



A Sharpness on the Neck

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In 1792, Philip Radcliffe, the bastard son of Benjamin Franklin, comes to France to deliver a letter to Thomas Paine--only to get caught up in a conflict far more horrifying than the Revolution. By foiling a powerful vampire's attempt at fratricide, Radcliffe dooms himself and his descendants to suffer the vampire's eternal vengeance.

In present day, Philip and June Radcliffe are kidnapped on their honeymoon. Their captor, a mysterious Mr. Graves, swears that he aims to protect them. Yet as the thrilling story unfolds, involving Napoleon, the Marquis de Sade, and the Scarlet Pimpernel, as well as Jerry Cruncher and Detective Dupin, the young couple refuses to believe him--a mistake that is certain to cost them their lives.

A Sharpness on the Neck Details

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Author : Fred Saberhagen

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From Reader Review A Sharpness on the Neck for online ebook

Jenilyn says

This was an amazing, well written book. I recommend this book for those who like vampires minus all of the drama that is found in modern vampire books(such as Twilight).

Dale Rosso says

Loved it, another great addition to the Dracula series.

Bert Edens says

Read several books in this series when my older son (who was born in 1993) was in NICU immediately after birth. I read the books out loud to him, and it was fun hearing the nurses tell each other at shift change what had happened in the story :)

Anyway, I've read all the books in the series and want to go back and re-read them.

Tom says

An OK Dracula read. Saberhagen's Dracula is the classic interpretation (wooden stakes, mirrors, mist and bats), but he's not really a monster... or at least, he is a monster with a very high moral code. In this book, he's having a centuries long spat with his little brother (also a vampire). Dracula refuses to (permanently) put his brother to death, but his younger brother has no such qualms.

The book kept switching from 1st person to 3rd person perspective, switching timelines from "now" back to the French Revolution. Dracula protects a human from his evil little brother. That human has an ancestor Dracula also protected in France circa 1790s. Both Dracula buddies are named "Radcliffe". It never got confusing, but seemed clunky with all the switching around.

The book seems like a good excuse for Saberhagen to dig around during "The Terror" and the mass executions of the French Revolution. It would have been fun just to see him do that, simply dropping the "modern days" story arc.

Keith says

"A Sharpness On The Neck" by Fred Saberhagen, is the 9th book in his 'Dracula Series' I have read over the years. This book and this series has been an entertaining set of novels to read. The writing quality varies in each of the novels. Fred Saberhagen has done a credible job in giving the 'Dracula' story a twist in his

retellings.

Kim says

I've read all of Mr. Saberhagen's Dracula series and only recently discovered I'd missed this last one when it was released. So I was fairly excited to get a new one. I've always found these books entertaining, if light, reading. But I was disappointed with this one. The plot was decent, I suppose, dealing with the Terror after the French Revolution and the struggle between Vlad Dracula and his brother Radu. But the writing was really poor. I just reread the first in the series, *The Dracula Tape*, and can confirm it is well written. Something obviously happened somewhere in the many years between the writing of that book and this one. There were not just typos and sentences that made no sense, but serious flaws in the structuring and telling of the story. Things were restated over and over in slightly different words, sometimes on the same page. I was constantly thrown off my reading, not sure if I'd just reread the same section or if this was a different POV, or if I had misread. It read like a very rough draft, or even notes for a novel, not a finished and edited book. By the end I felt like I had glimpsed a story that could have been a good novel, but ultimately it was more of a chore to slog through than an enjoyable experience.

colleen says

read 05.31.06
good series

Joene says

The Dracula series continues on with this enjoyable story.
