



Bud the Crud and the Vampire

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Vampires and werewolves and ... puberty? It's all here. My name is Buddy. Yeah, that's my real name, not a nickname. I'll explain later. This story is all about me and my sister. There's vampires and werewolves and bullies and even love, if you're into that kind of thing. Although if you want the gushy details with all the hand-holding and smooching, you'll have to ask my sister. Quite frankly, I don't want to hear about it. No one curses in this book – not even the werewolves. Looking back, some of it was pretty scary, but it all ends happily. The good guys win, no one dies, and everything goes back to normal. More or less...

Bud the Crud and the Vampire Details

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From Reader Review Bud the Crud and the Vampire for online ebook

Sheila says

I loved Bud the Crud and The Vampire-Werewolf Wars. I laughed so hard at the non-clichés. I could just imagine a younger brother thinking the same things Buddy did. He was so creative in his descriptions/storytelling. Nothing goes as planned for Buddy but he is the hero of the story. He makes a lot of friends and helps end a war. And all in a week! This is a keeper. It was so much fun.

Amybeth says

This review is for Bud the Crud and the Vampire-Werewolf Wars by Jamie Wasserman. I received this book for free from the author through LibraryThing's August 2013 Member Giveaway.

Honestly, I have to say that I hated this book. I struggled through it for a week and a half because it was too easy, wasn't interesting, and Buddy was really, really, really, really (I could go on) annoying. I did not want to write this review at all because I don't like writing bad reviews. I wouldn't want someone to read what I have written and be critical but as my fiancé and best friend said I just have to be honest because that's just the way it works. And I hate it. But Jamie Wasserman said in his email that even bad reviews are appreciated so here goes:

Buddy is awkward, short, and a geek. I thought I could relate to him but I couldn't at all. He cries a lot for no reason and rambles about stuff for most of the book.

This book was written at a teenage level for teenagers and young adults (assuming anyway), but it was written like a teenager. I guess that's okay but it just wasn't something I liked.

Buddy had a cat named Spooky. That's cool. So did my fiancé. I miss that cat. I can respect Buddy's love for animals but he talks about them wayyyyyyyyyy too much.

The part where he says "It's like having a mom inside you constantly there to protect you from the world.", yeah, that just came across as really gross. There is almost no way in the world that a 14 year old in America doesn't know a thing or two about sex. They teach sex ed in middle school now! He had to have known that wouldn't sound quite right.

Hans turning himself into a little ankle-biting dog instead of a werewolf was just hilarious. Classic.

And I liked that the ending was a nod to Stephen King's Pet Semetary. I love that movie. Please, Jamie (if you're reading this), write a sequel about that but please please please make sure he's not such a whiner that he can't tell his story. That was annoying. I'll consider reading your other books in the future but I was not satisfied by this.

Linda says

Buddy is a fourteen-year-old late bloomer with bright red hair that has been a target for bullies all his life. This is a peek at the week his whole world changed. "Vampires and werewolves and ... puberty? It's all here."

Jamie Wasserman has an uncanny way of relating to the male pubescent mind. Buddy is just trying to survive his school years by burying himself in his comic books until he graduates and then suddenly everything will be different for him, right? Out of the blue a stranger sticks up for Buddy at the mall. A boy his sister Amber has had her eye on for a while now. Will comes to Buddy's rescue when Hans destroys Buddy's new comic book "The Haunted Man." Suddenly Buddy has a friend in Will and it turns out Will has had his eye on Amber as well.

This story is told through Buddy's eyes and we see how he deals with a whole cast of characters and how he learns to deal with bullies, vampires, werewolves, and slayers. I identified with the relationship between Buddy and his cheerleader sister Amber, who could do no wrong, their relationship rang true. I also really enjoyed Guy, Buddy's new found bodyguard at school, courtesy of Will. His lessons were invaluable to Buddy as he guided him to standup for himself and meet his challenges head on. The plot moves swiftly along in this character driven tale as we follow Buddy through his days at school, trips to the mall, and to the daring rescue of his sister and Will from the slayers.

Wasserman tackles Buddy's insecurities and challenges his, as well as others, concepts of friendship in this coming of age story with vampires, werewolves, slayers and bullies. With an overall theme of "the meek shall inherit the earth," this story was handled in a delightful way. I found myself cheering Buddy on and shaking my head when he stumbled. I love Jamie Wasserman's sense of humor and will read anything he writes. I have followed his writing career now for a couple of years and I have never been disappointed. I hope to see Buddy's adventures continue as this story ends with Buddy headed to a haunted graveyard with his deceased cat Spooky and a garden spade. What could possibly go wrong?

Format/Typo Issues: I found no significant errors.

**Originally written for "Books and Pals" book blog. May have received a free review copy. ** Monday, September 9, 2013

Theresa says

good book easy to read
