



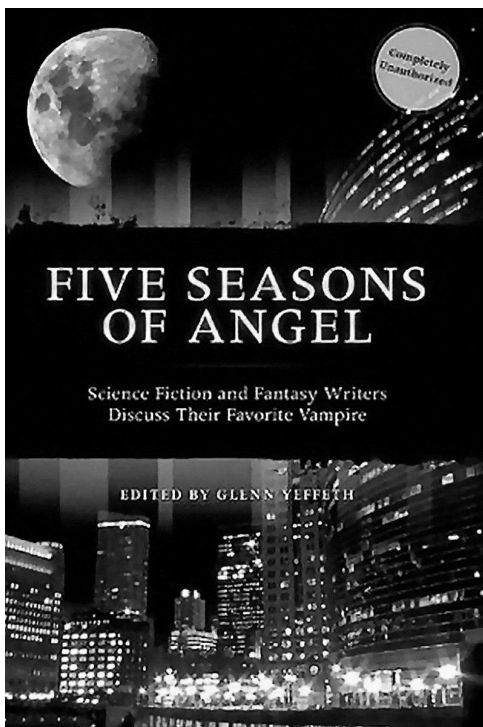
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The Vampire As Good Guy

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- *Those of My Blood* – Jacqueline Lichtenberg
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Angel & Buffy Compared

Do Advertisements Ever Lie?

“The commercials advertising Angel’s first season named Angel a hero. But do you believe everything commercials tell you?”

“Angel’s certainly the man in charge. He headed Angel Investigations, and then had his own branch of a law firm, not to mention the most lines, the most scenes and the best close-ups. He’s likeable enough to be a hero and apparently has a worthwhile goal—preventing the destruction of the world. He also faces seemingly overwhelming odds as a goal directed hero must.

“But as heroic as Angel may appear on a weekly basis, . . . The goal he pursues in each episode—whether saving a child or a half-breed demon, the city of Los Angeles or the whole world—is not his own. . . .” “*Victim Triumphant*” by Jacqueline Lichtenberg

The Failure of Family in Angel

In *Buffy*, “. . . a major theme is the self-made family Buffy creates, and that it is the love between the members of that nontraditional family that makes it possible for them to triumph repeatedly over evil—even when evil resides within one of themselves.

“When Angel first began in 1999, it appeared in the opening episodes that Angel would build a similar family in Los Angeles. After four and a half seasons, however, we see that not only did it not happen, but that it was planned not to happen. Not only can Angel not create a stable nontraditional family—he always has a team of helpers, but they change over time—when he is given a real, blood-related family the result is high tragedy that first echoes and then surpasses the Greek tragedies of Sophocles and Aeschylus. . . .”

“*A World Without Love*” by Jean Lorrah