

Twilight: A Primer

MANY YEARS AGO WHEN OUR forebears started SUNSTONE, they probably dreamed that someday their magazine would dedicate almost an entire issue to talking about a vampire romance. That proud day has finally arrived.

For those out of the pop culture loop, Stephenie Meyer, an Arizona-dwelling member of the LDS Church, has become astoundingly popular on a world-wide scale for writing a series of novels called the *Twilight* Saga. The books follow the adventures of Bella—an ordinary human girl,

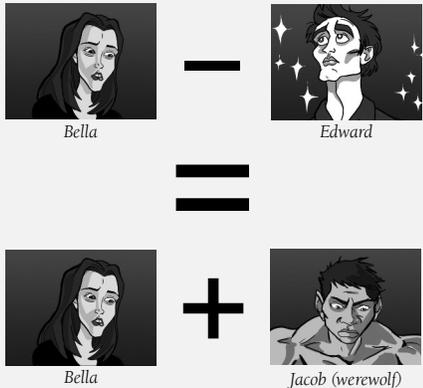
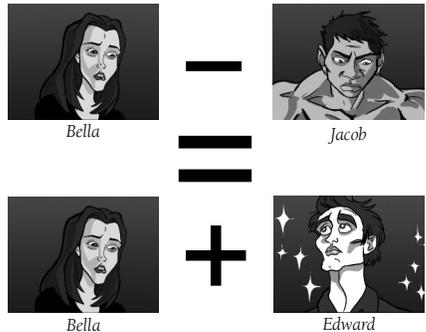
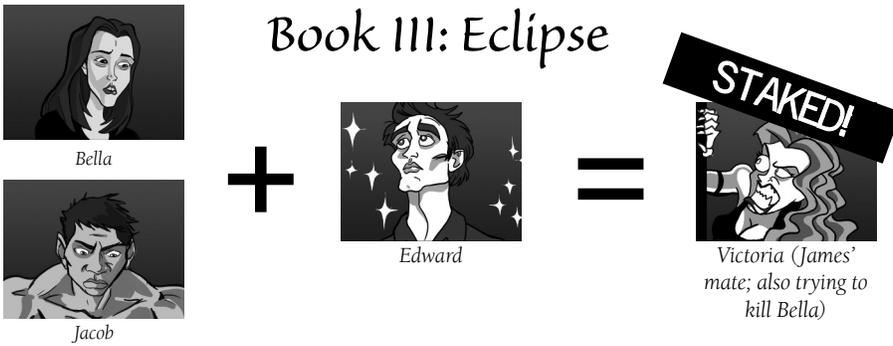
and Edward—the vampire who loves her.

The series and its author might have gone unmentioned upon in this magazine's pages but for the fact that the rest of the world is fascinated by Meyer's Mormon-ness. For the first time, it seems that the world is saying, "Why, yes. I *would* like to know more!"

Ever eager to bridge the gap between Mormonism and the larger world, SUNSTONE has gathered articles that read the *Twilight* novels through a Mormon lens. What might run through a bishop's mind if

he saw the Cullens (Edward's vampire "family") walk into the chapel? How might one of Meyer's werewolves react to a discussion of the pre-mortal existence? Could Bella's journey into vampirism be read as a metaphor for the redemption process?

If by some quirk of fate you're not one of the 85 million people who have read Meyer's novels, go right to the *Twilight* primer below, which contains everything about the Saga you need to know in order to understand and enjoy the articles in this issue.

<h3>Book I: Twilight</h3>  <p>Bella (human) + Edward (vampire) = Heart</p>		<h3>Book II: New Moon</h3>  <p>Bella - Edward = Bella + Jacob (werewolf)</p>	
 <p>Bella + Ed's Vampire Family = James (evil vampire trying to kill Bella)</p>		 <p>Bella - Jacob = Bella + Edward</p>	
<h3>Book III: Eclipse</h3>  <p>Bella + Edward = Victoria (James' mate; also trying to kill Bella)</p>			
<h3>Book IV: Breaking Dawn</h3>  <p>Bella + Edward = Renesmee</p>			
		 <p>Bella = Vampire</p>	