



## Letters for Lucardo: The Silent Lord

**Otava Heikkilä**

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An aristocrat and his lover grapple with a powerful supernatural creature in *Letters for Lucardo: The Silent Lord*.

Edmund, the human lover of immortal Lucardo, has become sick with “Shifter’s Lung.” But Lucardo isn’t willing to watch his companion suffer and die. In desperation, he gives Edmund to the mysterious and mighty Silent Lord, a malevolent vampire deity. Edmund’s life is preserved, and he gains eternal youth like Lucardo, but the price is steep: he’s now a member of the Night Court, in permanent enslavement to the Silent Lord’s will.

While this book is the third in a four-part series, it’s able to stand alone, as essential information is provided as part of its natural, flowing dialogue. The characters are complex, and the story revolves around the mixed feelings of Edmund about his “gift” from the Silent Lord, along with the consequences it brings. Tantalizing bits of history are revealed, giving background about the Silent Lord and the origins of the Night Court.

The book blends horror, romance, and queer eroticism, incorporating fantasy staples like vampires and werewolves in new, exciting ways. The art aids the story, one detail at a time, with a tooth falling out or a new one emerging as Edmund’s restored body changes, for example. Settings and clothing are also given great attention, helping to ground this fantasy world with a sense of everyday reality. The book contains explicit sex and is for adults only.

*Letters for Lucardo: The Silent Lord* is a sleek, stylish, and sexy graphic novel.

PETER DABBENE (July / August 2022)

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