment. Fine, he deserves the benefit of the doubt, but it's hard for me to believe no one else does. Also, it takes Lestat centuries and Akasha's blood to gain control over all the advanced abilities – the Fire Gift, the Cloud Gift, etc, and suddenly brand new Quinn possesses everything just because his Maker was ancient. It felt like a cheap shortcut.

- Quinn sees 15-year-old Mona for the first time and runs to her to propose marriage. Overall, their romance was more creepy than sweet.

- Quinn went on and on about how he's never going to turn Mona and bring her into his darkness. He even makes the promise to Julien's ghost. And then... yeah.

- There's this weird idea of aristocracy and of people coming from "good" families being inherently "better." Terry Sue has many children, and the one fathered by a rich guy is magically interested in art, while none of his brothers and sisters are, even though they've been raised the same way. Then Quinn treats Terry Sue in a very patronizing way, choosing a house for her and hiring servants to supervise her, without asking her if she wants any of those things.

- What Merrick does at the end (I'm trying to avoid spoilers, but if you've read the book, you know what I'm talking about). It went against everything she fought for in Merrick, and, while it's completely possible that her mind changed, not that much time has passed, so it would have been good to see her motivation. Or is this explained somewhere in Lives of the Mayfair Witches? I haven't read it yet.

- Okay, I understand style is important to Aunt Queen and I respect that, but, but, BUT! A woman in her 80s doing a Europe tour in stilettos? And then complaining she's not in perfect health anymore?! No matter how used one might be to stilettos, the feet will start hurting after walking for a sufficient amount of time, and traveling and going to museums is a very walking-intense activity!

- CAMEOS! Fine, I can accept that there is a person in the world completely obsessed with cameos. I can even accept there are ten such people. But having all of them in the same room at the same time for unrelated reasons? How likely is it that everyone in this book will end up independently cameo-obsessed? I thought at least the cameo storyline would lead to something big, but it went nowhere.

Final verdict: I think it's Quinn that broke it for me. I don't mind flawed protagonists at all (my own book has one!) But if a protagonist is flawed, they should be aware of it or they should be called out on it. Here, Quinn is a spoiled brat, and the text presents him as the most intelligent, interesting, amazing creature deserving of all the love. Take a look at previous narrators in the series – Louis,

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Lestat, Armand, Marius, David. All of them are far far away from being perfect people, but they are aware of their flaws and their friends never shy away from criticizing them. And it works really well!

I know this book made some readers break up with the Vampire Chronicles for good, but thatâ€™s not the case with me. While not perfect, Blackwood Farm has some of the beautiful, atmospheric writing of previous books in the series. Iâ€™ll read the following books. Iâ€™m even excited about them! But I first need a long break and read something else. My binge-read ends here. ...more

Better than some of the others.

Quinn Blackwood is a newly made fledgling vampire. He is trying to learn the ropes and rules of the covens. But he also has a terrible demon on his back... literally! He seeks out the Vampire Lestat for help to rid himself of this otherworldly presence that has been with him since childhood and has now become more powerful and menacing. Lestat calls in the help of a powerful witch in vampire named Merrick. Can their combined powers help Quinn to finally be free?

Vamp Better than some of the others.

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Vampires and witches combine in this tale. Very well written (as usual). The tale of The Vampire Quinn Blackwood is both captivating and horrifying.

I enjoyed this book very much but as with a few of her previous books the majority of the book is Quinn telling Lestat his story from beginning to end. I think it was literally the last three chapters that were the ending to the story at hand instead of backstory material. As with all of her books the backstory is extremely detailed and full of information that you can either take or leave. The roller coaster ups and downs are masterfully written but that is normal for an Anne Rice book. This is definitely a come back from her last couple of books in the chronicles series however, which was a nice relief for me.

I would definitely recommend this book to anyone who likes vampires, paranormal, witches, dark fantasy, or someone who is simply finishing the chronicle series. This is one of the better ones for sure. ...more

Blackwood Farm Houston

This book...(sigh)...I have to say broke Anne Rice's spell over me. Before this book I found all of her normal plot devices (strange bedfellows, supernatural creatures, really long flashbacks, narcissism) beguiling and entertaining. But usually she chooses one or two of these things and shapes a really awesome story around it. In Blackwood Farm she just decided to take everything she had EVER written about, mix it up together, and then multiply it by 1000. I mean, really?! Vampires, witches, AND This book...(sigh)...I have to say broke Anne Rice's spell over me. Before this book I found all of her normal plot devices (strange bedfellows, supernatural creatures, really long flashbacks, narcissism) beguiling and entertaining. But usually she chooses one or two of these things and shapes a really awesome story around it. In Blackwood Farm she just decided to take everything she had EVER written about, mix it up together, and then multiply it by 1000. I mean, really?! Vampires, witches, AND ghosts? And they are all sleeping together? Oh, I turned the pages quickly enough. But when I finished, I looked at the book (and myself) in disgust and asked one question: Did I really just read that? This book made me feel used. ...more

Quinn can see ghosts and has been haunted his whole life by a particular tenacious spirit. Now he has become a vampire, that spirit has turned violent and he turns to Lestat for guidance, after telling Lestat his life history. At length and in great great detail.

This book is labelled as a Vampire Chronicles novel. It has also been faintly labelled as a Mayfair Witches novel. I've heard it discussed as something of a cross over novel. Personally I'd call it a Mayfair Witches novel into which Lestat and Merrick have been crowbarred in with extreme force and zero elegance. If I were being less kind (yes, that was kind) I'd say it was a vast waffle of not very much with little hints of both series randomly thrown in but really not much about anything

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Because like every single book in both series this book is rammed with a truly ridiculous amount of minutiae that is grossly unnecessary for anything resembling a plot. New vampire Quinn seeks to tell his story to Lestat. In that telling he covers his genealogy back 5 generations. No, really. He covers the genealogy of his servants back the same length of time as well. He even tells the genealogy of the vampires who made him who, almost immediately, decided to tell Quinn the same thing in ridiculous detail. He tells every last tiny detail about his life, so much of which is utterly irrelevant " Pops (his grandfather) having an illegitimate son? Meaningless. The bed and breakfast and the soprano he cries

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over that we were told about three separate times (ye gods why?) irrelevant. The fact he constantly shares a bed with elderly Black servants (ye gods why?) irrelevant. Every sexual encounter he's ever had (why would you tell a stranger this? Why?) His first teacher and how very good she was? Really really really irrelevant. Why is this all here?

Why is this story which should have been about the ghosts that were plaguing Quinn and, perhaps, the vampires that made him and maybe the people who can see Goblin (and Rebecca – though, again, Rebecca ghost was another storyline that did nothing, went absolutely nowhere and was resolved in pointless seconds) so clogged with this much completely and utterly random backstory? Why would Quinn tell Lestat so many utterly personal secrets about himself?

And can everyone stop falling in love! I'm not even talking about Quinn seeing Mona across a restaurant and moseying over to declare that he intends to marry her (but, really? He sees a 15 year old girl across the room and wanders over to make marriage plans? What the hell? Why? Who? Where's the damn restraining order?!) But Lestat, after hearing Quinn's horrendous monologue declares how much he is in love with Quinn. Of course. After meeting Merrick for 5 seconds Quinn decides he loves her. Merrick probably loves him, I forget because everyone loves everyone else. Quinn loves Arion, random Greek vampire who is just kind of there because why not. They use the word "love" so often it no longer has any real meaning. I know it's a running joke with this series but it's actually a problem because all of this overwrought, appallingly purple, melodramatic declarations of emotion are meaningless. All his excessive adoration of Aunt Queen and Mona means nothing because he'd use exactly the same language to describe someone he happened to be passing in the street. All of the emotional connections in this book – in this series – fall apart because they mean nothing, there is nothing special about them. True love is described in the same terms as casual acquaintance.

The characterisation is also just awful. I grudgingly accepted the ridiculously flowery, anachronistic and pure dubious language that the vampires were using as some kind of nod to their age. I even accepted it with David though there was no damn excuse. Quinn is 22. 22. Why is he calling Merrick "precious darling?" (even if she wasn't a complete stranger?). Why is his voice exactly the same as vampires who are centuries older than him? And that voice itself is terrible, archaic and ludicrous?

And not just his voice – he kneels and kisses his great-aunt's foot. I! I! why? He insists that some of his elderly Black servants sleep with him (not sex, just sleep). His behaviour, his choices over and over make no sense at all. And he seems to live in a weird time warp – this book was written in the 21st century, it reads like it would be old in the 80s!

It's not just Quinn – no-one behaves in a way that makes even the remotest sense for a person. The one who stands out most for me is Patsy – the worst woman in the world. Seriously, she's so utterly awful that it defies any description. She loathes her son on a level that would make comic book villains gasp in shock. She is slut shamed mercilessly, seriously every character may as well have just screamed "HUSSSY!" and pointed at her every time she appeared (bonus anti-choice moments

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with her not being able to have any children because sheâ€™d got rid of so many her womb was weak•). It also has an added bonus of some kind of weird class shaming her for asking for money for her music career (and they even admit sheâ€™s talented! So itâ€™s not like sheâ€™s chasing some unimaginable dream. But her music is pop and country, not classical so sheâ€™s so beneath them) And this shaming happens while the whole family is so damn rich that Aunt Queen takes a stretch limo to the shops and collects jewelled cameos! wait..

! Interrupting for a rant about the thrice damned CAMEOS. Oh dear gods I donâ€™t believe anyone in the world, anywhere even remotely cares this much about cameos. There back to where I as!

Read More ...more

Blackwood Farm Texas

Anne Rice is as brilliant and clever as ever, proving why she is the reigning Queen of vampire novels. As an avid lover of all things vampire, I am extremely critical of stories of them. Blackwood Farm is a wonderful addition to the Vampire Chronicles, which I felt suffered with Memnock the Devil. The story flows along with a dialogue that is both picturesque and poignant in its telling, reminiscent of Interview with The Vampire. Quinn's villainous maker is highly impressive as a character, managing to be creepily seductive and dangerously abusive, at the same time. Our beloved Brat Prince, Lestat, is only present in spirit through most of the book, making appearances at the beginning and end, as the hero and hopeful-to-be mentor Quinn is wanting and seeking aid from.

Intelligent and sensitive, Anne Rice gives us a vampire that is strong in both mind and spirit with Quinn Blackwood. A completely refreshing change from all the Twilight wanna-be vampires out there. Thank you, Anne, for reminding us that vampires die in the sunlight, not sparkle. ...more

I did it wrong, all wrong!

This was the first Anne Rice book I read, not long after it came out. But part of the wonder that is Anne Rice, is that you can almost jump in on this series at any point and still be in for a rip-roaring and intense ride!

There were some things I didn't quite get until I read the rest, like some of the smaller details, especially regarding Lestat.

But after reading the rest of the series, I think this is one of the best. It's fresh and current and brings forth a whole new

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But after reading the rest of the series, I think this is one of the best. It's fresh and current and brings forth a whole new barrage of questions about the morals of 'immortality' etc etc.

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The Good Bits

Characterisation - Lestat and Quinn fight for centre stage, but you can't outshine Lestat. Ever.

Plot - Such a capturing weave of intrigue and horror and that intense passion this series is known for.

Setting - I think by now the 'historical' or 'ancient' vampire has been done to death (pun!!) and it's a relief to be put into a contemporary world.

The not-so Good Bits

There is little in the way of criticism I can give for this book.

I suppose, if you haven't read any of the series before, there is less excitement surrounding cameos from previous characters.

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I still love this book, even now. I've read many of the series over and over, and I will continue to do so!

5 by 5!

^^ ...more

## Blackwood Farm Nc

I just can't and I won't. This is full of every possible Anne Rice pathology to boot, to the extent when it feels like over-the-top fan fiction, including multiple instances of very questionable sexual/racial/class politics. It has the charm of a train crash, but it ultimately proved too much.

Refreshingly, a new story set almost entirely in the recent past, a new (well, slightly related) family with paranormal secrets to explore, and a new lovable vampire hero. Tarquin Blackwood seeks out Lestat to tell his story and ask for help in banishing his lifelong companion, the spirit Goblin. Tarquin's narrative meanders with Rice's usual rapt attention to the details of architecture, clothing, and decor, which stretches the book to more than six hundred pages. Truthfully, my hand hurt from holding the book, but that's because I really couldn't put it down. I was fascinated, and really pleased, particularly since I just read *Blood and Gold* and *Pandora* which were basically the same story for the third and fourth time, from a slightly different perspective with slightly more detail. I am excited to finish out this series by reading *Blood Canticle* next.

...more

## Blackwood Farm Audiobook

And the plunge downhill begins in earnest. Lestat is empty; the writing is horrible. Only a waning sense of loyalty to Ms. Rice kept me reading.

It's hard to put into words what I feel about this book. It was fun. It was interesting. It certainly wasn't a bad book, I'm just not really sure it was exactly good.

There was too much going on, for one thing. You've got a vengeful spirit, a poltergeist/doppelganger, the return of the Mayfair witches, and a fantastically wealthy Louisiana family, with all the dark family secrets and Anne Rice's constant daydreams about renovating houses and showering money on poorer relations. There are vampires. It's hard to put into words what I feel about this book. It was fun. It was interesting. It certainly wasn't a bad book, I'm just not really sure it was exactly good.

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And that's a shame, because there's a section towards the end of the book that deals entirely with the vampire characters, and it's really good. Excellent writing, with fascinating characters and beautifully described scenes. There's a section that takes place by candlelight in a grand impossible palace in the middle of a swamp. I got a nice chill from reading that, seeing the marble floors and Roman furniture and high ceilings, and total blackness just outside the room. The Maker vampire was a completely unexpected character with a backstory I enjoyed reading (I've got a new fascination with cameo jewelry now, thank you very much, Rice). But the whole vampire section maybe lasted sixty pages, and then it's back to Quinn and his wealth and his family and how EVERYBODY loves him, except the people who don't, and they're not likable so they don't count. I wish Rice had used a little more focus and maybe written this as three or four different books, rather than making this mess of a plot with one. ...more

## Blackwood Farmers Market

Tarquin Blackwood, young vampire and heir to the impossibly rich Blackwood estate in Louisiana, recounts his life story to the vampire Lestat. He has spent his life haunted by a spirit named Goblin - a spirit who looks remarkably like himself - and would now be rid of it.

This book is primarily told in flashback style, with the only current action at the beginning and end of the book. I felt that it detracted from the intensity of the novel. Telling a story in the past tense gives a different mood. Tarquin Blackwood, young vampire and heir to the impossibly rich Blackwood estate in Louisiana, recounts his life story to the vampire Lestat. He has spent his life haunted by a spirit named Goblin - a spirit who looks remarkably like himself - and would now be rid of it.

This book is primarily told in flashback style, with the only current action at the beginning and end of the book. I felt that it detracted from the intensity of the novel. Telling a story in the past tense gives a different mood to the novel and I would have preferred a current, what-is-happening-now type of story. I was also disappointed that Lestat did not play a bigger role in this book. Quinn, for me, was not that likable of a character. There was nothing wrong with him per se (well, he was a bit weird but it's Anne Rice and he's a vampire, so that goes without saying) but he did not strike me as someone I would want to hang out with. Too emotional, perhaps? Too impetuous? Too haunted and strange?

I have read Interview with the Vampire and The Vampire Lestat and I started The Witching Hour but did not finish it. I was happy about the mingling of the Mayfair witches with this story. I did not really care for the Goblin story. Goblin is creepy. Goblin is supposed to be creepy. I, however, found I liked the story better when Goblin was in the background or out of the picture.

Overall, this novel failed to "wow" me. It was an okay story with special guest appearances by our favorite vampire and our favorite witch family, but as for Quinn Blackwood - well, I just don't really care what happens to him after this. I am interested enough to try reading some of the other books in this vampire series. ...more

This book broke my heart. It is my least favorite of all the novels from the Vampire series. The character of Quinn was just too whiny and self indulgent for me to connect with and care for. And none of the other characters stepped up either. Even the presence of fictional character icon Lestat de Lioncourt couldn't save this story.

## Blackwood Farm Park Hillsborough Nc

Trying to squeeze the last possible drop of blood from what has been an extraordinary series of books, Anne Rice comes up with Blackwood Farm. Halfway through the book, I still can't bring myself to care for any of the characters. Big letdown in my not so humble opinion.

I don't know... a book is written marvelous, all the adventures, story of Quinn, action, not a single boring sentence...but I simply didn't like how Quinn's life turned on. And Lestat's... but I don't like Quinn with Mona and Lestat with Rowan (which will happen in last book). I will never accept these relationships. Besides... Lestat TWICE said HE LOVES QUINN. And Quinn like a puppy runs to that Mona. Who needs mortal family when you are a vampire? Just go, hunt, visit countries, have money, do I don't know... a book is written marvelous, all the adventures, story of Quinn, action, not a single boring sentence...but I simply didn't like how Quinn's life turned on. And Lestat's... but I don't like Quinn with Mona and Lestat with Rowan (which will happen in last book). I will never accept these relationships. Besides... Lestat TWICE said HE LOVES QUINN. And Quinn like a puppy runs to that Mona. Who needs mortal family when you are a vampire? Just go, hunt, visit countries, have money, do whatever you wish, but that silly boy sits with mortals. More pathetic than Louis.

Oh well. It is a book. It is supposed to make you feel something and get an opinion on it. I know because I'm a writer myself and I know I make same dramas, same revenges, same relationships that my readers gonna hate and love. But this is life, I know nobody would read a book where everybody would be happy and live forever same as every day. So in the story there must be different characters, different life stories, different things to make a book colorful and splendid. Well, if I read this book in A MONTH, it means it was good. Usually I read such thick books for half year because of so many pages. But this one I just "ate". It simply had the magic inside to call me home from work and make me read it. It had magic to make me live without food for hours because I simply couldn't put it down. Who needs food when you have more secrets to reveal? I think I need more of such books to help me lose more weight.

So in conclusion, I was amazed by this book. I think it was best of all I read from this serie. It had enough action and secrets not to feel bored. It was enough interesting for me. I think it is first time in my life that I sit now and look on this closed book and think: "God, why you had to end so fast? Why you couldn't last forever?". And I am always glad to finish a book and take a new, but this one.... It has magic inside that you cannot stop reading it. I really wouldn't mind if "Blackwood Farm" would be 700 pages more longer. I always get bored of books which have more than 400 pages, but not this one. No. I will miss it dearly... Oh well. I better should start "Blood Canticle". Maybe it will great too. ...more

## Blackwood Farm Versailles Ky

I loved this book. Once again i am completely hooked by Anne Rice. The history on armand and marius was great but i felt almost too much. i appreciate the history of the character's. I usually love this for a series. In this circumstance, i love the brisk and in depth story.

Blackwood Farm introduced Tarquin Blackwood, the prodigy son. Tarquin can see spirits and has a doppelganger himself. The story advances as Quinn life grows and grows. He feels the typical guilt of who do i love and why do i I loved this book. Once again i am completely hooked by Anne Rice. The history on armand and marius was great but i felt almost too much. i appreciate the history of the character's. I usually love this for a series. In this circumstance, i love the brisk and in depth story.

Blackwood Farm introduced Tarquin Blackwood, the prodigy son. Tarquin can see spirits and has a doppelganger himself. The story advances as Quinn life grows and grows. He feels the typical guilt of who do i love and why do i love them. Quinn becomes a generous and caring man.

The story interweaves Mrs. Rice's Vampire Chronicles and Mayfair Witches. Quinn meets Mona Mayfair and falls madly in love. I do find this, personally, very far fetched. He experienced a ghost sexual situation and lost his virginity. He had a same sex experience with his doppelganger later revealed to be his donor twin, his mirror twin. Tarquin still loves Mona Mayfair with all his crazy heart.

Quinn finds a hidden hermitage with a mosoleum. He finds the mysterious and lost place of a so callec decendant of Manfred Blackwood. Tarquin uncovers a mysterious vistor who resides on the island of sugar devil swamp home to the hermitage. The creature of the night proves hard to handle and in later strikes a deal that later falters. This leads to a major turn of events.

Anne Rice, please continue stories that weave like this. i highly recommend reading the chronicles. At least pick this novel up and be mesmerized. ...more

I liked the language but the story seemed slow to me. Pages and pages of nothing going on. I still feel like the places and people really exist somewhere, so that's a testament to the descriptive, detailed quality to Anne Rice's writing. Overall, I came away thinking that the entire book was just sort of boring. And the big reveal at the end was a bit lame. Or maybe it wasn't telegraphed as much as it seemed to be and the reason I saw through it so easily was because a very similar theme was exp I liked the language but the story seemed slow to me. Pages and pages of nothing going on. I still feel like the places and people really exist somewhere, so that's a testament to the descriptive, detailed quality to Anne Rice's writing. Overall, I came away thinking that the entire book was just sort of boring. And the big reveal at the end was a bit lame. Or maybe it wasn't telegraphed as much as it seemed to be and the reason I saw through it so easily was because a very similar theme was explored in a more entertaining manner by one of my favorite authors way back in 1989.

## Blackwood Farm

And of course you have the standard freaky Anne Rice sex scenes that seem almost intentionally designed to make you uncomfortable, but that's almost a given at this point. All in all, it wasn't bad enough to make me stop reading, but if it had been written by a less capable author, I probably would have. It was definitely a case of the journey and not the destination. ...more