



## Choosing a Master

*S.M. Perlow*

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“Like the blood of God...”

In New Orleans, a passage from a Renaissance-era book is Ethan’s only hope to save the woman he loves. He’s a vampire, so he can live forever. Ellie, however, is mortal, ill, and running out of time.

“If Sanguan vampires drank synthetic blood, like Spectavi vampires, the world would be so much safer for humans.”

In the Spectavi laboratory where synthetic blood was created, Vera is making no progress with her current projects. But for her devotion to the Spectavi cause—and their leader—she will go to any lengths.

“She would hold me when she bites, and at least while she sips my blood, I wouldn’t be alone.”

In a nightclub in France, John has an unusual encounter with a gorgeous vampire, but his love for a mortal woman forces him into a devastating choice.

Reason or passion, good or evil, duty, love, or pure pleasure—in a world with two vampire factions at war, choosing the right master is everything.

## Choosing a Master Details

Date : Published January 16th 2018 by Bealion Publishing

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Author : S.M. Perlow

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## From Reader Review Choosing a Master for online ebook

### C.C. Hrivnak says

\*Disclaimer – I was given a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. This does not effect my review whatsoever\*

Three stories, same universe, with an ending that will send you ready for the next installment....I think I'm ready to "Choose a Master" myself. I'm getting ahead of myself here. Much like Anne Rice, we are taken to the beloved city of New Orleans to get acquainted with the vampires of this series and the sequence of events that lead them to meld together.

Vampires in this series are split up into two factions. We have the Sanguans are the rogue vampires that live in their own ways. The Spectavi are peaceful vampires that partake in synthetic blood and live in harmony amongst humans.

We first meet Ethan, a vampire, who is searching for a cure for his love Ellie. He is willing to go to the ends of the earth in order to find the vital piece to turn her sickness around. Will he find it in time to awake her from her coma?

Next, is Vera. She is also looking to discover a cure of sorts within the confines of the Spectavi synthetic blood laboratory. Her patients aren't in comas, however, are suffering from deep mental problems that have been inflicted upon them for eternity.

John, a divorcee lost within his depressed soul, gets entangled with a mysterious woman named Madison. As he goes deeper into his new affair, he finds the darker side of vampirism. And his blood? Well, it holds the key to a new ecstasy amongst vampires.

There is an additional side story that I think may expand to the other books. It wasn't gone into in great detail so I'm going to assume it'll be touched on in the future books. S.M. Perlow has brought a great addition to the vampire lore and fiction. Out of all three stories, I'd have to say I enjoyed Ethan's quest the most out of the rest.

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### Karen Turner says

Loved the book, can't wait to read more. Two types of vampires, one drinks human blood the other synthetic and a human's blood that can heal like a vampires-even better.

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### Justine says

Not as good as Anne Rice, but interesting. I'll read the next one

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### **Erica (ricci.reads) says**

2.5/5\*

[CLICK HERE](#) for review.

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### **Pamela says**

S.M. Perlow skillfully entwined the lives of three individuals into one elaborate and exciting tale about two powerful vampire races and the weaker mortal humans that interacted with them. As the story progresses, it becomes more difficult to say every action is either black or white, good or evil.

Many individuals and situations appear to be a little of both good and evil. This story is non-stop action and intrigue. The plot is not easily determined and there are many unexpected surprises along the way. I enjoyed the story.

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### **Sydney says**

If you like vampire books with gothic underpinnings and fascinating characters, this is a must-read! The world created in this book combines the best of traditional vampire feel with a modern urban fantasy vibe that is stunning!

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### **Erin says**

This book was absolutely incredible! An epic novel of vampires, love, and hate.

I was extremely pleasantly surprised at just how good this book was. I have never read this series or author before, but I am now a huge fan and cannot wait to get my hands on the next one. The author is a master of his craft and should become a household name. The story is wonderful and incredibly detailed. The characters are written so detailed, you will feel like you know them personally. I cannot believe I have not heard of this author before and cannot to spread the word about him and this series!

If you like epic vampire/fantasy stories, this book is for you!

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### **Linda says**

#### **Choosing a Master**

What a great book... I just Love the Characters. They were brave, strong, determine to fight for what they believed in. ..I would recommend it .....

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## Bob Milne says

An intriguing take on vampires, with an interesting look at the power of blood, Choosing a Master makes for an exciting read, even if it does succumb to some unfortunate clichés in the final chapters.

S.M. Perlow suggests a world where vampires live openly among us, feared, tolerated, and admired, depending on the circles in which they operate. The Spectavi thrive in circles of business, politics, science, and more, earning the world's acceptance by adopting a diet of synthetic blood. The Sanguan, meanwhile, linger in back alleys, bars, and clubs, with feeding a sexual experience for those who accept it . . . and a deadly one for those who don't.

Connecting them all is the legend of a rare human blood type, one with a taste like no other, and the power to cure any mortal wound. It is the search for a carrier of the blood around which the story revolves, and the implications of finding him that drives it to a climax. Choosing a Master is about far more than just deciding who to follow or who to feed, it is about a decision that could change the world.

There is a lot to like about this. The characters are well-rounded, with genuine relationships that make it worth reading. Their worlds are distinct, and I really liked the interplay between powers. It's a largely mortal world, one where faith and superstition really don't play a part - except for the one area where they might, and that's where the story shies away from something truly deep and original, and falls into that cliché I mentioned at the opening.

I loved the idea of a vampire priest, and was fascinated by the potential he represented, especially with the story of his homeland. It's a window into a deeper war between Spectavi and Sanguan that lies at the heart of the wider story, but unless there's a twist in the next book that reverses the twist here, then it makes for an uncomfortable climax. What could have been really exciting is, instead, ugly and disappointing.

*Originally reviewed at Beauty in Ruins*

*Disclaimer: I received a complimentary ARC of this title from the publisher in exchange for review consideration. This does not in any way affect the honesty or sincerity of my review.*

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## Robert says

I generally try to avoid vampire stories, but thought I'd give this tome a go. 'Choosing a Master' by S.M. Perlow is unlike any regular vampire stories I have read before.

Vampires are a common thing in this world. But they are split into two distinct factions: the Sanguans, who feed on fresh human blood; and the Spectavi, who have set themselves up as the protectors of humankind, and only feed on mass-produced synthetic blood.

The book features a different character in each chapter, from a human named John, who's blood has the power to heal all human ailments, including death, and particularly tasty to vampires, through to a various other vampires and humans. Each character is fairly well developed, and quite likeable. However, there weren't many actual antagonists in the story. The book seems to have been intended to act as a kind of 'origins' story, covering a little bit of conflict, but nothing that really grabbed me. The 2nd half of the book includes a section where John and his lover are tricked by a Sanguan with evil intentions, but didn't seem to really get the tension up as expected.

Overall, this was a fun, quick read. I would recommend it to anyone who likes supernatural subjects, but I would advise not to expect too much. A good 3.5 stars from me.

(Thanks to Netgalley for a review copy of this book.)

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### **Susan says**

Choosing A Master is the first book in the new series Vampires And The Life Of Erin Rose. It is also the first book by SM Perlow that I have read so I wasn't sure what to expect. What I found was a well written story about two types of vampires and some humans. This book can be read as a standalone but it ends in a soft cliffhanger for another book. There is violence and some adult content.

The book blurb adequately describes the storyline so I'm not going to repeat that all of that info here. The characters are well written and multidimensional. The author does a good job of keeping a steady pace throughout the book to keep this reader interested. Though since each chapter is told from the viewpoint of a character, you need to pay attention to who it is. The story keeps you guessing what twists and turns will be revealed in the pages ahead. I do want to find out more about these characters and will continue to read future books when written.

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### **Marissa DeCuir says**

"Choosing a Master" is an incredible new first tile in the Vampires and the Life of Erin Rose series. Perfect for vampire fans and urban fantasy lovers alike, this book has it all—characters you care about, complicated mythology, and page-turning narrative that won't let you put it down!

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### **Karen says**

I really loved this story. Well written with well developed characters. I have always enjoyed paranormal stories and this one is up there at the top of my favorites. I am looking forward to what comes next. I received an ARC in exchange for an honest review and I can honestly say I was wowed by this author.

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## **Julia O'Connell says**

A copy of this books was sent to me for an honest review.

I was on the fence about this book until about 90% of the way through. The writing was a little unpolished, but the story was compelling and I loved the world that Perlow created. But the ending left a bad taste in my mouth and pushed me over the fence into disliking the book.

In Choosing a Master, there are two types of vampires that live among humans: the spectavi--who only drink synthetic blood and work together with human governments and police to keep order, and the sanguans--rogue vampires who drink human blood and do not play by spectavi rules.

The story is told from three overlapping perspectives:

Ethan is a young vampire whose high school sweetheart has been in a coma for over a decade. He's searching for a human whose blood might be the cure.

Vera is a human employed by the spectavi vampires at their research center. Along with making improvements to the synthetic blood they drink, she searches for a cure for two vampires in eternal mental anguish.

John is a human who finds himself a bit lost in life after getting divorced young. While wandering Europe, he meets a beautiful woman named Madison who may be able to give his life meaning again. But he also discovers that his blood is unusually appealing to vampires.

About 80% of the way through the book, new chapters are introduced that are not from any of these three perspectives and instead follow Dosu, a vampire who is part of a cult in the African jungle. The introduction of these chapters is when the story both begins to derail narratively and get into uncomfortable racial territory.

The part I disliked was the ending, so spoilers: (view spoiler)

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## **Taylor says**

I received this arc from netgalley in exchange for an honest review!

I actually loved this book! It is like a twist between daybreaker, interview with a vampire, and something else I can't think of atm!

I am a sucker for any book that takes place in New Orleans, it is like a drama, romance, mix. I'm not exactly sure how to explain it but I LOVED how the vampires were classic with a mix of modern adaptions. I love how human and vampire work together in a way! Ugh I don't want to say too much but you guys have to read it!

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