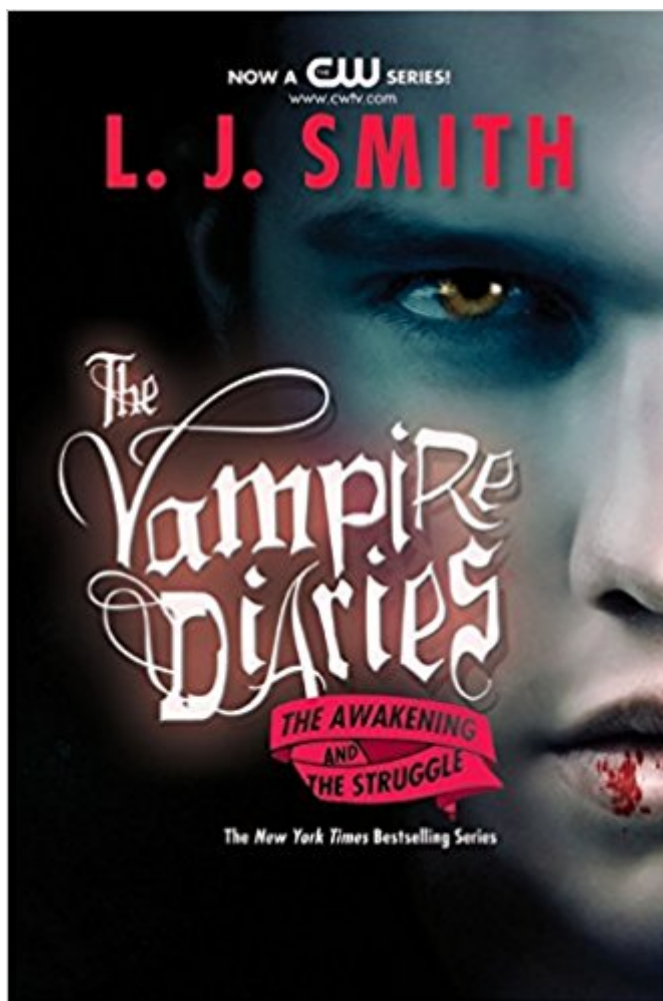




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The Awakening / The Struggle (Vampire Diaries, Books 1-2)



Synopsis

New York Times bestselling series This special paperback bind-up contains the first two books in L.J. Smith's New York Times bestselling series *The Vampire Diaries*, *The Awakening* and *The Struggle*. Elena Gilbert is a high school golden girl, used to getting what she wants. And who she wants. But when the boy she's set her sights on—the handsome and haunted Stefan—isn't interested, she's confused. She could never know the real reason Stefan is struggling to resist her: Stefan is a vampire, and Elena is in danger just by being around him. What's more, Stefan's dark, dangerous vampire brother Damon has just arrived in town. And wherever Damon goes, trouble always follows. Binge-read the first two books in the New York Times bestselling series that inspired the hit CW TV show *The Vampire Diaries* with this bind-up. **Â**

Book Information

Series: *The Vampire Diaries Books 1-5 (The Awakening and the Struggle, The Fury and Dark Reunion, The Return: Nightfall)* (Book 1)

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 314 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Elena: the golden girl, the leader, the one who can have any boy she wants. Stefan: brooding and mysterious, he seems to be the only one who can resist Elena, even as he struggles to protect her from the horrors that haunt his past. Damon: sexy, dangerous, and driven by an urge for revenge against Stefan, the brother who betrayed him. Determined to have Elena, he'd kill to possess her. Collected here in one volume for the first time, volumes one and two of *The Vampire Diaries*, the tale of two vampire brothers and the beautiful girl torn between them.

L. J. Smith has written over two dozen books for young adults, including The Vampire Diaries, now a hit TV show. She has also written the bestselling Night World series and The Forbidden Game, as well as the #1 New York Times bestselling Dark Visions. She loves to walk the trails and beaches in Point Reyes, California, daydreaming about her latest book.

After reading the "Twilight" series, I have been hooked on Vampires! The problem is, it is really hard to find vampire stories that are clean, relatively un-evil (if there is such a thing when talking about Vampires) and not too gory! Well I think I found another great series. Again, young adult, (I have decided that I am not interested adult fiction anymore) This series is a little younger, same age group as in Twilight, and another Romeo and Juliet type theme. At first the story seemed super young, and I was not loving the main girl character, but as the story progressed I was really hooked. It is a darker of course, with the whole vampire thing, but I ended really getting into the mystery and romance of it all. There are four books in this series, and this book is book 1 & 2. There is a bad word or two, which I never like, and a some blood, but the story is fast moving and was a fun read. A DEADLY LOVE TRIANGLE Elena: the golden girl, the leader, the one who can have any boy she wants. Stefan: brooding and mysterious, he seems to be the only one who can resist Elena, even as he struggles to protect her from the horrors that haunt his past. Damon: sexy, dangerous, and driven by an urge for revenge against Stefan, the brother who betrayed him. Determined to have Elena, he'd kill to possess her. Collected here in one volume for the first time, volumes one and two of The Vampire Diaries, the tale of two vampire brothers and the beautiful girl torn between them.

I am a huge fan of the vampire romance genre!!! However, to like/love these books you probably shouldn't watch the TV show first. I am a HUGE fan of The Vampire Diaries TV show, and when I found out the series were based off of books then I decided to buy the first few books. The story is really different and I already liked the plot of the TV show so these books were just an okay series for me. I only read the first four books and I wasn't too crazy about them... So only buy these if you haven't already seen the TV show!

Love these books! I wish it had been shipped in a box instead of a padded envelope though. The edges were bent.

The crappiest book I've EVER read. If you're looking to purchase because you're a fan of the T.V

series of Vampire Diaries, don't waste your time. The book is horrible and doesn't even partially follow the TV series.

this is another of L J Smiths books turned series that the show was way better. when you get past the fact that the show and book are absolutely nothing alike and that the show is so much better than the reading it is still a disappointing read. I tried to have an open mind and pretend I had no idea about the show so I wouldn't base the book off of what I see every week. the whole story just seems very rushed by the second time that Elena and Stefan spoke she was already saying she was in love. Next thing you know he was tellin his life story like he had nothing to hide. Stefan is basically the damsel in distress while elena goes around tryin to save him. there's no chance to enjoy a new development in the storyline because its like smith was just trying to hurry and get the book written.

I've loved this series since i was a child, l.j. smith's were the first books i picked up as a kid when buffy came out and i got into my vampire phase. this series is like mental comfort food for me even now. for a YA book, the characters are all remarkably well developed, and the atmosphere is wonderfully dark for a teen's book. many people are complaining that they had trouble relating to elena when the series starts, but the point of the book series is that elena starts out as a shallow, selfish teenage girl much like katherine had been several hundred years before her. but elena makes different choices and grows into a person who realizes what's really important during the course of the novel. in a way, other characters wind up struggling with similar issues... bonnie with what her newfound powers mean, matt with losing someone he loved, etc. stefan and damon are both stereotypes at first but manage to become slightly less so once we've gotten to know them. both are also struggling with various issues... and versions of those issues are what confront teens every day. "i really want to do something, even though i know it's wrong." or "what's really important in life? clothes, popularity, and status? or something else?" "what's the point of continuing to do the right things and be a good person if bad things still happen in the world?" those are some of the things the characters struggle with in this series, and their answers and experiences change them. that's one of the things i like best about this series. no character is black or white, and none of them stay 100% the same throughout the novels. it makes them much more interesting than the characters in a certain other vampire series i could name. damon is absolutely my favorite character, and one of the more well developed villains in a YA series. he doesn't come off quite as awesome in the tv. series, although i think somerholder's doing a decent job. this story is very different from the TV

series... the appearance of the main characters, the origin of the salvatore brothers, and even the name of the town have been changed. if you're looking for something exactly like the show, you'll be disappointed, but if you keep an open mind, it's a good series, and the personalities of most of the characters are the same, except what i mentioned before, that elena starts out selfish and grows up.

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