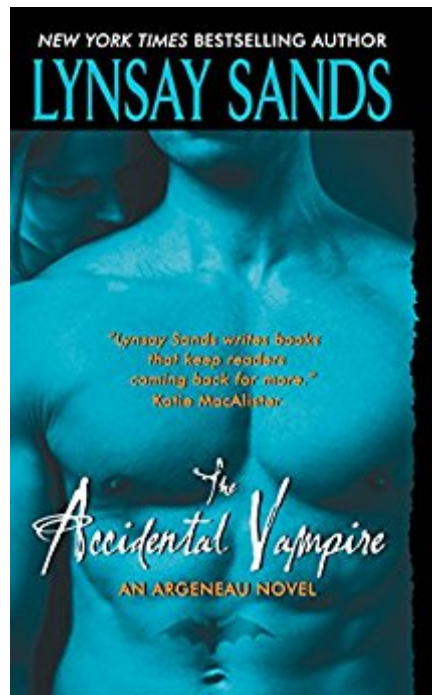


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The Accidental Vampire: An Argeneau Novel (Argeneau Vampire Book 7)



Synopsis

Ever since an accident turned her into a knockout vamp, Elvi Black's been catching her z's in a coffin, staying out of the sun, and giving up garlic. She knows there's more to being undead than what she saw in Dracula, but she can't very well ask her mortal friends about proper biting etiquette. But when her neighbors placed a personal ad for her in the local paper, she never imagined she'd meet Victor Argeneau, a vampire who could have his pick of any womanâdead or alive. Rich, powerful, and dropâdead gorgeous, Victor's the perfect man for a novice neckâbiter like Elvi. He's willing to teach her everything he knows, but he'll have to do it fast. Someone's out to put a stake through her new vamp life, and only Victor can keep her safeâand satisfiedâfor all eternity.

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Customer Reviews

Five years ago sixty-something Elvi, on a what was supposed to be a sun and fun filled vacation in Mexico, suddenly found herself turned into a vampire. With no maker hanging around to show her the immortal ropes Elvi turned to the movie, Bram Stoker's Dracula, to learn how to be a successful creature of the night. So for the last five years Elvi has avoided garlic and crosses, and worn only black. Elvi knows she shouldn't be complaining - she's immortal while her lifelong friends are all

getting up in years- but Elvi is not looking forward to an eternity of sleeping in a dirt-filled coffin. Then again that may not be a problem. After having lost his wife to vampire hunters centuries ago, Victor Argeneau has dedicated his life to eliminating rogue vampires as an enforcer for the vampire council of North America, so that no other immortal family will have to suffer the same crushing loss. When Elvi's friends place a personal ad seeking a male vampire to keep her company when they pass on, Victor answers the ad to investigate whether a real vampire or a just a vamp-wanna-be is responsible. Vamp law mandates keeping a low profile and the penalty for attracting human attention is death. Upon arriving in Elvi's small town for his "date," Victor is horrified to discover that the whole town knows about Elvi. After meeting Elvi, Victor finds himself torn between duty and the instant overwhelming attraction he feels for her. But while Victor is struggling to figure out how to avoid having to bring the woman who just may be his second chance at happiness in to face vampire justice, it looks like the ad may have attracted just the type of attention the council fears -- a vampire hunter and Elvi is the target.

I'm coming to the conclusion that either 'Lynsay Sands' is the collective name for a group of writers or else she relies on her editors to make her books readable. This is the second time I've read a book in her vampire series and genuinely wondered if it was written by the same author as the others. Tall, Dark and Hungry, Bastien's story, was ponderous, completely unfunny and contained characters that made me roll my eyes in dismay. The characters in this book aren't quite that bad, but parts of the plot are barely credible and - astoundingly for a published novel - there are spelling and grammar mistakes I wouldn't expect an eight-year-old to make. For example, 'jamming on the breaks', and 'the single's column', and Sands' complete inability to distinguish between the present and past tenses of the verb 'to be'. Leaving those aside, The Accidental Vampire has some merit, in particular the departure from all characters having to be young and gorgeous in order to be attractive. The attraction between one secondary vampire character and a 60-something mortal was very nicely done - and why shouldn't a youthful-appearing vampire find an older woman appealing? He's centuries old, after all. I also liked another minor vampire character being drawn to an 80-something woman (relationship offscreen). But the need to strain credulity abounded. For instance, part of the 'suspense' hung on whether or not Elvi was Victor's lifemate - which would lead to conflict with his role as a vampire law enforcer. It takes about two seconds and very little effort to check whether or not he can read her mind - the test of whether or not she's his lifemate. And he doesn't do it for days, despite being overwhelmingly attracted to her. Unbelievable.

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