

New Idea

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REAL LIFE

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STORIES



Georgina sure looks the part with her pointed fangs.



I'm a real-life vampire



The make-up artist needs her weekly dose of blood, otherwise she gets 'cranky'.

She blisters in the sun and drinks blood – Georgina is Australia's answer to Dracula

Head-to-toe in black, her neck splattered with blood, she prowls a Brisbane supermarket – smiling at gawking customers to reveal her pointed fangs.

It's pretty clear Georgina Condon, 38, is no ordinary girl. In fact, she believes she's a real, blood-drinking vampire.

'I need blood every week or so – any longer than that and it affects my mood,' she says.

Georgina feels her vampire characteristics can be explained by her medical conditions.

'I suffer from a blood disorder thalassemia, which can lead to anaemia and a lack of iron. So, this could explain partly my taste for blood,' she says.

Like Count Dracula, Georgina also burns in any strong sunlight.

'I have solar dermatitis, which means I blister in strong UV light. I'm literally allergic to the sun!' she laughs.

Georgina says her fascination with vampires began when she was young.

From the age of 12, she began to emulate the ghoulish characters she saw on TV, dressing in black and using talcum powder on her face to appear more pale.

'It was only when I started to see vampires in TV and in movies that I realised what I was: a vampire,' says the make-up artist.

'I started drinking my own blood from cuts, but things changed when I was 17 and I met my first donor,' she recalls.

'There was one girl, and I ended up drinking from her. Soon after, I realised that she was getting off on it.

'I started going to Goth clubs looking for blood... I'd get chatting to a guy and nine times out of 10, they'd joke about me drinking blood and how hot it would be.

Then I'd turn around and say: "Well, funny you should mention that..." And it went from there.'

Georgina has now been in a relationship with boyfriend Zameal for more than two years. But he wasn't a willing participant in her thirst for blood initially.

'He's not really into the vampire thing, so it took a lot of discussion. But once I explained my need for blood and the high it gives me, he began to understand.

'Also, I can get very cranky when I don't get my weekly dose of blood,' she smiles, revealing her dramatic teeth.

'After all these years, I'd love to meet someone who can say to me: "I understand – that's like me." But I'm still waiting.'

By Paul Ewart **NI**



Happy childhood... With her younger sister Peta (left).

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