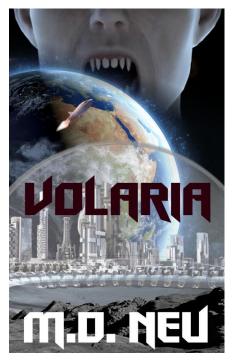
PRESS RELEASE

Why not have Vampires in Space and on the Moon. Local San Jose author M.D. Neu Is at it again, this time taking us into the future.

SAN JOSE, Ca. – September 27, 2022 – Local award winning LGBTQIA author, M.D. Neu, releases a dark tale about a future where humans, vampires, arcanes, and lycans must live and work together. Welcome to *Volaria*, set to launch on October 1, 2022. Neu is a science fiction, paranormal, and fantasy writer who grew up in east San Jose, California. His latest novel features queer characters and has his latest story published through publishing house; Spectrum Books a London based publisher. Neu continues his tradition of setting his novels in San Jose and the surrounding Bay Area, but not the San Jose of our time, this novel takes us to the future, a hundred years into the future.



Volaria is the newest novel by M.D. Neu and is different from his other works, this tale is darker and doesn't guarantee a happy ending. Tobin doesn't take risks, especially when it comes to the new species of humans. However, this month instead of making his mandatory blood donation for the vampire community, he visits Biter, a vampire spa in San Jose. However, permitting a vampire to feed off you can cause shared memories. Tobin's encounter opens a window to his past and an experience he had as a child on the moon. Questions abound as he tries to unravel his past and find out what happened to him on Volaria.

This new novel joins the growing list of works produced by M.D. Neu who currently has six novels, two short stories, and is part of four anthologies all can be found and purchased here http://amzn.to/2Fv7G7M.

"We are delighted to have the opportunity to publish Volaria," Andrew May Director of Spectrum Books says. "This novel is quite different from what we typically produce and our team new we had to pick up the option for this book."

And what does Neu have to say about his latest novel. "This is something different for me," Neu says. "I wanted to stretch my writing muscles and see if I could write something darker and outside the norm for me." But fans of Neu's work will still see the rich characters and settings Neu is famous for. "Despite this not being my typical story, I still wanted my characters to have a life and to be relatable to everyone. We are still going to see ourselves in these people and these places." Neu assured.

What can readers expect to see in this new work, well Neu shared this, "These are not perfect characters and life isn't easy, I suppose this novel reflects the shift we all went through during the pandemic, even though this isn't a pandemic story, you'll see some similarities. My main character Tobin, for one, has mental health issues and it's a part of the story and who he is. In fact, the two main characters both have suffered some form of trauma and are each dealing with these past events in different ways."

"Stigma around mental health issues and treatment is a significant obstacle for so many." Jennifer Solomon, LMFT local mental health provider in Santa Clara County said. "When people are able to see mental health issues represented or portrayed in a non-judgmental venue, it can make them feel less alone or isolated, especially in communities where people already feel alone. The hope is that people will seek the support they need to begin their journey of healing."

Like with Neu's other works he doesn't shy away from showing strong characters that reflect our diverse world. In the case of *Volaria*, not only are the characters part of the queer community, but, as he mentioned, have mental health issues. "We need to show people as they are. No one is perfect, so why do we insist on showing perfect people in all our media. The more we show not only sexual and physical diversity but mental health diversity the less there is a stigma," Neu said and added. "People are more willing to talk about these subjects and share what they are experiencing if they see it reflected in our media."

M.D. Neu grew up in an accepting family in east San Jose, California. He always wondered why there were never stories reflecting who he was. Constantly surrounded by characters that only reflected heterosexual society, he decided he wanted to change that. He took to writing to tell good stories that reflected our diverse world. But Neu also had to deal with minor mental health issues when he was younger again making him wonder why we don't see these health issues in our media.

"Look, I don't know anyone who hasn't had to deal with some form of mental health issues and we never talk about it, well here I am talking about it in this new book," Neu says.

Living in the heart of Silicon Valley and growing up around technology, he was always fascinated with what could be, and was specifically drawn to Science Fiction and Paranormal television and novels. When Neu isn't writing, he works for a local non-profit and travels with his husband of 20 plus years.

The official launch of *Volaria* will be October 1, 2022. You can pre-order the novel here: https://mybook.to/volaria For more details on the novel and to learn more about M.D. Neu and his paranormal, fantasy, and science fiction LGBTQIA stories visit www.mdneu.com. Follow him on social media: @mdneuauthor on Facebook, @Writer_MDNeu on Twitter, and authormdneu on Instagram.

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