

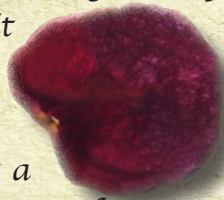
# The Legend of the Tudor Vampire Rose



People still argue today over whether the blood-red bloom known as the Tudor Vampire Rose is the result of Vampire or Druidic magic.

Arch enemies for centuries, Druids and Vampires have fought since the first vampires were created. Druid lore says this occurred when rogue Druids drank blood sacrifices meant for their gods. The result of these first Vampires' power-hungry sacrilege: the loss of each Vampire's soul and a fragile immortality. Fragile in that their existence could be stolen from them just as they'd stolen blood from the gods.

So, though a Vampire might live for centuries, if and when a stake found its heart or a sword separated it from its head, POOF, it would be as if it had never lived. Only ashes would remain.



Some say there was a great battle fought between Vampires and Druids at the time of King Henry VIII. It's believed the surviving Vampires buried the ashes of their brethren who fell to Druid sword and stake. The Tudor Vampire Rose is said to have sprung from the ground, fully-grown and blooming, the next day.

Others contend the rosebush, with its dark-as-blood red blossoms, sprang instead from ashes the Druids buried. These were the ashes left on the funeral pyre they'd built for their fellows who'd fallen in battle to Vampire fangs.

But, of course, there's a third group. This one agrees the very first Tudor Vampire Rosebush bloomed during the reign of Henry VIII. But they insist it appeared on the very spot where a beautiful Druid Vampire slayer celebrated Beltane (and lost her virginity) in the arms of a Druid-hunting son of a family that had long protected the Vampires. And this particular bush magnificent, but forever thorny, impossible love sprang fully grown at dawn as a symbol of their for one another, a love which legend had foretold centuries before either was born.

