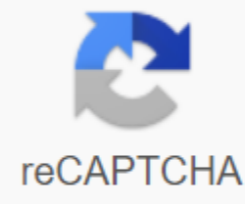




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Jean-Claude Nikolaos (former) Circus showsSide shows zombie raising. There was a bouquet of spotlights at the top of the Circus of the Damned. The lights chopped up the black night like swords. The multicolored lights that spelled the name seemed dimming with huge white lights turning overhead. Demonic clowns danced around a sign in a frozen pantomime. — Anita Blake[src] The Circus of the Damned is a local circus show located in a huge warehouse. Located under the circus is the seat of the Master of St. Louis and a daily resting place for st. Louis kiss vampires. The circus was intended for Nikolaos, but after anita was killed, ownership was handed over to the city's new master, Jean-Claude. Safety for the circus is provided by a number of oracles, werewolves and werehyen. The contents of [the show] Circus, the top floor of Edit The Circus of the Damned is in a converted warehouse. From the front, it looks like a carnival with posters promoting freak shows and dancing clowns spinning on top of a glowing sign. The warehouse includes a permanent carnival, a circus ring and a freak show that held mostly mythological creatures. Circus ring is located in the old style huge blue tent. The tent contains layers of bleachers and a solid concrete staircase that leads to the office. Circus, lower level Edit Entrance to the underground is made by a side door, which can only be opened from the inside. The door leads to a small room, with a door to the main part of the circus and the other to the underground level. Living roomUte Jean-Claude roomEdit Other chambersUdit computer room Banquet room - a large cave illuminated by gas lamps. Hostels - Underground level contains a number of smaller rooms for people and shapeshifters who live in the Circus. Gym - The larger cave has been converted into a gym, complete with covered track, weights and other equipment for training. There is also a locker. Kitchen - Small kitchen building for people and shapeshifters living inside the circus. Infirmary Vampire coffin chamber - a room containing the coffins of all vampires living in the circus. Showers - Due to the large number of people living inside the circus, a new plumbing was installed in the underground and a large shower was built, along with other smaller bathrooms. Hardcover issue cover of Anita Blake, Vampire Hunter May 1, 1995 (Ace edition) Circus of the Damned is the third book in the Anita Blake: Vampire Hunter series horror/mystery/erotica novels by Laurell K. Hamilton. The circus of the damned continues anita blake's adventure. At the same time, Anita tries to solve a series of murders with an unknown vampire pack, fending off her advances would be a vampire master, Jean-Claude and dealing with various people and creatures who wish to reveal Jean-Claude's identity and location. The circus cursed with its predecessors combines elements of supernatural, hard detective and police procedural fiction. The content of the Timeline Edit Circus of the Damned takes place in October,[1] two months after The Laughing Corpse (Aug. More time related information: Synopsis edit author website Edit I'm Anita Blake, expert on creatures of the night. I dined with shapeshifters, danced with werewolves, and was courted – but not won – by Jean-Claude, Master Vampire of the City. And now a darkly dangerous vampire named Alejandro has struck the city. He wants me as his human servant, too. The war of the undead has begun. Above me. I'd be flattered. If my life wasn't at stake... Rogue master vampire hits the city, and Anita is caught in the middle of an undead turf war. Jean-Claude, master of Vamp City, wants it for his own - but his enemies have other plans. To make matters worse, Anita gets punched in the heart when she meets a stunningly handsome high school teacher named Richard Zeeman. They're two people caught in the crossfire, or anita thinks so. When a dangerous vampire named Alejandro hits the city and claims that Anita Blake, an expert on nocturnal creatures, for her human servant, a war of the undead breaks out and put Blake's life in danger. Berkley (2002) Edit When a powerful centuries-old vampire hits Anita Blake's city, a battle of the undead ensues. Plot Edit Circus of the Damned takes place in October, two months after Laughing Corpse and begins with a meeting of Anita Jeremy Ruebens and Karl Inger to discuss potential work. Rubens explains that he created humans first to eliminate vampires by all necessary means, and asks Anita to reveal the identity and resting place of the Master of the City. Although Anita is considering turning her over to Jean-Claude from the vampire brands he placed on her at Guilty Pleasures, she ultimately refuses, at least in part because their plan is not good enough and would result in them being killed. Rubens reacts badly, but Inger is more thoughtful, and Anita agrees to reconsider his proposal if they can develop a more promising plan. Anita then receives a call from Dolph to assist in the investigation of the crime scene. When she arrived at the scene, she discovered that the victim, Carl Rupert, had been killed by a bite from several vampires. Anita informs Dolph that she believes that one master vampire must be guiding a pack of other vampires to coordinate the attack, and that because the victim died of bites from multiple different vampires, he will not rise like a vampire himself. To find out if there's a rogue vampire master in town, Anita requests a meeting with Jean-Claude and is invited to meet him at the Circus of the Damned, the Supernatural Circus and Jean-Claude's. resting place. Stephen leads her to the circus, past the act, where the snake witcher is a charming giant, seemingly supernatural, cobra. Upon arrival in the inner chamber, Anita meets Jean-Claude, along with Yasmeen, a master vampire ally of Jean-Claude, and two people lying naked in bed, Richard Zeeman and Rashida. Yasmeen confronts Anita, alternately attacks and tries to seduce her. Jean-Claude explains that Anita's refusal to admit that she is his human servant causes him political problems, and tells Anita that if he accepts his role, he will resolve the confrontation with Yasmeen. Of course, Anita refuses. Jealous of Yasmeen's attention anita, Yasmeen is a human servant and lover, Marguerite, challenges Anita to the duel that Anita wins. Yasmeen, enraged by the anita that defeated Marguerita, attacks Anita, but Anita continues to refuse to ask Jean-Claude for help. Anita is eventually rescued with her silver cross, which comes into contact with Yasmeen's bare skin and burns hot enough to burn both Anita and Yasmeen. The confrontation is then shortened by the crisis in the arena outside. During the confrontation, a giant snake, apparently once revered as a god in ancient Egypt, killed the serpent's witcher and is now out of control. (Although Anita does not explicitly mention this, there is a chance that this event was caused by a panoliver, which Anita later teaches has power over snakes and tries to replace the Master of the City.) Jean-Claude, Yasmeen, Marguerite, Rashida, Stephen and Richard all rush down to fight the snake. At Jean-Claude's request, Anita helps, both by increasing Jean-Claude's powers with her presence and with her weapon. With Ana's help, the snake is killed, though it almost tears Rashid's arm off. Jean-Claude criticizes Richard for not doing everything in his power to fight the snake, and then informs Anita that neither he nor Yasmeen are the rogue vampire master responsible for the recent murder, and that he knows of no other master vampires who might be suspects. Jean-Claude admits that while he would normally know if any new masters had arrived on his territory, the current events are so chaotic that he might not know in this case. Anita agrees to bring Richard home, along with Stephen, who is almost unconscious from the strain of transformation into his wolf form and back to man. Anita is attracted to Richard, a handsome and kind high school teacher who is inexplicably mixed with Jean-Claude, and after some initial backlash, agrees to go on a rush date with Richard next Saturday. After planting Stephen and Richard, Anita comes to her house and finds Edward waiting for her. Edward has accepted another contract to kill the St. Louis master, and he wants Anita to tell him about his master's identity and place of daily rest. (In Guilty Pleasures, Anita found clues that He implied that Malcolm was the client who hired Edward to kill Nikolaos, the master at the time. However, in this case, Anita will find no trace of whether people against vampires, Mr. Oliver, or anyone else is responsible for the contract for Jean-Claude.) Edward tells Anita that he followed Anita to the Circus of the Damned and watched the fight against the giant snake. Based on this struggle, Edward estimates that either Jean-Claude or Yasmeen is the master of the city. As with Rubens and Inger, Anita considers whether handing Over Jean-Claude Edward would free her from her status as a human servant, but decides to delay, and successfully bluffs Edward into suspicion that the true Master of the City is someone else. Edward demands that she soon tell him about the Lord's identity and place of rest, or face the consequences. Edward leaves and Anita goes to bed, but is visited by Jean-Claude's dream. Later that day, Anita visits the gym to work out with Ronnie and learns that Carl Rupert, the murder victim, was a member of the Vampire Organization. Ronnie also reminds Anita that their friend Catherine has scheduled a Halloween party for the day Anita had planned to go out with Richard. Ronnie teases Anita about having a date, and Anita calls Richard, who agrees to go to a Halloween party with her and check it out. That night, Dolph called and asked Anita to investigate another vampire murder. The victim, a woman, was also killed by a vampire pack. As night falls, Anita and Dolph notice that a change comes on a woman's corpse as she transforms from just dead to something radiantly beautiful. Anita realizes that if the rogue master is a vampire strong enough, her victims could rise after a single bite. If so, the victims, each of whom died when bitten by a whole pack of vampires, would rise up like an animal vampire. Anita worries that hospital staff might be unprepared for the previous victim to rise up like a vampire and call the hospital, but she won't get any response. She then calls Bert, who tells her that the new hire Larry Kirkland covers her animations for the night, and that Rupert had a dying will asking him to bet, and that because Anita was available, John Burke went to the hospital to perform a softer. Anita and the police are rushing to the hospital to find out why no one is answering their calls. Anita and several police officers arrive at the hospital, and find the morgue wing abandoned. Rupert apparently woke up in an animal state, killed a vampire counselor, tore open the door of a steel morgue, and went on a rampage, killing nurses and guards when he found them. Anita and the police meet John Burke, who was in the hospital hunting Rupert, and they continue to hunt together. Rupert surprises them and is able to kill one of the cops before Anita makes him impossible. After confirming that Rupert Dead, Anita leaves to make sure that Larry Kirkland is able to cover her planned animations for the night. Anita's going to catch up with Larry on his third animation of the night. Although Larry is strong, he is young and inexperienced, and begins to lose control of zombies. Anita enters, feeds the zombies her blood and asserts control over it. After the zombie, Andrew Dougal, signs the will, his family leaves and Anita is forced to explain that he is dead and return him to his grave. She and Larry are getting ready for their next meeting. Larry, a twenty-year-old college senior hired at Animators, Inc. for a co-op job, disagrees that his overreach put him in danger. Anita considers him very innocent and young, even though he is only a few months younger than when she started at the same construction site. She wants her to keep him innocent and try to talk him out of his new job, but he refuses. On the way to the cars, Anita and Larry are attacked by members of Humans First in an attempt to force Anita to reveal jean-claude's name and resting place. Anita and Larry escape, but hit the baby while driving away. They check on the baby and find out that he's actually a child vampire, older than Jean-Claude and very powerful. Child vampire attacks them, along with two powerful female vampires and Alejandro, the champion of the group. Using their necklace crosses and Anita's cross charm bracelet, Anita and Larry fend off vampires for a while, and even try to leave a second time, but eventually, Alejandro captures Larry and threatens to kill him if Anita gives up. Alejandro also demands that Anita give him the name and resting place of the city master, but Anita refuses. Alejandro beats Anatina, and she passes out. When they wake up, the vampires are gone, apparently driven out by an attack by members of the people against vampires who have come to Ana's aid according to the principle of the enemy of my enemy. Larry takes Anita home and tells her he wants to be both an animator and a vampire executioner. Anita reluctantly decides to mentor Larry and decides that if she can't convince him to give up hunting monsters, she'll do her best to teach him the skills needed to stay alive. At home, Anita finds Edward, who threatens to torture her if she doesn't reveal the name of the St. Louis master. Anita tells him alejandro is the Master, and he goes to sleep. The next morning, Karl Inger calls and tells Anita that he plans to kill the Master of the City, and Anita agrees to meet him. Karl takes Anita to a country home, where he meets Mr. Oliver, a vampire so old he's a member of homo erectus, and Melanie, a lamia under Mr. Oliver's control. Mr. Oliver explains that he wants to become a master of the city, and demands that Anita reveal the master's identity and location. Anita question and returns to St. Louis, where he learns from Ronnie that both murder victims were members of the human against vampires and had dying wills that required them to be planted after death. Both victims had the same lawyer, and Ronnie suspects someone in the lawyer's office leaked their identities to the killers. Anita gives a clue to Dolph, who agrees with the investigation. That evening, Anita and Larry are interrupted in their animation duties by Jean-Claude, who demands to meet him at the Circus of the Damned. Without revealing to Larry that Jean-Claude was the master of the city, Anita meets him and learns that somehow she got her first grade as Alejandro's human servant, as well as Jean-Claude, something jean-claude considered impossible. The next morning, Anita comes home to find Melanie and three men are waiting for her. They take her to a country cave because they believe it's a meeting with Mr. Oliver, and then the lights go out. Alejandro appears and demands that Anita become his human servant, but she tries to escape. During the escape, she kills three men accompanying Melanie, as well as Melanie's partner, a man named Raju, whom Melanie turned into a half-snake form. Before Raju died, he bit Anita and injected her with poison. Anita eventually swims through a submerged tunnel to the lake and escapes in time to be picked up by Edward, who followed her into the cave. Edward takes Anita home to meet Richard. Anita dies of lamia poison and can not be treated because lamia are considered extinct, so there is no anti-poison. Richard suggests that anita is infected with lycanthropes to save her life, but Anita says she'd rather die than become an lycanthrope. Richard refuses to let Anita die and brings her to Jean-Claude, who marks Anita with the third mark as his human servant, drinks blood from her wrist and makes her immune to poison. Anita is outraged that Jean-Claude gave her another brand, and threatens to kill him, regardless of the fact that the brand saved her life. To free herself from Jean-Claude, Anita calls Mr. Oliver and reveals Jean-Claude's name and location. Oliver promises to kill Jean-Claude that night, on Halloween. Shortly thereafter, Dolph calls Ana and reveals the results of his investigation. A paralegal handed over the names of two vampire murder victims and revealed during interrogation that there was a conspiracy to force every vampire in St. Louis to go on a rampage. Anita realizes that if Mr. Oliver becomes master of the city, he'll be able to command every vampire in town to start a murder spree, and he'll call Jean-Claude to warn him. Jean-Claude is surprised that Anita is actually willing to kill him, but thanks her for the warning. Anita will bring Edward to the Circus of the Damned and prepare for battle. explains that he and Mr. Oliver have agreed to fight for control of the city. In front of a circus audience, their minions will physically fight, while Jean-Claude and Mr. Oliver will engage in a conflict of raw vampire power. Edward, Anita, Rashida, Yasmeen, Marguerite, Richard and Stephen will fight for Jean-Claude, while Mr. Oliver, Karl Inger, Alejandro, Melanie and Alejandro's pack of vampires will fight for Mr. Oliver. Edward kills most or all of Alejandro's pack, while Alejandro kills Yasmeen. Marguerite, torn by grief, exhales her eyes and is out of battle. Alejandro marks Anita with the third and fourth marks, drinks Anita's blood and makes her drink it, which will make Anita his full human servant. Through their connection, Anita learns that Oliver believes that the legalization of vampires threatens society, and that Oliver plans to force the vampires of the city into a murderous rampage to end america's experiment of legalizing vampires. In the end, Oliver wins the battle and holds Jean-Claude. Oliver demands that Anita bet Jean-Claude and concludes that if Jean-Claude's alleged human servant kills him, he will be fully discredited. But the combination of Ana's own power as a necromando and the power that was adopted as Alejandro's human servant prevents Oliver or Alejandro from directly controlling her. Richard, armed with a gun, tries to fight Oliver, but Oliver rips his throat out. Oliver tries to intimidate Anita into killing Jean-Claude, but at the last minute Anita executes Alejandro's plan, instead chasing Oliver and then chopping off his head. At this point, Alejandro attempts to kill Jean-Claude and usurp both Jean-Claude and Oliver's position, but Anita tears his heart off his chest, then strangles him as she herself also dies on the trunk of her lord of death. Later, Anita comes to the hospital and learns that Edward and the paramedics revived her with CPR, that Jean-Claude is still alive, and that Richard also lived because, unknown to her, he was a werewolf, and strong enough to mask his identity. Richard explains that the pack leader ordered him to attend, but that he would no longer do so. Anita also learns that Alejandro's designation as his human servant and subsequent death removed Jean-Claude's marks and that she was theoretically liberated from him. Anita decides to continue dating Richard, but she's not sure if she can adapt to his lycanthrope, or why she was so sad when she thought Jean-Claude would be killed. Meanwhile, Melanie lamia started working for Jean-Claude, as one of the attractions at the Circus of the Damned. Characters Edit Circus of the Damned presents the following characters. Main Character Edit Anita Blake - Anita continues her progress because initially she is willing to kill Jean-Claude rather than be labeled as his Butler, but eventually continue to accept his role as a bridge between the worlds of people and monsters in order to save the city. At the end of The Circus of the Damned, Anita sees Jean-Claude as something more human and is willing to continue dating Richard, even though he is one of the monsters. Jean-Claude - Hamilton reveals a little more of Jean-Claude's character in this novel. Jean-Claude's control of the city is apparently uncertain, and the faithful form he seeks to exploit this weakness to force Anita to surrender to him, showing his previously established manipulative, seductive and somewhat ruthless nature. In addition, Jean-Claude proves to be quite brave in his vastly outsmed fight against Mr. Oliver, and quite deeply connected to Anita when he does not try to kill her in revenge for having almost killed him, nor give up his romantic pursuit. Richard Zeeman - a nice guy alternative to the manipulative seduction of Jean-Claude, Richard's good looks and brown hair resemble Anita Phillip, a convicted stripper from Guilty Pleasures. Richard's good looks, charm and emotional vulnerability contributed to the love/hate relationship Anita developed with him over the next few novels. Mr. Oliver - the most threatening adversary Anita has faced so far, and perhaps the most threatening ever. By embodying her previous position that vampires are irreparable monsters, Mr. Oliver helped move Anita to some middle ground. Alejandro - an ancient vampire who is the first vampire to share all four stamps with her, and thus the first to make her his full human servant, although in no way is she a servant to him. Due to his actions in this novel she is exempt from the Jean Claudes brands she acquired in Guilty Pleasures. Another recurring character Edit novel introduced recurring characters Larry Kirkland and Stephen. Non-Recurring Characters Edit Non-recurring characters include: Jeremy Rubens, leader of People Against Vampires, Karl Inger, Mr. Oliver's human servant. The first vampire to make her a full human servant, Alejandro, Rashid, Melanie and Marguerita, a beautiful but unstable blonde with blue eyes who is Yasmeen's human servant and mistress. After Yasmeen was killed, Marguerite scratched her eyes out with grief. Images Edit Hardcover1995 first edition paper back (Ace Books) Japanese edition cover. Translated title: Circus of the Dead.Ace release back coverJove edition back coverJove edition copyright pageIn addition to the photo gallery Edit Reference Edit 1: It is October and the grass was still green. ^ Circus of the Damned, Chapter 02: It was October and the grass was still green. ^ Circus of the Damned, Chapter 33: How Old Are You? ... Twenty-four. ^ Circus of the Damned, Chapter 32: How Old Were You (Anita) When You Started Working for Me (Bert)? Twenty-one. ^ Circus of the Damned, Chapter 32: When will you be twenty-one, Larry?

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