

## Did you know that...?

- **The words “New Moon”** refer to that lunar phase in opposition to the full moon. This happens when the moon is between the sun and the earth, thus the moon’s luminosity is not visible from the earth.  
This is the darkest night in the lunar phase.  
The new moon is the darkest period in Bella’s life.
- **The choice of Volterra was mere chance and a phonetic assonance.** Below we quote from an interview of Stephenie Meyer during her stay in the Etruscan town during May 2007: “I had just finished one chapter of New Moon that took place in Italy. The story was set in a Tuscan town, because it is an ancient region, rich in civilization. There a family of vampires live, the Volturi. I was thinking of an imaginative place in order to avoid eventual trouble amongst the local population. Then I looked at the regional map and I read the name “Volterra”! I went immediately to the town’s website and I was left wordless. The square with the clock tower (Piazza dei Priori ndr) of which I had written, was there in front of me on my screen! It still gives me the shivers, if I think about it! Then I decided to entitle that chapter “Volterra”, and I decided to present my book here, in this very same town. To say the truth, I was curious to see where the Volturi live! And now I am here, in this marvellous town!”
- **When Stephenie Meyer visited Volterra**, on May 19th 2007, she was really astonished by the many similarities between the real town and the Volturi’s town in her book “New Moon”. The narrow alleyway chosen by Edward to be seen under the sunlight, the manhole leading to the lair of the Volturi, the square of the clock tower and so on. Volterra is really the town that is described in the pages of the second volume of the Twilight Saga!
- **In New Moon, the book**, the town of Volterra is described as extremely safe. This characteristic is not due to the presence of the police but thanks to the presence of...the Volturi! They guard against drinking the blood of local victims but rather feed on the blood of tourists.
- **The actor Peter Facinelli**, who plays the role of Doctor Carlisle Cullen, said in an interview that he was very keen to go to Volterra, for he would really like to have a cappuccino with his friends, the Volturi.
- **Many fans of Twilight Saga** are convinced that Volterra really has a fountain in the middle of Piazza dei Priori. Actually this is the only element that does not match with the book, and that has been created from the author’s imagination in order to increase the pathos when Bella goes across Piazza dei Priori.
- **Volterra’s Patron Saint** is San Giusto and not San Marco as stated in New Moon when Bella reaches Volterra to save Edward.
- The power in the **Volturi family** is held by the elders, **Aro, Caius and Marcus**. Three powerful vampires...three skilful minds...who bring to mind the three heads on Porta all’Arco, whose origin is still unknown and debated by the historians, this may well not be only a random choice!