

DRACULA

By Bram Stoker

CHAPTER I

JONATHAN HARKER'S JOURNAL

(Kept in shorthand.)

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27 3 May. *Bistritz*.—Left Munich at 8:35 P. M., on 1st May, arriving at
43 Vienna early next morning; should have arrived at 6:46, but train was an
60 hour late. Buda-Pesth seems a wonderful place, from the glimpse which I
77 got of it from the train and the little I could walk through the streets. I feared
92 to go very far from the station, as we had arrived late and would start as near
107 the correct time as possible. The impression I had was that we were leaving
120 the West and entering the East; the most western of splendid bridges over
134 the Danube, which is here of noble width and depth, took us among the
138 traditions of Turkish rule.

150 We left in pretty good time, and came after nightfall to Klausenburgh.
166 Here I stopped for the night at the Hotel Royale. I had for dinner, or rather
180 supper, a chicken done up some way with red pepper, which was very good
195 but thirsty. (*Mem.*, get recipe for Mina.) I asked the waiter, and he said it
210 was called “paprika hendl,” and that, as it was a national dish, I should be
223 able to get it anywhere along the Carpathians. I found my smattering of

238 German very useful here; indeed, I don't know how I should be able to get
241 on without it.

255 Having had some time at my disposal when in London, I had visited the
268 British Museum, and made search among the books and maps in the library
279 regarding Transylvania; it had struck me that some foreknowledge of the
291 country could hardly fail to have some importance in dealing with a
306 nobleman of that country. I find that the district he named is in the extreme
318 east of the country, just on the borders of three states, Transylvania,
330 Moldavia and Bukovina, in the midst of the Carpathian mountains; one of
345 the wildest and least known portions of Europe. I was not able to light on
360 any map or work giving the exact locality of the Castle Dracula, as there are
374 no maps of this country as yet to compare with our own Ordnance Survey
389 maps; but I found that Bistritz, the post town named by Count Dracula, is a
404 fairly well-known place. I shall enter here some of my notes, as they may
415 refresh my memory when I talk over my travels with Mina.

425 In the population of Transylvania there are four distinct nationalities:
438 Saxons in the South, and mixed with them the Wallachs, who are the
451 descendants of the Dacians; Magyars in the West, and Szekelys in the East
465 and North. I am going among the latter, who claim to be descended from
479 Attila and the Huns. This may be so, for when the Magyars conquered the

494 country in the eleventh century they found the Huns settled in it. I read that
507 every known superstition in the world is gathered into the horseshoe of the
521 Carpathians, as if it were the centre of some sort of imaginative whirlpool; if
536 so my stay may be very interesting. (*Mem.*, I must ask the Count all about
537 them.)

552 I did not sleep well, though my bed was comfortable enough, for I had all
566 sorts of queer dreams. There was a dog howling all night under my window,
581 which may have had something to do with it; or it may have been the
598 paprika, for I had to drink up all the water in my carafe, and was still thirsty.
610 Towards morning I slept and was wakened by the continuous knocking at
625 my door, so I guess I must have been sleeping soundly then. I had for
639 breakfast more paprika, and a sort of porridge of maize flour which they said
650 was “mamaliga,” and egg-plant stuffed with forcemeat, a very excellent
664 dish, which they call “impletata.” (*Mem.*, get recipe for this also.) I had to
679 hurry breakfast, for the train started a little before eight, or rather it ought to
697 have done so, for after rushing to the station at 7:30 I had to sit in the
713 carriage for more than an hour before we began to move. It seems to me that
727 the further east you go the more unpunctual are the trains. What ought they
731 to be in China?