

Name _____



New Vampires

When most people think of vampires, they imagine scary creatures that live in dark castles, sleep in coffins, and are harmed by sunlight. In stories told for hundreds of years, vampires were known as monsters who drank human blood and feared garlic, crosses, and stakes through the heart. But *Twilight* by Stephenie Meyer changes these old ideas and introduces a new kind of vampire—one that is mysterious, beautiful, and even capable of love.

In *Twilight*, Edward Cullen and his family are vampires, but they are not like the ones in old legends. Instead of being harmed by sunlight, they sparkle like diamonds when the sun touches their skin. They do not sleep in coffins or hide in the dark; they live among humans and even go to school. The Cullens also choose not to drink human blood. Instead, they hunt animals, which makes them different from other vampires in the story. This change makes them seem less like monsters and more like people with difficult choices to make.

By redefining vampires, *Twilight* changes the way readers see them. Instead of being villains, the Cullens are heroes. Edward struggles between his vampire nature and his love for Bella, a human girl. He tries to protect her from danger, even from himself. This adds excitement and emotion to the story, making readers wonder: Can a vampire and a human truly be together?

The new vampire mythology in *Twilight* makes the story unique. It keeps some of the traditional vampire traits—like super speed, strength, and thirst for blood—but adds new ideas that make Edward and his family more complex. By making vampires more human, the novel turns them into characters that readers can understand and even admire. Instead of being just scary creatures, they become beings with emotions, struggles, and choices, which makes the story even more exciting.