

# Bram Stoker

When people talk about horror stories they often think about the most famous vampire novel of all time – \_\_\_\_\_. Many people don't know that this spooky tale about a blood-sucking monster, which is set in Transylvania, was actually penned by a Dublin man – \_\_\_\_\_.

Bram, or Abraham, was born on the 8th November, 1847 in Clontarf on \_\_\_\_\_ northside. As a young boy, Bram suffered from an unknown illness, but luckily for him he recovered in time to attend \_\_\_\_\_, Dublin where he studied mathematics and was a hugely successful \_\_\_\_\_. He was always interested in philosophy, history, art and drama and began his career as a theatre \_\_\_\_\_ with the Dublin Evening Mail. He would later go on to manage the famous Lyceum Theatre in London, which was owned by Henry Irving.

In 1878, Bram married Florence Balcombe from Marino, Dublin. Florence was very \_\_\_\_\_ and had been a girlfriend of another famous writer, \_\_\_\_\_. Bram and Wilde would later become good \_\_\_\_\_. Bram and Florence had one \_\_\_\_\_, Irving Noel Thornley Stoker. Bram had many notable friends including Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who wrote \_\_\_\_\_, and the American artist James Abbott McNeill Whistler. He was a keen fan of the American writer, Walt Whitman.

Bram and Florence lived in \_\_\_\_\_ while he managed the Lyceum Theatre. He also travelled extensively with its owner, Henry Irving, during this time also. He visited the United States of America on many occasions and was even invited to the \_\_\_\_\_ twice, where he met Theodore Roosevelt and William McKinley. Surprisingly, Bram never ventured to Eastern \_\_\_\_\_ even though his most famous work, Dracula, would be set there.

Bram began writing Dracula in 1897. He was inspired by visits to Whitby in England, Slains Castle in \_\_\_\_\_ and the tombs in St. Michan's Church in \_\_\_\_\_. This gothic or horror novel is centred on the character of Vlad

# Bram Stoker

Dracula, a \_\_\_\_\_, who lives in a remote castle in Transylvania. Stoker was influenced a great deal by European \_\_\_\_\_ and developments in \_\_\_\_\_ at this time. Many believe this led to some of the key ideas used in his writing. The original script was named The \_\_\_\_\_ but Bram later changed the title to how we know it today. This script had been lost for many years, but was discovered in a barn in \_\_\_\_\_ in the early 1980s. It showed Bram's corrections and \_\_\_\_\_ which provide clues about his inspirations for the novel.

Stoker died in London on 20th April, 1912. Nobody has determined the cause of his death for definite, but his \_\_\_\_\_ are interred in Golders Green Crematorium. Later on, his son's ashes were placed in the same urn. Many people still visit this \_\_\_\_\_ today.

Nowadays, Dracula is probably best known due to the many \_\_\_\_\_ and T.V. series that have been based on it. The Dublin actor, Jonathan Rhys Myers, portrayed \_\_\_\_\_ in one such T.V. series. In Ireland, an annual Bram Stoker \_\_\_\_\_ is held in Dublin each year to commemorate the writer's achievements and \_\_\_\_\_. He remains one of the country's most famous literary figures.



# Bram Stoker Answers

When people talk about horror stories they often think about the most famous vampire novel of all time – **Dracula**. Many people don't know that this spooky tale about a blood-sucking monster, which is set in Transylvania, was actually penned by a Dublin man – **Bram Stoker**.

Bram, or Abraham, was born on the 8th November, 1847 in Clontarf on **Dublin's** northside. As a young boy, Bram suffered from an unknown illness, but luckily for him he recovered in time to attend **Trinity College**, Dublin where he studied mathematics and was a hugely successful **athlete**. He was always interested in philosophy, history, art and drama and began his career as a theatre **critic** with the Dublin Evening Mail. He would later go on to manage the famous Lyceum Theatre in London, which was owned by Henry Irving.

In 1878, Bram married Florence Balcombe from Marino, Dublin. Florence was very **beautiful** and had been a girlfriend of another famous writer, **Oscar Wilde**. Bram and Wilde would later become good **friends**. Bram and Florence had one **son**, Irving Noel Thornley Stoker. Bram had many notable friends including Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who wrote **Sherlock Holmes**, and the American artist James Abbott McNeill Whistler. He was a keen fan of the American writer, Walt Whitman.

Bram and Florence lived in **London** while he managed the Lyceum Theatre. He also travelled extensively with its owner, Henry Irving, during this time also. He visited the United States of America on many occasions and was even invited to the **White House** twice, where he met Theodore Roosevelt and William McKinley. Surprisingly, Bram never ventured to Eastern **Europe** even though his most famous work, Dracula, would be set there.

Bram began writing Dracula in 1897. He was inspired by visits to Whitby in England, Slains Castle in **Scotland** and the tombs in St. Michan's Church in **Dublin**. This gothic or horror novel is centred on the character of Vlad Dracula, a **vampire**, who lives in a remote castle in Transylvania. Stoker was influenced a great deal by European **folklore** and developments in **science** at this time. Many believe this led to some of the key ideas used in his writing. The original script was named The **Undead** but Bram later changed the title to how we know it today. This script had been lost for many years, but was discovered in a barn in **Pennsylvania** in the early 1980s. It showed Bram's corrections and **notes** which provide clues about his inspirations for the novel.

Stoker died in London on 20th April, 1912. Nobody has determined the cause of his death for definite, but his **ashes** are interred in Golders Green Crematorium. Later on, his son's ashes were placed in the same urn. Many people still visit this **site** today.

Nowadays, Dracula is probably best known due to the many **films** and T.V. series that have been based on it. The Dublin actor, Jonathan Rhys Myers, portrayed **Vlad Dracula** in one such T.V. series. In Ireland, an annual Bram Stoker **festival** is held in Dublin each year to commemorate the writer's achievements and **memory**. He remains one of the country's most famous literary figures.