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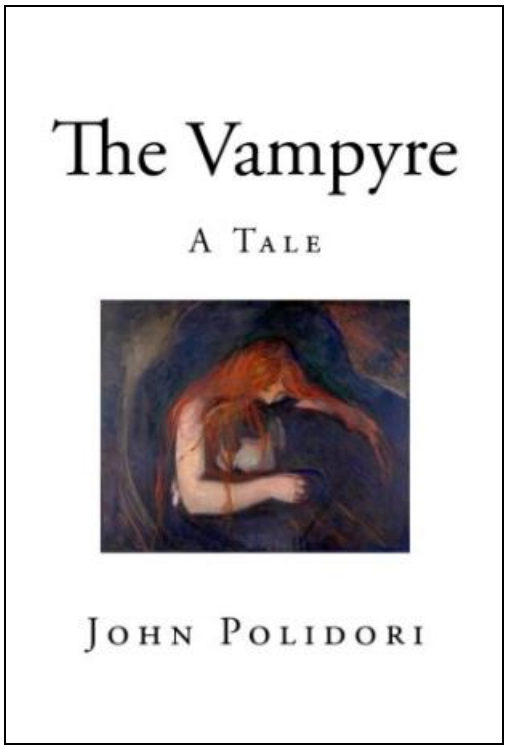

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Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. The Vampyre A Tale John Polidori Top 100 Gothic Horror The Vampyre was first published on 1 April 1819 by Henry Colburn in the New Monthly Magazine with the false attribution A Tale by Lord Byron. The name of the work s protagonist, Lord Ruthven, added to this assumption, for that name was originally used in Lady Caroline Lamb s novel Glenarvon (from the same publisher), in which a thinly-disguised Byron figure was also named Lord Ruthven. Despite repeated denials by Byron and Polidori, the authorship often went unclarified. The tale was first published in book form by Sherwood, Neely, and Jones in London, Paternoster-Row, in 1819 in octavo as The Vampyre; A Tale in 84 pages. The notation on the cover noted that it was: Entered at Stationers Hall, March 27, 1819. Initially, the author was given as Lord Byron. Later printings removed Byron s name and added Polidori s name to the title page. The story was an immediate popular success, partly because of the Byron attribution and partly because it exploited the gothic horror predilections of the public. Polidori transformed the vampire from a character in folklore into the form that is recognized today-an aristocratic fiend who preys among high society. The story has its genesis in the summer of 1816, the Year Without a Summer, when Europe and parts of North America underwent a severe climate abnormality. Lord Byron and his young physician John Polidori were staying at the Villa Diodati by Lake Geneva and were visited by Percy Bysshe Shelley, Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, and Claire Clairmont. Kept indoors by the incessant rain of that wet, ungenial summer, over three days in June the five turned to telling...

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