

Euclides Cruz

English 2010

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“The Twilight Saga”



By: Stephenie Meyer



## *The Twilight Saga*

*By:*

*Stephenie Meyer*

*Human relation to works of literary fiction.*



Some might ask why a man in his early thirty's would be interested in picking a topic such as this, and that is part of the reason I have. I have decided to take a deeper look into why the Twilight Series, both in literary and on film, was so popular. It is fascinating, enthralling, and moving, that the Author has managed to turn a literary work of fiction into such a craze sensation among so many different age groups. This literary work of art has been transpired and has been taken to the main screen in our modern day. It is common that films are made in

reference to the work of someone's literary genius. It is however uncommon that so many can find themselves not only involved and enthralled, but emotionally and even spiritually connected to them and the life forms they have taken over. It is not hard to answer the question as to why it has been such a huge success when you look at it from the point of view of the heart.

The author has managed to take a work of fiction and turn it into something incredibly personal and relatable to a very broad audience. She was able to convey even in fiction through her words and her hand in the making of the films, emotions and feelings that we feel every day. Thoughts and desires, hopes and dreams, triumph, trial, loss, and fear, has made not only her literary works a success but the film industry has exploded with success as well. So digging deeper, I asked myself why the author's audiences were so captivated by a fictional Love, and my only guess is that most if not all of us yearn with our whole hearts for a true unwavering love without condition. We are all searching for a love that can come from anywhere, a mother or father, a sibling or a friend, and most importantly a companion or spouse. So many yearn for a perfect love that ultimately because of our humanly flaws just do not exist. We seek for what we lack, and hope for the impossible and I believe that its faith that can bring it all to life.

Stephenie Meyer began writing the first of the four books on June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2003, surely at the time she had no idea what waited for her as she discovered the plot, characters, and what would eventually become “The Twilight Saga”.



“Stephenie Meyer graduated from Brigham Young

University with a bachelor's degree in English. She lives with her husband and three young sons in Phoenix, Arizona. After the publication of her first novel, *Twilight*, booksellers chose Stephenie Meyer as one of the "most promising new authors of 2005" (*Publishers Weekly*).

She has received great praise for *Twilight*:

- A *New York Times* Editor's Choice
- A *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of the Year
- An Amazon "Best Book of the Decade...So Far"
- A *Teen People* "Hot List" pick
- An American Library Association "Top Ten Best Book for Young Adults" and "Top Ten Books for Reluctant Readers"

- Has been translated into 20 languages

"Propelled by suspense and romance in equal parts [this story] will keep readers madly flipping the pages of Meyer's tantalizing debut."

— *Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

"The novel's danger-factor skyrockets as the excitement of secret love and hushed affection morphs into a terrifying race to stay alive. Realistic, subtle, succinct, and easy to follow, *Twilight* will have readers dying to sink their teeth into it."

— *School Library Journal* (starred review)

"Twilight was released on Nov 21st 2008 and grossed \$35.7 million on its opening day in the United States. Catherine Hardwicke became one of the most successful female directors ever when the film became the biggest opening weekend gross for a film directed by a woman. Twilight went on to gross an estimated \$392,616,625 worldwide making it one of the biggest films of 2008."

As mentioned before, I am sure there are some that would question why a man of my age was so moved and enthralled by this series and the films that came to be after her publication. I have one word that I can use that will not only shed some light on why, but also give some insight on why in general her riveting, suspenseful, and cherished words have become so incredibly popular. LOVE: It is common knowledge that we are all in some way or another looking for love. Since

the beginning of time we have all been looking for our other half, to honor and hold for eternity, to multiply and share with all of the challenges life has to offer. It seems that as the times go by that it is getting harder and harder to find that one, the one that you can love with all of your heart and soul. These works offer some insight into something a little deeper than just love; they share with all that were a part of its success the gift of true and unconditional love. Love is not rare but love without condition, is.

There are so many different elements of her work that are relatable to the human condition. Although her work is fiction and set around a world where the secrets of the unknown are more than just fairytales, and scary stories of Vampires and Werewolves, It is easy to see how like in a parable your own personal life of trial and tribulation can be shared and compared to those like our own . The similarities in the Feelings and emotions, wants, needs, and desires are either something we can relate to or something that we yearn for. When you are in tune with your thoughts, needs, and desires it is easy to see past the world of fantasy and into a world where you not only relate to a characters hopes, and fears, but find a sense of gumption within yourself through the characters accomplishments.

Although men and women are so very different there is something that I know for sure and that is we both have a propensity for falling in love. It happens at different times, it happens for different reasons, and most importantly our timing

is never perfectly in sync, but we both have the potential for falling in love with as many things as possible, and as many times as our hearts will allow. Love is given a bad reputation by men because there is a common misconception that love means you show weakness, you lack drive and your judgment is clouded. It has been proven that it is completely the opposite. Men who love are more likely to succeed in their goals and aspirations, they are more dedicated to completion of tasks, and they are more apt to being happy or content in almost any circumstance. This is why I feel that men were drawn to Stephenie Meyer's works as well as females. They focused on a strong lead male role that was not afraid to go after what they wanted no matter the cost. And many times the costs were great.

I feel that her works were brilliant at categorizing both men and women in their flaws as well as their strengths. Her use of words was thrilling and I am proud to say that I am a fan of her and her work. I am proud to say that I am a fan of LOVE.

### **Works Cited**

- **Page 4 Box office information on opening night of Twilight.**

**Hypable.com Published weekly, WEB**

- **The official website of “Stephenie Meyer/ Biography information”**

**WEB**

### **Images Cited**

**1. Image of “Twilight Saga book covers” WEB**

**2. Image of “Twilight Cast” WEB**

**3. Photo of “Stephenie Meyer” from her personal website.**





