



# Carmilla

Written by Kim Turrisi

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# Carmilla

By Kim Turrisi

## Carmilla Movie

An adaptation of Shaftesbury's award-winning, groundbreaking queer vampire web series of the same name, *Carmilla* mixes the camp of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, the snark of *Veronica Mars*, and the mysterious atmosphere of *Welcome to Nightvale*. Newly escaped from the stifling boredom of a small town, college freshman Laura is ready to make the most of her first year at Silas University. But when her roommate, Betty, vanishes and a sarcastic, nocturnal philosophy student named Carmilla moves into Betty's side of the room, Laura decides to play detective. Turns out Betty isn't the first girl to go missing? she's just the first girl not to come back. All over campus, girls have been vanishing, and they are completely changed when (or if) they return. Even more disturbing are the strange dreams they recount: smothering darkness, and a strange pale figure haunting their rooms. Dreams that Laura is starting to have herself. As Laura closes in on the answers, tensions rise with Carmilla. Is this just a roommate relationship that isn't working out, or does Carmilla know more than she's letting on about the disappearances? What will Laura do if it turns out her roommate isn't just selfish and insensitive, but completely inhuman? And what will she do with the feelings she's starting to have for Carmilla? Produced by Shaftesbury, and available on the YouTube channel KindaTV, *Carmilla* is a global sensation. A scripted transmedia series that puts a modern spin on the cult-classic gothic vampire novella by Joseph Sheridan LeFanu, *Carmilla* has generated over 71 million views and 245 million minutes of watch time across three seasons since its launch in 2014. It has been translated into more than 20 languages and also been made into a feature film. Author Kim Turrisi brings her trademark humor and sensitivity to an adaptation that offers a deep dive for existing fans and a portal for new fans around the world.

3.5 stars.

Two books finished in one day! oh boy. It may seem like a positive thing, but really what it means is that I'm unable to focus on my art history notes that I have to review for my exam next week and not that you need to know this but I really, really, REALLY need to pass this exam. So if you see me post another review soon, PRAY FOR ME.

That is all.

Except! I should talk about the book a little though, no?

This is a novel adaptation of the web series of the same name, a web series about 3.5 stars.

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Except! I should talk about the book a little though, no?

This is a novel adaptation of the web series of the same name, a web series about vampires, mystery, university life, and lesbian romance! that I had no idea existed. Seems like the sort of thing that should have made its way to me. I guess it did, belatedly.

Like most novelizations, this book sticks to the important stuff. I have never read a book adaptation that has lots of extra content, and although I have not watched the web series as of yet, I can't imagine it's too different from the book and vice versa. This means that it's fairly easy to get through, because of the lack of long descriptions and lengthy scenes and such, but I did wish scenes were longer at times. Many characters pop out of nowhere and then disappear, leaving me a bit befuddled, but perhaps that is the way it goes in the web series too.

I thought vampires were not à la mode anymore, and I never even think about them anymore, but Carmilla was pretty sexy and I did like the whole sacrifice business (but only because it was a fun sort of ridiculous!). I also found easy connecting to the main character and of course I loved that the setting was a university, although a very creepy and unrealistic one.

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## Carmilla Fgo

This review has been hidden because it contains spoilers. To view it, [click here](#).

\*I received an advanced copy of this title from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.\*

I've never heard of the web series that this novel was adapted from until I began reading this, so I'm not really sure if I'd like it should I choose to watch it. I don't know if it was the writing that made me dislike this book, or the content and the story itself, which would be deriving from the web series.

From the synopsis, I thought I would end up liking this book, but I really didn't. I'm thankful \*I received an advanced copy of this title from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.\*

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From the synopsis, I thought I would end up liking this book, but I really didn't. I'm thankful that this was a relatively quicker read, and it wasn't like I was trudging through molasses trying to read through it, it wasn't that boring. But the story itself was.... eh.

A large portion of the problem I had with this book was the writing. It just felt juvenile. It felt like the author was trying so hard to sound like the narrative was coming from a teenager/young adult so much that it came across as trying way too hard and not in the least bit relatable. So, despite the few times I related to the character's lesbianism, I could hardly enjoy the narration of this book at all.

Also, the unnecessary love triangle. I hate love triangles. And the fact that Laura and Danny had zero chemistry made the triangle even less enjoyable. And Laura just falls for Carmilla out of the blue? Like, there's some hinting before, but there's no transition from enemies to lovers, it's just enemies one moment, a little side comment about Carmilla being hot, her thinking she's trying to suck her blood and then suddenly falling for her and casting Danny aside just like that? What?

And the other characters weren't enjoyable at all. They were just annoying. The book made a whole point to show one of the characters misgendering her friend and Laura correcting her, and in the book, it sometimes used "her" instead of "they" completely defeating the purpose and making me second guess which character was being mentioned.

And honestly, the mystery was meh. The entire plot, for that matter, didn't really intrigue me very much. From Carmilla arriving to everyone finding out she's a vampire is a really fast transition. The plot twists came out of nowhere with like, little to no foreshadowing, which made the mystery even less appealing, as a reader, like many others, who like mysteries where they feel they saw some of it coming and can feel like a sleuth. The whole book just felt very rushed, especially the ending. The climax of the story basically happened over 4 pages.

And the fact that the book always had to go into paragraphs about Laura vlogging, I couldn't have cared less about.

This book has little redeeming qualities other than the fact that it's queer. Pretty disappointing. ...more

WARNING, a bit of a rant ahead + possibly some slight spoilers.

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Thank you, NetGalley and the Publisher for the chance to read this novel.

Trigger/content warnings: kidnapping, deadnaming and misgendering of non-binary side character (on purpose and by accident), gore.

Before I start I just want to say I had such high hopes for this one. I mean, kick-ass lesbian vampire and f/f romance in a college setting? I was so excited for the LGBTQ+ rep and paranormal aspect, and while I hate leaving ranty WARNING, a bit of a rant ahead + possibly some slight spoilers.

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In hindsight, I probably should've watched the web series before requesting this, but I wanted it to be a surprise, as it's probably the equivalent of watching the movie before reading the book.

I have so much to say about this, I couldn't possibly fit it all into 1 review, even this is longer than anticipated! So I am going to stick to the basics of why this didn't work for me.

Disclaimer: I have not watched the web series which this book is adapted from, this is all new to me.

Things I liked:

- The LGBTQ+ rep: I was really happy to see that this book features 3 lesbian characters and 1 genderqueer side character (more info on that rep later)
- That cover is stunning
- Vampire/paranormal aspect
- Due to it being so fast-paced, I finished this in one sitting, plus, it's relatively short, at under 300 pages.

Things I didn't like/had issues with:

- Major problems with the genderqueer rep in this book. Heres why:  
LaFontaine, a side character in this book, identifies as genderqueer and uses they/them pronouns. This

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book definitely needs some proofreading because I noticed at least 6 instances where the author used "she/her" pronouns instead of "they/them" here are some quotes to prove:

"LaFontaine got it from the campus hospital. She told them she needed it for some experiment"

"LaFontaine turns to Carmilla. "So you just serve them up like pizzas?" When she puts it that way."

"LaFontaine stammers "uh, dean." she sort of bows. "Your disapprovingness."

"A little dramatic, even for you" they tease. Perry smacks her."

I really hope these mistakes are fixed before publication.

Disclaimer #2: I do not identify as non-binary myself, I just noticed these mistakes.

Now onto Perry, LaFontaine's "friend of 16 years".

-Perry constantly deadnames LaFontaine, even after they ask her not to call them Susan.

-If someone who identifies as NB asks you to use their pronouns/name and you ignore them, and you constantly deadname and misgender them, on purpose, is that right? The answer is no, it's not. Perry was a disgrace of a friend and a disgrace of a character.

-The worst part is, LaFontaine's feelings on the matter are never addressed until much later on in the book, where they finally have enough of being deadnamed and misgendered and (rightfully so) have a go at Perry. But even then, Perry still has the audacity to call LaFontaine Susan.

-The thing that really takes the cake is the fact that Perry is made out to be the victim. No one even asks if LaFontaine is okay after being deadnamed and misgendered by their best friend for (probably) years.

Now onto the other things I didn't really like:

-Lack of detailed descriptions for; characters, setting, magical element.

-Toxic love triangle and romance. There is zero chemistry between Laura and Carmilla and they only get together in the last 30%, up until that point they despise each other. The cover screams romance, it's marketed as a romance, well it definitely did not read like a romance to me. Carmilla physically attacks Laura and bites her, without her permission. Laura films and uploads videos of Carmilla without her permission. Laura keeps Carmilla hostage for two weeks and forces her to recount her whole life for Laura's blog. It's not a healthy relationship!

-The only male characters (of which there are a grand total of 3) are all problematic and bordering on sexist. Two of them are even literal stalkers who don't take no for an answer. Laura's dad, who appears for practically 1 chapter, is extremely over the top protective, even going so far as to not allow his

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18-year-old daughter anything but a flip phone, as he is scared she will send nudes to random people. The other two constantly refer to all the women in the book as "sexy, baby, hottie" etc. Telling them they are there to "protect" them. Oh, but they will only protect the women they deem worthy, which is a "7.5 or above" to them.

-The writing style wasn't for me. I felt like it lacked depth and was way too fast paced.

-Whenever Laura was speaking to someone on the phone, the reader would only ever hear Laura's side of the conversation, never the responses. As a reader, this made me feel excluded from the story and therefore I lacked a connection to what was happening.

Overall, I am really glad that I had the opportunity to read this book. There are many reasons why this might not have worked for me personally. Maybe it's because it's a novelisation of a web series that I haven't watched. Maybe it's because it's meant to be read in a more humorous way that I didn't catch. Maybe the whole thing just didn't translate well in book format. Nonetheless, unfortunately, it didn't work for me. But I would always recommend giving a book a go and seeing what you think for yourself. Just because I didn't like it, doesn't mean it's a terrible book.

Disclaimer #3: All quotes taken from the ARC copy, these are subject to change.

Review to be posted on my blog, closer to publication. ...more



## Carmilla Vampire

I REALLY wanted to like this one, but unfortunately this was just a big ol' Yikes.

I was all in for a college plagued with vampires and a f/f romance including a vampire. The writing, however, basically cut short any hope of me loving it. It felt super juvenile and if this wasn't such a quick read this probably would have been a DNF for me. My biggest issue besides the writing feeling juvenile is that there was also barely any descriptions. Like, you're writing a story about a creepy old college I REALLY wanted to like this one, but unfortunately this was just a big ol' Yikes.

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Another issue I had with this was that there is a character that identifies as they/them and the book used she/her multiple times...so just yikes. I hope someone caught that for the final copy.

All in all, while the plot had SO MUCH potential, this basically fell short everywhere else.

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this cover alone granted me eternal health & prosperity

Carmilla

## Carmilla Web Series

Probably 2.5 rounded up (provided by NetGalley)

I wanted to like this book. I watched the webseries, but it's been a few years so I was looking forward to refreshing my memory about what happened way back at the beginning. I got that, but that's about all I got. The book sticks firmly to Laura's point of view, very rarely explores outside her dorm room, and the majority of the book ends up being transcriptions of things that are said and done in the episodes. A novel seemed like the ideal place to

I wanted to like this book. I watched the webseries, but it's been a few years so I was looking forward to refreshing my memory about what happened way back at the beginning. I got that, but that's about all I got. The book sticks firmly to Laura's point of view, very rarely explores outside her dorm room, and the majority of the book ends up being transcriptions of things that are said and done in the episodes. A novel seemed like the ideal place to throw off the restrictions that come with having a budget, and it's disappointing that the author didn't take advantage of that.

The book suffers from a lot of talking instead of doing, telling other characters what was done instead of showing it happen. Again, this is from the webseries where they COULDN'T go to multiple locations. Why not use the webseries descriptions as a template and flesh it out?

The oddest thing is that the big climactic battle IS seen in the book... and then Laura proceeds to explain to us what just happened. That was necessary in the webseries, not so much in a book where it literally just happened.

I am glad, overall, that this book is available. Fans will appreciate having a companion version of the story rather than watching hours of videos. But for the uninitiated or people who don't already know the show, this book is not a good place to start. ...more

\*3.75 Stars\*

I was provided an ARC by the publisher via Edelweiss in exchange for an honest review.

This book followed the story from the webseries which I have watched a very long time ago. I was actually planning on rewatching it because I barely remembered it and hadn't finished it.

Anyway, for those who don't know the show, this is Laura's story. Laura is starting college at Silas university. When she arrives, everything seems great, yeah her roommate is a bit of a party animal but they still

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Anyway, for those who don't know the show, this is Laura's story. Laura is starting college at Silas university. When she arrives, everything seems great, yeah her roommate is a bit of a party animal but they still clicked instantly. When she disappears, Laura doesn't know what to do, she tries to contact the administration but no one cares about her worrying and they even give her a new roommate, Carmilla. Carmilla is a night-owl and all of her habits deeply annoy Laura, especially because she won't take seriously the fact that Laura want to investigate all the disappearances that are happening on campus. But since they annoy each other so much, why can't Laura stop thinking about her?

As I read this book, the story came back to me from when I watched the series and even it was enjoyable to be in Laura's head, I think the video format worked better. It allowed the whole crazy mushrooms thing to be more believable. I felt like in the book format, something was missing, the story felt rushed and I wished things would have been added, that Carmilla and Laura's relationship would have grown slower, little by little. I still enjoyed this a lot, (mainly because Gay) but I expected it to be even better. i still really liked the characters and the story though and I think others would too. ...more

## Carmilla Castlevania

In the time it took Edelweiss+ to approve my ARC request, I'd already burned through all the episodes of the Carmilla web series and also watched the movie. And I'd also fallen in love with them. (And also maybe developed a tiny-HUGE crush on Natasha Negovanlis a.k.a. Carmilla.)

So by the time I got to the book, I already knew the story and the perfect cast. And I guess this was one of those instances where the movie (in this case: web series) was better than the book.

The reasons for that are:

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The reasons for that are:

â™; The book was based on the web series, not the other way around.Â

â™; The web series is shot in the same place all throughout the season (it's supposed to be the protagonist's (Laura's) Journalism project and is therefore supposedly shot through her web cam.) So, it was easier to describe some things without showing them on camera. But it's impossible to do that in books, since descriptions are the essence of books, and the descriptions that were written seemed kinda lacking.Â

So even though it told exactly the same story as the web series, the book did not contain the same magic. I'd definitely recommend you to check out the web series (IT'S ON YOUTUBE!) but I'm not sure if I'll do the same for the book.Â ...more

The fact that no one told me there was a novelization of the web series that was literally my lesbian awakening is, quite frankly, homophobic.

## Carmilla Fanfiction

I was sent an eARC of this novel from the publisher in exchange for my honest review. This does not change my view in any shape or form. 2.5 star rating. Full review also found here at Booked J.

One of the first web series that I ever watched was Carmilla, so I was beyond excited to see that there was an upcoming novelization of the web series. Not to be confused with the original story that both are based upon. As far as novelizations go, Carmilla was every bit as intriguing as the original. I was sent an eARC of this novel from the publisher in exchange for my honest review. This does not change my view in any shape or form. 2.5 star rating. Full review also found here at Booked J.

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This new novelization, too, will absolutely bring a new audience to the original series as well. Which is a massive plus.

While I did enjoy this novel, it did feel, at times, a bit unnecessary. It adds very little to the original episodes. In reality, this could have done more to flesh out the story a bit more. Unfortunately, it did not do that. This isn't to say Carmilla is badly written or paced--it's entertaining as always--but it felt, at times, a little choppy on page than it does on screen.

At the end of the day, one of the things that made Carmilla fall short in expectations was the length. I expected a little something more, a little something more descriptive and as atmospheric as the web series. In the process of translating it from screen to page, Carmilla loses a lot of its charm and just doesn't fit well with the narrative that was set up.

There were points in the story that were stronger than others but I think that is merely because I was able to look back on the web series and see it play out in my head in a very specific way--one that just wasn't aptly explored in the novelization.

In short, Carmilla could have benefited beautifully from the kind of development that books allow. I do think that Turrisi had the right idea, and had a particular kick to her portrayal of these characters, but in the end, the shortness of this novel was its biggest enemy.

Still, there were some good things to note about Carmilla, including the obvious representation. Queer girls who kick-ass? Sign me up. I don't think that the novelization is nearly as indulgent and fun as the web series, but I do think that it will find its audience--which is all that matters. ...more

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What is it with me reading books that feel like they belong on fanfiction websites?

I've followed Carmilla since its debut in 2014. Over the years, I've grown attached to these characters. I've watched all of the extra videos Natasha and Elise have done together, bought the movie (with the huge bundle that includes all the behind-the-scenes perks and signed digital scripts) and watched all of their panels. You could say I'm a fan.

When I saw that Carmilla was going to be made into (another) novel, I was excited. Who wouldn't want one of their favourite shows available in another format? However, after some thought, I became worried. The show is unique, to say the least. The web series is filmed like a vlog (no, not the "YouTuber" kind of vlog), and these characters are loved by many. Whoever this author was, they would have a lot to consider and live up to when writing the novel. How would they go about writing a "vlog style" show? What style would they use? What changes would have to be made?

Naturally, I prepared myself for these inevitable changes. In the end, nothing could prepare me for the disappointment that hit me like a slice of cheese hitting a baby's face.

Obviously, as I said before, the author changed the perspective of this story. Instead of watching Laura's uploaded vlogs (which, to be fair, would've been hard to translate into a well-written novel), we read Carmilla through Laura's perspective in the first person. Now, I will say that anything written in the first person is an immediate turn-off for me. Even then, what really got me was how juvenile and emotionless this book was.

A vast majority of the dialogue is taken directly from the show, with some differences here and there. A full conversation between characters would be copied and pasted from the show into the book with the exception of a new sentence placed at the end in some cases. I found that most of the "fun" dialogue - the dialogue that makes each character unique and connects us to them - have been excluded from this adaptation. It is instead replaced by bland comments and unenthusiastic replies.

When I watched the show, Laura's speech quickly rolls right off of her tongue - among other things - (sorry, had to make that joke, sue me) and adds to her character. Laura is an energetic, funny, and clever character who could make nerdy references on the fly. In contrast, Carmilla is aggressive yet cool and has this nonchalant attitude and seductive air surrounding her at all times, which she carries into her speech. When I read the book, I barely got any of those characteristics through the dialogue.

Carmilla

Thereâ€™s a reason I alluded to this reading like a Wattpad fanfiction... because it does.

Iâ€™ll give you an example.

In episode 3 of Season 1, Laura explains her "roommate situation" to her viewers. At one point, she tells the viewers everything she hates about her new roommate, Carmilla. One particular annoyance is how Carmilla is always up at night with "some girl" in Lauraâ€™s bed. To get revenge, Laura says:

"But itâ€™s fine, really. Because when Carmillaâ€™s latest "study buddy" came over, I may have mentioned that Carmilla has raging cold sores and she should probably get herself checked out, because they are, like, super contagious. Boom! Revenge is mine. And so is Carmillaâ€™s super special soy milk that Iâ€™m not supposed to touch because "thatâ€™s just the way the world works, cutie" Hunh."

Yet, in the book, Turrisi states that Carmilla brings in a number of different girls into their shared room and writes the following:

"Well, guess what, I told the girl of the week that Carmilla has a longtime girlfriend. She went crazy. Bam, revenge is mine. Now I'm going to enjoy her soy milk on my cereal."

First of all, instead of a dorky energetic journalist student, Laura comes off as a jealous and bitter teenager, which is an insult to her character. Second of all, you see what I mean when I say that all the fun and emotion is sucked out?

It is important to acknowledge that a large part of the reason why people love the show and characters is because of the chemistry between Natasha and Elise. Through their portrayals, dialogue that could be classified as "cringe-y" can be played off as dorky and endearing because of their acting. This also extends to Kirsch, who is more of a lovable and clueless dork in the show rather than a douchebag frat boy in the book. However, Iâ€™ve read a few media-to-novel adaptations that managed to not thoroughly ruin characters, so maybe Iâ€™m just particularly bitter because I know that these adaptations can be done well. In this case, it was not.

Now, onto Turrisi frequently misgendering the one genderqueer character in the entire novel.

Early on in the book - maybe around 30 pages in - we are introduced to LaFontaine and Perry. The author makes it very clear that LaFontaine is genderqueer, and that they go by they/them pronouns. LaFontaine is deadnamed and purposefully misgendered by Perry, which is a part of a conflict between the two life-long friends that is eventually resolved. Yet, the author then goes to misgender LaFontaine on five separate occasions, one of which is literally directly after the author writes Laf saying something along the lines of "I use they/them pronouns and my name is LaFontaine, not Susan." It seemed

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like any importance of LaFontaine's identity, experience and existence was thrown out the window. In fact, these critiques were made known when readers were sending reviews of ARCs, and it looks like there has been no effort to remedy these mistakes. Evidently, it seems like the author has not had any experience writing characters that are not cis, has not been educated on non-binary and genderqueer identities, has not been educated about how disrespectful and harmful misgendering is, and did not take the opportunity to fix the errors.

I could keep rambling, but I have to sleep and I don't want to put any more energy into this novel. Let's wrap things up.

Some other things that annoyed me were:

- Laura's obsession with Danny
- The fact that we only read one side of phone conversations
- The fact that the author chose not to mention that Carmilla's Mother is not her actual Mother, which is kind of important to the story as a whole

Things I liked:

- The book took the reader beyond Carmilla and Laura's dorm room
- Lesbians

All in all, reading this adaptation was a huge disappointment. Please go watch the web series. Peace out, creampuffs.

...more



## Carmilla Cast

When it was announced that the Carmilla web series was getting a novel adaptation, I was pretty stoked. After all, the web series was based off of a book to begin with. It took the basics of the original concept and modernized it for today's world, and it did a good job of doing so. I was excited to see that a book adaptation was being done, because I thought it meant we would get something that would dive deeper into the lore of the show, and show us the events that went on in more depth and detail. When it was announced that the Carmilla web series was getting a novel adaptation, I was pretty stoked. After all, the web series was based off of a book to begin with. It took the basics of the original concept and modernized it for today's world, and it did a good job of doing so. I was excited to see that a book adaptation was being done, because I thought it meant we would get something that would dive deeper into the lore of the show, and show us the events that went on in more depth and detail. It would give us a chance to get to know the characters a bit more. Show bonding scenes that perhaps weren't shown on screen, and find a new way to frame the narrative so it would better fit a book.

Seeing as how I've rated it two stars, I'm sure you won't be surprised to find out that I was disappointed.

It hurt to rate this one as low as I did. I had a lot of hopes for it.

Before I get into the book, I'm going to talk about the web series, why I liked it, and what made it work. And then I'll talk about the book, and about how most of those things didn't end up working in the same way.

I took a chance on the web series, because I wasn't really sure how it would pan out. It seemed kinda slow and a bit boring at first. It was essentially just a vlog, but with a story behind it instead of an actual person vlogging about their day. It was handled well enough though, so I kept watching. And over time, I really got into it. The actors all had great chemistry, and were talented as well. Dialogue that could be seen as a bit cringy ended up working because the actors could sell it. It had a level of quirkiness that felt well suited to it's format. Laura was basically a beam of optimism despite all the darkness around her. She used the webcam to vent her frustrations to whoever would watch, and then implore the other students for help. It was a creative way to frame the narrative - taking the nature of a vlog and then layering an entire story around it. The fact that the story was updated to better reflect the modern world and how we've come to embrace LGBT themes was also a really nice touch.

The show was never about the big action scenes. Laura, Carmilla, and the other characters would spend a lot of time talking directly to the camera about the events that had happened off-screen between episodes, or during episodes. The real core of the show though, the emotional core - that was all on screen. And it was the interaction between characters that really made it work. The story wasn't about the action. It was about the characters, and how they adapted and changed based on the circumstances. Seeing Carmilla grab a sword from some cave in the ocean could've been cool to see, but seeing how her relationship with Laura changed and developed over the course of a season was

Carmilla

better and more important to the overall narrative.

A lot of credit has to be given to the onscreen chemistry between Elise and Natasha, but the other actors were no slouches either. Kirsch was a lovable doof because the actor who played him was great at making him feel totally earnest despite whatever odd thing he would end up saying.

The show went on for three seasons, and was a bit of a cult hit on the internet. It even spawned its own sequel movie, which was really well done, and stepped away from the vlogging aspect. That made sense, since it wouldn't have worked as well in the context of a movie.

And that brings us to the book adaptation.

So, I mentioned how the movie didn't use the vlogging aspect to the degree that the show did, because it didn't work as well in the context of a movie. When it comes to a book, I don't think vlogging works as well. Or at least, it doesn't work as well with how it's written.

For one, most of the vlogging stuff is taken directly from the show, sprinkling in some flavor with Laura's inner thoughts (which, in the end, don't really add that much.) It doesn't add anything new to these scenes - no major changes at least - and it lacks the actors chemistry that helped sell those scenes on the screen. Context matters a lot. When the characters are describing some big event that happened off screen in the show, you can accept it because yeah, a low budget show on YouTube isn't going to do that, and it wouldn't fit with the format of the show.

Likewise, having all of these vlogging scenes in the book kind of takes away from the flow of the book. It's essentially a transcription of the show, with a few changes here and there.

Second, it does show some of the stuff we didn't get to see in the show, like various parties, campus meetings, the library, and so on. Unfortunately, these also don't work very well. They're written very shallowly, like the author was given some notes on how those events went and did as little as possible to actually flesh those events out.

The show used vlogging as a tool to tell the story because yeah, of course it would. It was a show that streamed online. It knew its limitations.

The book could've taken that logic and changed its approach to the story. Like, instead of vlogs, maybe we get journal entries from Laura mixed in with the larger narrative (because due to how the story works, I don't think limiting it to JUST journal entries would work very well.)

The book also lacks the charm of the actors in a big way. Without Elise and Natasha saying the lines and interacting with one another, the scenes just fall flat. Carmilla seems a lot more aloof in the book than she does in the show. Natasha has this way of speaking when she's playing Carmilla that shows that there's a lot more going on underneath the surface. The same is true for Elise playing Laura. Things

Carmilla

aren't just said outright - they're shown, through subtle glances, through facial expressions, and through actions.

Perhaps one of the biggest ways the book changes things is that Laura comes right out in the beginning and says she's a lesbian. Now - of course I don't have a problem with that. But one of the cooler aspects of the show was that it didn't really say that outright in the show at the beginning. It just showed you how it was true because of how Laura gradually became attracted to Danny, and then later on, Carmilla. Those awkward interactions that Laura had with Danny felt a lot more genuine on screen than in the book. And Danny really doesn't come off that well in the book - she seems a lot more harsh and distant. It's not too different from the show, but again, with the charisma of the actor to sell those moments, it just falls flat.

So yeah. This was a disappointment. The writing wasn't that great. The characters fall flat and feel off from how they were portrayed in the show. At first I was disappointed that this only covered the first season, but now I'm kinda glad that it was kept short. And I kinda hope it's not continued, or if it is, it's done with a different author. I don't want to mean, but it just didn't work for me.

I was really hoping that the other low reviews I was seeing would turn out to be a fluke and that I would like it, but alas. I can't recommend it. I can definitely recommend the web series and the movie though. It works in all the ways that the book doesn't.

One final thing to mention, and it doesn't really effect my score, but it did bug me. The formatting of the Kindle version was a bit weird. The paragraphs were barely indented, and it made the flow of reading feel awkward and clunky. ...more

I'm sorry, Carm. I wanted to love this so badly. I love the webseries and was super excited for the book but it needs a lot more work before it's readable. Full review to come closer to publication date.

PS: LaFontaine is misgendered FIVE TIMES by the narrator. I understand Perry being so obtuse she insists on calling them Susan (she does get called out for it and corrects her behaviour, btw), but the narrator uses "they" in the whole book except for these five instances, so it's an editing probl I'm sorry, Carm. I wanted to love this so badly. I love the webseries and was super excited for the book but it needs a lot more work before it's readable. Full review to come closer to publication date.

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## Carmilla Pdf

\*A copy of this book was provided to me by NetGalley and the publisher in exchange for an honest review\*

All Laura Hollis wanted was to succeed at Silas University, land a coveted internship, and launch her journalism career. Okay, maybe she wanted to have a little fun, too, after finally moving away from her overprotective father. Instead, she ends up in the middle of a mystery after her roommate Betty goes missing. And she isn't the only one. Girls have been going missing at Silas for years without explanation and they don't always come back. \*A copy of this book was provided to me by NetGalley and the publisher in exchange for an honest review\*

All Laura Hollis wanted was to succeed at Silas University, land a coveted internship, and launch her journalism career. Okay, maybe she wanted to have a little fun, too, after finally moving away from her overprotective father. Instead, she ends up in the middle of a mystery after her roommate Betty goes missing. And she isn't the only one. Girls have been going missing at Silas for years without explanation and they don't always come back.

To make matters worse, her new roommate Carmilla is pretty much the roommate from hell. She's a slob, she constantly has girls over, and...she keeps blood in a soy milk container? There's definitely something off about Carmilla, but Laura won't let it get in her way. She's far too busy trying to get Betty back, pass her classes, and maybe even spend some time with her crush Danny the TA.

With some help from her new friends LaFontaine and Perry, Laura may be able to find the missing girls. However, she'll have to navigate the party animal Zetas feuding with the Summer Society, flying herring, and the Alchemy Club to do it. Silas University is certainly never boring, but it just might be deadly. And Carmilla might just have the answers that Laura is looking for.

Like you might already know, this book is based on a popular webseries of the same name. I was actually a huge fan of the webseries when it first started airing, but I haven't watched it since I did a big rewatch in 2017. While my memory of the webseries might not be fresh, I do remember the important plot points and the overall vibe of the series. And now, having read the book I can definitely say that you should probably watch the webseries instead. Or if you're determined to read it, then watch the web series first.

That being said, this book does stay close to the source material. I did appreciate this, but it also felt like the book really didn't add anything to Carmilla overall. The writing was minimalistic and didn't really add depth to the story overall. The only contribution that it added was that some off camera scenes were present in the book. But the detail was minimal.

If you haven't watched the series then this book probably won't make you want to. While the actors really breathe life into the characters in the web series, here they're flat. Without my memories of the

Carmilla

web series, I probably wouldn't have enjoyed this book at all. This book is missing the pizzazz of the web series.

While it's a decent read, it's not as good as the web series and if your interest is sparked by the summary just watch it. Especially if you're in it for the f/f romance. That is so much better in the show since the chemistry between Laura and Carmilla is much better there. In the book, I felt like their chemistry was lacking.

I'd give this 3 stars since it was still okay, probably just because I remember and love the web series so much. Nostalgia is a powerful force after all. ...more

I am so bummed about this.

I started watching the series when the second season was just over and I loved every second of it. The way the story is told, the plot, the lesbians, I was hooked. So I was super happy when I saw that they had a book coming out. But sadly I was disappointed.

The book is simply retelling the story of the web series in book format.

So, the plot of the story is great. It's quirky and weird while embracing the more modern setting. Laura is a funny character to follow, Carmil I am so bummed about this.

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The book is simply retelling the story of the web series in book format.

So, the plot of the story is great. It's quirky and weird while embracing the more modern setting. Laura is a funny character to follow, Carmilla is my favourite broody vampire and the background characters are just as well-rounded.

It doesn't take itself too seriously which helps to simply be immersed in this wacky university and go along their adventure.

But the writing ruins most of it. It's superficial and simple, adding nothing to the story. We don't get a deeper insight into Laura or Carmilla, there is no emotional development or any attachment the reader could create. The book is filled with statements but nothing to back them up. It only tells us the most important part without going any further. It was so frustrating for the writing to be so shallow when character offer so much more. It doesn't help that the descriptions are very repetitive since most of the story plays out in Laura's dorm room. They easily could have fixed that.

I think they could have done so much differently. Instead of simply rehashing the entire plot, they could have focused more on Carmilla's side of the story. Or they could have told the story in short vignettes to mirror the short Youtube episodes. Or they could have implemented video transcripts to add to the experience of them actually documenting their adventure. Or show snapshots that are preceded by the location to create the setting. Really, anything.

Carmilla

sanmarco-sf

Carmilla

I received and advanced reading copy on Netgalley in exchange for an honest review. ...more

Carmilla

## Carmilla Jo

I received this book for free from Rockstar Book Tours in exchange for an honest review. This does not affect my opinion of the book or the content of my review. Time to meet Carmilla, who puts the vamp in vampire and the meddling human she just can't quit.

About Carmilla:

Excerpt from Carmilla:

IMHO: Carmilla

If Veronica Mars went to college and roomed with a genderbent Spike and they were Gay AF.

There's three web series seasons and a movie in 2017. HELL YES. The YT channel Kinda TV looks right I received this book for free from Rockstar Book Tours in exchange for an honest review. This does not affect my opinion of the book or the content of my review. Time to meet Carmilla, who puts the vamp in vampire and the meddling human she just can't quit.

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If Veronica Mars went to college and roomed with a genderbent Spike and they were Gay AF.

There's three web series seasons and a movie in 2017. HELL YES. The YT channel Kinda TV looks right up my alley. So I can't say how the book adaptation Carmilla will do if you've seen the web series.

But if you haven't seen it, it works on its own. It's fun, and will easily keep surprising you. The lens is so woman centered, it's honestly a relief. No putting up with toxic masculinity bullshit or fat jokes.

Carmilla the book follows through the whole first season, which has 36 regular episodes averaging 3-5 mins each. There's a bonus Christmas Special too. Maybe next as a novella?

Genderqueer scientist friend

Alchemy science nerd hijinks

Awkward adorable girl crushing

Hot TA

Annoying gross frat boys, but they're not The Evil and don't rape anyone

I'm really excited to find out what happens next. How did I not know about this series until this tour??? I know what I'll be bringing this weekend.

Carmilla

About the Author:

Giveaway:

3 winners will receive a finished copy of CARMILLA, US Only.  
a Rafflecopter giveaway

Tour Schedule:

This review was originally posted on The Layaway Dragon ...more

In my mind book adaptations of TV shows or movies are meant to, among other things, fill in the spaces between the scenes we got to see. Take the insinuation out of it and shows us more of what happened. Carmilla does do that, but on the rarest of occasions. And that's one of the reasons why it didn't work for me.

I think the writing feels a bit under cooked. It's all from Laura's POV, it's all focused on the dorm room, much like the series and I don't get the point of it. While there's a bit of c In my mind book adaptations of TV shows or movies are meant to, among other things, fill in the spaces between the scenes we got to see. Take the insinuation out of it and shows us more of what happened.

Carmilla does do that, but on the rarest of occasions. And that's one of the reasons why it didn't work for me.

I think the writing feels a bit under cooked. It's all from Laura's POV, it's all focused on the dorm room, much like the series and I don't get the point of it. While there's a bit of charm to it, at times it feels repetitive as things get explained more than once.

I don't know if this book was meant for fans of the show, or if it was meant for people who haven't heard of it.

I'm sad to say that I'm not sure it's suitable for either.

\*Copy received through NetGalley

\*Rating: 2/5 stars

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