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## VAMPIRE SERIES SET FOR RE-LAUNCH BY GUNN AUTHOR

By Becky Phillips

Gunn Author Erika Knudsen is set to re-launch her vampire novel *Beyond The threshold of death* 14 years after it was written at the Multicultural Centre in Stony Plain. On October 24, 2009 Erika will be doing both a signing and reading of her two books from 6:30-9:00pm. She self-published her first book and its sequel, *Resurrected*, through her own company Eris Publishing.

*Beyond the Threshold of Death* is the first in a two-part series and has been re-edited to reflect Knudsen's regret over omitting particular passages. "Over the years I have grown as a writer, so I decided it was time to re-work my first novel. It is still the same captivating tale, but now it has been refined, enriched and is now even more compelling."

The series' heroine is Deirdra O'Dea, a vampire who grew up in the countryside of Ireland in the late 1700's. "Way back when I first began *Beyond the Threshold of Death* I was 18, and since the original premise was how would I react if I ever became a blood sucking fiend, I loosely based Deirdra on me, on my thoughts; but early in the writing process I was surprised how 'Deirdra' became her own entity." Erika says that her aim was to make Deirdra a fearless character that her audience could look up to. "I wanted to make her a valiant woman, never afraid of a man or what the world and universe will bring to her. A character that young women could enjoy reading and embrace her strengths."

*Deidra's adventures take shape in the modern day, where events occurring years ago have awoken the Blood God and its plan to destroy the vampire race. The aftermath is laid out in Resurrected, where Deirdra finds her 'unlife' controlled by a mysterious being and is left hurt and defenceless in the arms of an enemy.*

*Promotion of her series has proven to be a challenge, but after a 6 year hiatus Erika has returned to writing and dedicating more time to spreading the word of the novels.* "Let's just say that the writing of books, working with the graphic designers and printers, getting the ISBN numbers and barcodes is much easier than the promotion part of being an independent publisher.

But with that said, being independent, working with your local bookstores, they tend to be more willing to help and support you. It's not easy, but you have total control over your projects."

Knudsen is looking into finding a publicist and hopes to accomplish her goal of doing a cross-Canada book tour. "I've always wanted to do that and I am even closer to reaching my goal than I could have ever imagined in the past. I am both very excited and nervous."

A third novel, unrelated to Erika's first two books, is set for release this upcoming winter. It follows the same supernatural theme and will feature ghost, witchcraft and family secrets. Visit her website, [www.erispublishing.com](http://www.erispublishing.com), for more on this up and coming Albertan novelist.