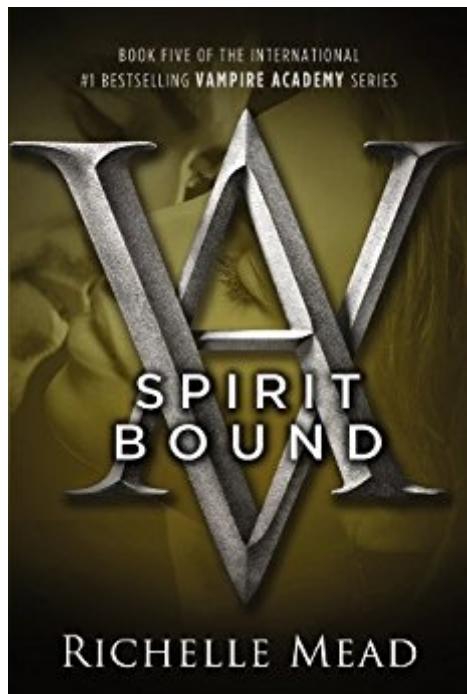


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Spirit Bound: A Vampire Academy Novel



Synopsis

Dimitri gave Rose the ultimate choice. But she chose wrong...After a long and heartbreakng journey to Dimitri's birthplace in Siberia, Rose Hathaway has finally returned to St. Vladimir's-and to her best friend, Lissa. It is nearly graduation, and the girls can't wait for their real lives beyond the Academy's iron gates to begin. But Rose's heart still aches for Dimitri, and she knows he's out there, somewhere. She failed to kill him when she had the chance. And now her worst fears are about to come true. Dimitri has tasted her blood, and now he is hunting her. And this time he won't rest until Rose joins him... forever.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I find it very challenging to review this book because it was good in so many ways that can't be explained without spoilers. But worry not, this review is Spirit Bound Spoilers Free. I will do my best to express you the passion I felt reading this book, but I'm afraid it's beyond what words can explain. Spirit Bound starts back at the Academy, it's finally graduation time and Rose has only one more challenge in front of her: The Trials. A final exam planned by guardians to test their ability to

protect Moroi "in the real world". But what worries Rose the most is the after-graduation. She always thought it rimed with freedom but reality hit her in the face. She will spend her life protecting Moroi and her own desires won't matter anymore. There's not only the weight of responsibilities though, she knows Dimitri is out there, lurking in shadows, waiting for an opportunity to kill her. In this installment, Rose is more determined than ever and will use extremely illegal ways to reach her objectives. Desperation to save Dimitri, while she still can, drives her actions and consequences won't be light. She is not risking only her future and her life but also the ones of people she loves. When we love a book, we all say "I couldn't put it down", well in this case, I loved the book so much I HAD to put it down and take deep breaths because it was just too much. Love, Passion, Treason, Fear, Sadness, Grief, all these emotions laid on paper in a so intense way it almost became unbearable. At times I couldn't believe my own eyes, events happening in that book triggered reactions in me that are beyond words!

I don't even know where to begin with Spirit Bound. I've been waiting for this book for a while and was really anxious to read it, so it was sort of a disappointment in parts and I really liked others. If you read this series from the beginning, you get to this book prepared to Rose and her way - stubborn, impulsive, selfish and unselfish at the same time, high-handed, courageous, sharp-tongued, amongst other adjectives. What you're not prepared to is seeing Rose go back to her old ways after everything she's gone though in the previous installment. She's back to being the same Rose from the first three books just a little meaner and more bad-a s s. She hasn't really grown up as you'd expect, she keeps going head first on everything and no worries about consequences, this time she even puts her friends in danger because of that. Though this may be seen as courage, I have to say it's lack of thinking most of the time. Yes, she's brave, but she never puts herself on other people's shoes. She has her ideas and wants to impose it to everyone else, and when things don't go the way she wants she throws tantrums. I've seen that there will be just one more book in this series and it would be really sad if it finished and the main character didn't get to grow up in the process. In terms of plot, I really thought it was weak though it had various aspects to it. You get three main locations with specific events in it, the court part was the worst of it, in my opinion. You get pages of Rose trying to think, brooding in her room (or wandering), not talking to anyone, having fits, while nothing really happens. She's always snapping, conflicted about Adrian, suffering for Dimitri, but no action really takes place. There's no big mystery to be revealed, nothing to keep us going.

In Richelle Mead's fifth installment to the VAMPIRE ACADEMY series, Spirit Bound (Vampire Academy, Book 5) takes the reader back to St. Vladimir's Academy where Rose and Lissa are preparing to set out into the real world. Dimitri, still in his Strigoi state, is stalking Rose with the intent to kill her; Rose is frantically searching for a way to use spirit to cure him; and both Lissa and Rose are graduating and moving on to court, where Rose's guardian role will be assigned and where Lissa hopes to move into her royal role as the last in her family's line. SPIRIT BOUND was a marked improvement over the past two books, and I was excited for that. Mead's writing style remains easily readable, and pacing was better, with the resolution of Dimitri's Strigoi state (one way or another - no spoilers) resolved within the first half of the book. Lissa's character grows in many ways, including her role in court, her personal strength, and her willingness to take risks for others. Adrian and Christian also develop as characters, with each getting more attention in this book; their wry and humorous dialogue adds much to the story. Even with these strengths, the book fell short in other ways. The plot is unsurprising with resolutions to many points that you can see far in advance, and other events are so implausible that it takes away from the credibility of the story arc. The book ends with another cliffhanger, with a set up that comes out of nowhere and makes the book feel unfinished. Even though pacing picks up soon into the book, the first 100 pages are slow, with lots of backstory and reiteration from previous books.

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