



2019

Velvet

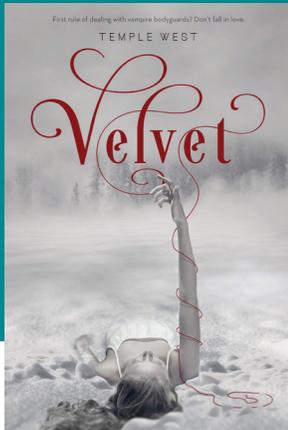
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Book Review

Velvet

Author

Temple West

Reviewer

Jessica Mellor

.....

Rating

Excellent

Level

Young Adult

.....

Pages

386

Year

2015

ISBN

9781250057082

Publisher

Swoon Reads

Caitlin lost her parents at seventeen and is now being shuttled off to live with her aunt and uncle in a small town. Within a week she is saved by her neighbor Adrian. Adrian in no way fits into the small town and has the eye of every girl on him, yet when Caitlin arrives in town, he's the first to offer her a ride home. It turns out that Adrian is a half-demon vampire, and Caitlin has unfortunately attracted the attention of his demon father who is now after her. With Adrian as her bodyguard and acting as her fake boyfriend in order to stay close to her, she navigates through grief, love, and friendship.

While still resembling other vampire books, Velvet has a new twist in how it scientifically explains vampires. It is also refreshing how long Caitlin and Adrian kept up the fake relationship. It doesn't devolve into a real romantic relationship until the end. The story isn't just about the romance aspect either, but about Caitlin's anger and grief. Adrian seems like the ideal man, but Temple West makes sure to include oddities about each of the characters that help flesh them out a bit and feel more like real characters. Sometimes people are just mad for no reason and you don't know what they're thinking. On a side note, there was a lot of swearing in the novel, but it didn't come off as forced.

*Contains severe language, moderate sexual content, and mild substance abuse.