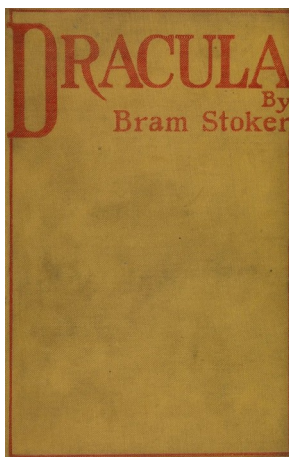


# Dracula chapter by chapter

A printable sheet for students and teachers | Studying Dracula | Version 1 | October 2026

No single narrator tells *Dracula*. This sheet maps the 27 chapters: who writes, in what form, on which dates, and what happens. Use it to find a passage quickly, to plan reading, or to track who knows what at each stage. The second part is a blank timeline for the activity "Who knew what, when".

This sheet describes the whole plot, including the ending. First-time readers may prefer the spoiler-free Reading Dracula guide.



*Dracula*, 1897 first edition, yellow cloth cover. Courtesy of the Bram Stoker Estate.

## Part one: the castle (Chapters 1–4)

| Ch. | Dates            | Documents                             | What happens                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----|------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1   | 3–5 May          | Jonathan Harker's journal (shorthand) | Harker travels from Munich through Klausenburgh and Bistritz to the Borgo Pass; the landlady's crucifix, the coach passengers' gifts, the driver with the red eyes, the blue flames, the wolves.                                                                               |
| 2   | 5–8 May          | Harker's journal                      | Arrival at the castle. The Count's welcome, his English, his history of his race; no servants, no mirrors; the shaving-glass and the cut; "The castle is a veritable prison, and I am a prisoner!"                                                                             |
| 3   | 8–16 May         | Harker's journal                      | The Count's pride in the Szekelys; Harker made to write letters on business only; the Count crawling down the wall; the three women and the "wicked, burning desire"; the bag with the child.                                                                                  |
| 4   | 16 May – 30 June | Harker's journal                      | The three post-dated letters; Harker's own letters stolen; the Count in Harker's clothes; the mother at the gate and the wolves; the chapel and the boxes of earth; the Count in his box, "gorged with blood"; Harker's attempt with the shovel and his resolve to climb down. |

## Part two: Whitby and London (Chapters 5–9)

| Ch. | Dates    | Documents                                                                                                                 | What happens                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5   | 9–26 May | Letters, Mina to Lucy and Lucy to Mina; Dr Seward's phonograph diary; letter, Quincey Morris to Arthur Holmwood; telegram | Mina practises shorthand to help Jonathan. Lucy receives three proposals in one day: "Why can't they let a girl marry three men?" Seward first describes Renfield. |

| Ch. | Dates                                         | Documents                                                                                                            | What happens                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6   | 24 July – 6 August (Seward: 5 June – 20 July) | Mina Murray's journal; Seward's diary                                                                                | Mina at Whitby: the harbour, the abbey, St Mary's churchyard, Mr Swales and the lies on gravestones. Renfield's flies, spiders and sparrows: a "zoöphagous (life-eating) maniac". Lucy sleepwalks.                                                                    |
| 7   | 8–10 August (the log: 18 July – 4 August)     | Cutting from <i>The Dailygraph</i> ; log of the <i>Demeter</i> ; Mina's journal                                      | The storm and the wreck; the dead captain lashed to the wheel; the log of the crew's disappearance one by one; the great dog leaping ashore; the funeral.                                                                                                             |
| 8   | 10–21 August                                  | Mina's journal; letters between solicitors and carriers; letter from Sister Agatha; Seward's diary                   | Mina finds Lucy in the churchyard with a tall dark figure bending over her; the two marks on Lucy's throat; business letters trace the boxes to Carfax; Jonathan is found in a Budapest hospital. Renfield escapes to Carfax: "I am here to do Your bidding, Master." |
| 9   | 24 August – 6 September                       | Letters, Mina and Lucy; Seward's diary; Lucy's diary; letters and telegrams between Seward, Holmwood and Van Helsing | Mina marries Jonathan in Budapest and seals his journal. Lucy's decline at Hillingham. Van Helsing is summoned from Amsterdam and examines Lucy.                                                                                                                      |

### Part three: Lucy (Chapters 10–16)

| Ch. | Dates           | Documents                                                                                                   | What happens                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10  | 7–11 September  | Letter, Seward to Holmwood; Seward's diary; Lucy's diary                                                    | The first transfusions, from Arthur and then Seward; the garlic flowers; Van Helsing's silence about his suspicions.                                                                                                                         |
| 11  | 12–18 September | Lucy's diary; Seward's diary; <i>The Pall Mall Gazette</i> on the escaped wolf; telegram; Lucy's memorandum | Van Helsing gives his own blood; Mrs Westenra removes the garlic; the wolf Bersicker breaks the window; Lucy's mother dies; the maids are drugged; Lucy's memorandum written as she waits. Renfield attacks Seward: "The blood is the life!" |
| 12  | 18–20 September | Seward's diary; letters from Mina; Patrick Hennessey's report                                               | Quincey gives blood; Lucy's teeth lengthen; the voluptuous voice; her death, which seems to give back her beauty. Van Helsing: "It is only the beginning!"                                                                                   |
| 13  | 22–25 September | Seward's diary; Mina's journal; <i>The Westminster Gazette</i> on the "Bloofer Lady"                        | Lucy's funeral; Van Helsing's hysterical laughter in the carriage afterwards; Mina and Jonathan see the Count in Piccadilly, grown younger; children are lured on Hampstead Heath.                                                           |
| 14  | 23–26 September | Mina's journal; letters and telegrams between Mina and Van Helsing; Jonathan's journal; Seward's diary      | Mina transcribes Jonathan's journal; Van Helsing reads it and believes it; he tells Seward that the children's wounds were made by Lucy. "It is the fault of our science that it wants to explain all."                                      |
| 15  | 26–29 September | Seward's diary; Van Helsing's note                                                                          | The tomb visited twice; the empty coffin; the child in the churchyard; Lucy seen in her tomb, more beautiful than in life.                                                                                                                   |
| 16  | 29 September    | Seward's diary                                                                                              | The "Bloofer Lady" confronted; "Come to me, Arthur"; Arthur drives the stake; Lucy's face returns to "sweetness and purity"; the pact to hunt the Count.                                                                                     |

### Part four: the alliance (Chapters 17–22)

| Ch. | Dates           | Documents                                          | What happens                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 17  | 29–30 September | Seward's diary; Mina's journal; Jonathan's journal | Mina arrives at the asylum, typewrites Seward's phonograph cylinders and arranges every record in order; "the world seems full of good men". Jonathan traces the boxes. |

| Ch. | Dates                    | Documents                                                         | What happens                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 18  | 30 September – 1 October | Seward's diary; Mina's journal                                    | Mina meets Renfield, who speaks lucidly. Van Helsing's lecture on the vampire's powers and limits; "We have on our side power of combination". The men decide to exclude Mina: "She has man's brain... and a woman's heart." Renfield begs to be released. |
| 19  | 1–2 October              | Jonathan's journal; Seward's diary; Mina's journal                | The men enter Carfax; the rats; 29 of the 50 boxes remain. Mina, alone, sees mist at her window and dreams of a white face and red eyes.                                                                                                                   |
| 20  | 1–3 October              | Jonathan's journal; Seward's diary; letter from the estate agents | Jonathan traces boxes to Bermondsey, Mile End and Piccadilly. Renfield's conversation about souls; his fatal injuries.                                                                                                                                     |
| 21  | 3 October                | Seward's diary                                                    | Renfield's deathbed account; the men break into the Harkers' room: the Count forcing Mina to drink from his breast, "a child forcing a kitten's nose into a saucer of milk". "Unclean, unclean!"                                                           |
| 22  | 3 October                | Jonathan's journal                                                | The Host scars Mina's forehead. The boxes at Carfax and Piccadilly are sterilised; the Count's papers found.                                                                                                                                               |

## Part five: the pursuit (Chapters 23–27)

| Ch. | Dates                                | Documents                                                                                    | What happens                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 23  | 3–4 October                          | Seward's diary; Jonathan's journal                                                           | The Count confronted in Piccadilly: "Your girls that you all love are mine already." Mina asks to be hypnotised at dawn and hears water and sails: the Count is at sea.                                              |
| 24  | 4–6 October                          | Seward's phonograph diary spoken by Van Helsing; Jonathan's and Mina's journals              | The <i>Czarina Catherine</i> sails for Varna. Van Helsing explains why the Count has fled and why he must be followed; Mina insists on going with them.                                                              |
| 25  | 11–28 October                        | Seward's diary; Jonathan's journal; telegram                                                 | Mina extracts the men's promise to kill her if she turns. In Varna; Mina classifies the Count: "a criminal and of criminal type. Nordau and Lombroso would so classify him." The ship is diverted to Galatz.         |
| 26  | 29 October – 4 November              | Seward's diary; Mina's journal and memorandum; Jonathan's journal                            | At Galatz; Mina's memorandum, a formal "ground of inquiry", works out the river route by a process of exclusion; the party divides: launch, horseback, and Mina with Van Helsing by carriage towards the Borgo Pass. |
| 27  | 1–6 November; Note seven years later | Mina's journal; Van Helsing's memorandum; Jonathan's journal; Seward's diary; the final Note | The three women destroyed in the castle; the Holy circle; the race to the box at sunset; Quincey's death; the Count's face at peace as he crumbles. The Note: Quincey Harker, and "hardly one authentic document".   |

Chapter numbers and dates follow the 1897 text as reproduced by Project Gutenberg (ebook 345). The novel's entries run from 3 May to 6 November of an unnamed year; the final Note is set seven years later.

### Blank timeline: who knew what, when

Work through the novel and record each new piece of knowledge. In the last column, note who now knows it, and whether the reader knew first.

| Date | Ch. | Document and writer | What is learned | Who now knows? Did the reader know first? |
|------|-----|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|
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## The knowledge grid

For each character, write the chapter in which they first learn each fact. Where does the reader know first, and what does that do to the suspense?

| Character       | Learns that Harker is alive | Learns what Lucy has become | Learns what the Count is |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Jonathan Harker |                             |                             |                          |
| Mina            |                             |                             |                          |
| Lucy            |                             |                             |                          |
| Dr Seward       |                             |                             |                          |
| Van Helsing     |                             |                             |                          |
| Arthur Holmwood |                             |                             |                          |
| Quincey Morris  |                             |                             |                          |
| Renfield        |                             |                             |                          |
| The reader      |                             |                             |                          |

### What the grid shows

More on the Estate website: Studying Dracula, including the full chapter map with a focus for study, at [bram-stoker-estate-review.vercel.app/resources/studying-dracula/chapter-map](https://bram-stoker-estate-review.vercel.app/resources/studying-dracula/chapter-map).