

Dracula

Bram Stoker

Why does Harker describe the vampire women as both desirable and repulsive at the same time?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	Desire and danger use the same language
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FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION	Jonathan Harker's Journal · 16 May
START	I was not alone.
END	“This man belongs to me! Beware how you meddle with him, or you’ll have to deal with me.”
PASSAGE ID	sec-dra-02

THE MOVE

Read attraction and fear without reducing the passage to one emotion

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Harker describes the vampire women with language of beauty, desire, revulsion, and animal danger at the same time. The passage refuses to let attraction and fear cancel each other, making the threat more unsettling because desire itself becomes unsafe.

MARK

Underline words of attraction or beauty. Circle words of disgust, danger, teeth, appetite, or predation. Star the sentence where the two emotional responses are hardest to separate.

NOTICE

- What features draw Harker toward the women?
- What features make the same encounter threatening?
- Why is a danger that attracts its victim more complicated than a danger that is only repulsive?

THINK

Answer provisionally: Why does Harker describe the vampire women as both desirable and repulsive at the same time? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: Why does Harker describe the vampire women as both desirable and repulsive at the same time? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	Attraction and repulsion coexist because the women's beauty and sensuality draw Harker at the same time their teeth, predatory movement, and threat make desire dangerous. One emotion does not cancel the other.
EVIDENCE	Pair specific language of beauty/desire with specific language of animal danger, disgust, or fear.
WATCH FOR	Do not choose whether Harker is 'really' attracted or 'really' afraid. The passage deliberately makes both responses simultaneous.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

STUDENT PAGE · SAME PASSAGE, SAME THINKING

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Why does Harker describe the vampire women as both desirable and repulsive at the same time?

START ANCHOR

I was not alone.

END ANCHOR

“This man belongs to me! Beware how you meddle with him, or you’ll have to deal with me.”

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OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Underline words of attraction or beauty. Circle words of disgust, danger, teeth, appetite, or predation. Star the sentence where the two emotional responses are hardest to separate.
2. NOTICE - What features draw Harker toward the women? What features make the same encounter threatening? Why is a danger that attracts its victim more complicated than a danger that is only repulsive?
3. THINK - Answer provisionally: Why does Harker describe the vampire women as both desirable and repulsive at the same time?
4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.