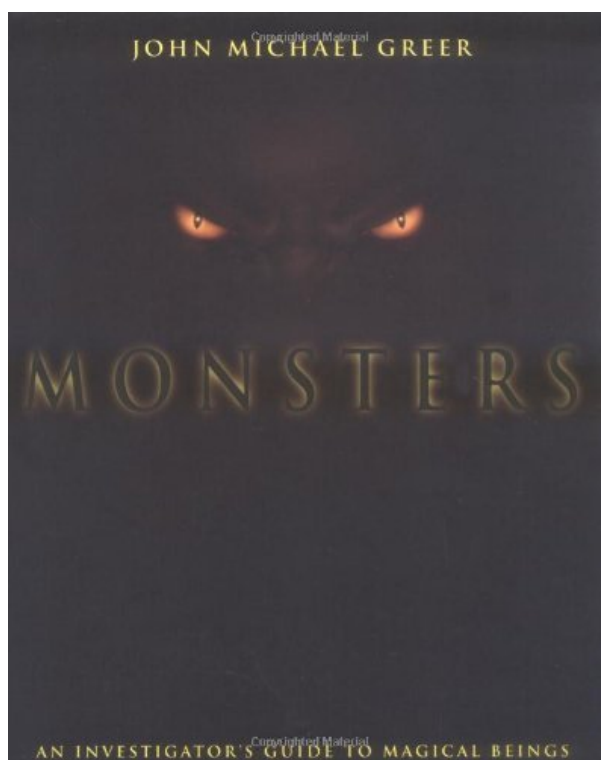
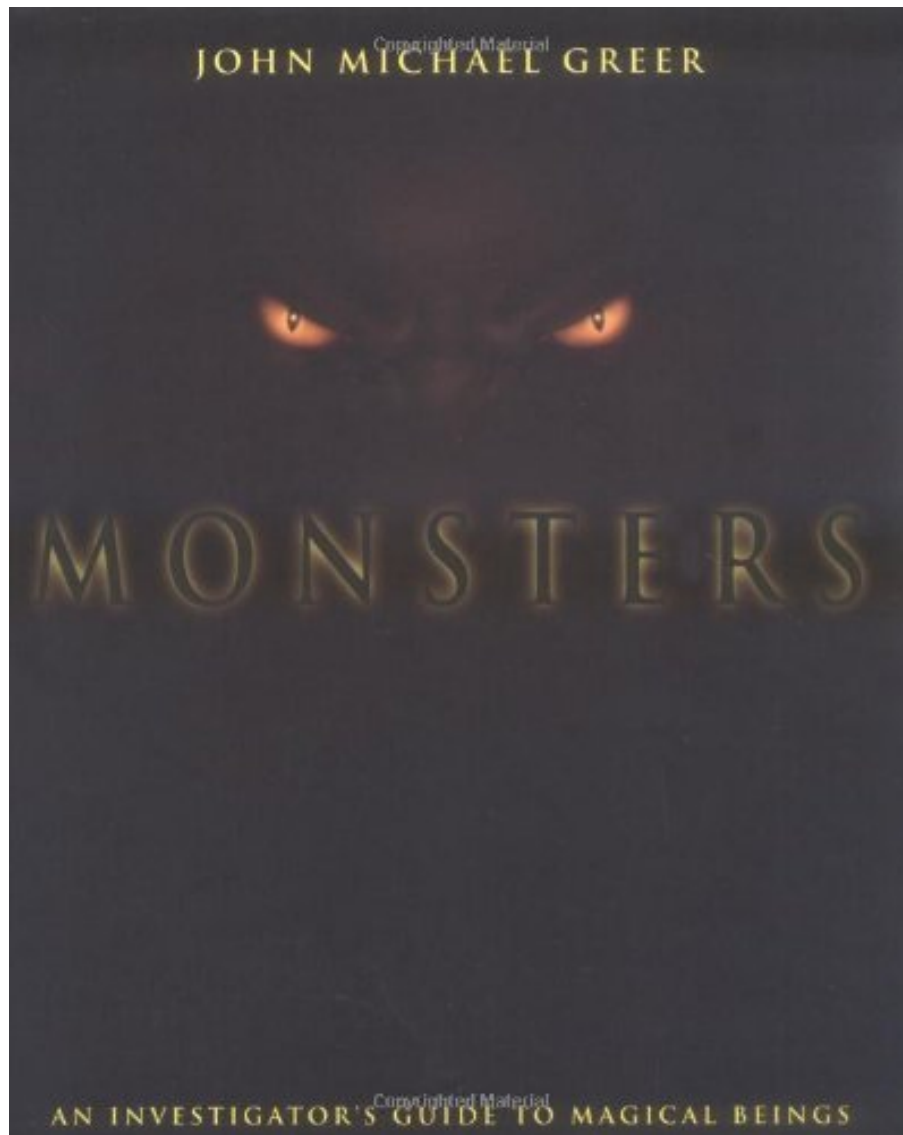


MONSTERS: AN INVESTIGATOR'S GUIDE TO MAGICAL BEINGS BY JOHN MICHAEL GREER



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About the Author

John Michael Greer (Western Maryland) has been a student of occult traditions and the unexplained for more than thirty years. A Freemason, a student of geomancy and sacred geometry, and a widely read blogger, he is also the author of numerous books, including **Monsters**, **The New Encyclopedia of the Occult and Secrets of the Lost Symbol**, and currently serves as the Grand Archdruid of the Ancient Order of Druids in America (AODA), a contemporary school of Druid nature spirituality. Greer has contributed articles to *Renaissance Magazine*, *Golden Dawn Journal*, *Mezlim*, *New Moon Rising*, *Gnosis*, and *Alexandria*.

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But we know better nowadays, of course.

Don't we?

This book is based on the uncomfortable knowledge that we don't know better-that at least some of these entities had, and still have, a reality that goes beyond the limits of human imagination and human psychology. For most people nowadays, such ideas would be terrifying if they weren't so preposterous. Plenty of modern Americans believe that UFOs are spacecraft from other worlds and psychics can bend silverware with their minds-but the existence of vampires and werewolves? To make things worse, this book explores such beings from the standpoint of an equally discredited system of thought: the traditional lore of

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This may seem worlds away from the usual modern meaning of the word "monster"-a strange, frightening and supposedly mythical creature-but here, as elsewhere in the realm of monsters, appearances deceive. Certainly, monsters are strange, at least to those raised in modern ways of approaching the world. As we'll see, too, monsters have a great deal to do with the realm of myth, although this latter word (like "monster" itself) has older and deeper meanings that evade our modern habits of thought. The association between monsters and terror, too, has practical relevance, even when the creatures we call "monsters" fear us more than we fear them.

The myth, the terror, and the strangeness all have their roots in the nature of the realm of monsters and the monstrous-a world of revelations, where the hidden and the unknown show furtive glimpses of themselves. If we pay attention to them, monsters do have something to reveal. They show us the reality of the impossible, or of those things we label impossible; they point out that the world we think we live in, and the world we actually inhabit, may not be the same place at all.

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Of course that monster hiding under your bed when you were little didn't really exist. Vampires, werewolves, zombies, demons—they're simply figments of our imagination, right? After all, their existence has never been scientifically proven. But there is one giant problem with such an easy dismissal of these creepy creatures: people keep encountering them.

Join occult scholar John Michael Greer for a harrowing journey into the reality of the impossible. Combining folklore, Western magical philosophy, and actual field experience, *Monsters: An Investigator's Guide to Magical Beings* is required reading for both active and armchair monster hunters. Between these covers you'll find a chilling collection of fiendish facts and folklore, including:

- Why true vampires are the least attractive—and most destructive—of all monsters
- The five different kinds of ghosts
- Magical origins of the werewolf legends
- How to survive a chimera encounter (Jersey Devil, chupacabra, Mothman)
- The hidden connections between faery lore and UFOs
- Where dragons are found today
- How to investigate a monster sighting
- Natural and ritual magic techniques for dealing with hostile monsters

This 10th anniversary edition of the quintessential guide to magical beings features a new preface, new chapters on chimeras and zombies, and updates on werewolves, dragons, and the fae.

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Most helpful customer reviews

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

A useful and insightful manual

By G. Ridgeway

I have to begin by saying that I'm a bit bias, I love Greer's work and I find him to be a wonderful and intelligent author that rights with honesty and obviously knows his subject matter from personal practice.

Monsters, is a good primer and look over of many of the common, creatures and things which go bump in the night that a occult practioner may have the "ill" or "good" fortune (depending on your view) of coming across. He does it in a way which as always is backed by a long list of research he has done on each of the monsters, which is matched with a great bibliography in the back.

The biggest thing I liked about this book was his approach. He does not go hyper paranoid on us and tell the reader to lock himself in a protective circle and banish three times a day. As well as he doesn't go the other way, especially when it comes to Fae, and get all Fluffy Bunny on us, he presents the Historical writings say, first hand and others experiences, along with Occult Theories and ways Of identifying and dealing with each category of creature.

At the end he also provides some good suggestions on how to go about investigating incidents, and dealing with them. As well as some great techniques for "handling" situations.

The only thing I would like to add is I would really love to see him right a second book to this, covering intermediate and advanced topics. One can hope!

In the end, this is a good and informative read, where you will definitely leave with greater knowledge and practices to boot!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Absolutely the best book I've read on the subject of "Monsters"

By bansheecat

I've been interested in the subject of ghosts, fairies, vampires, and demons, etc. most of my life but I've found all other books on the topic to be very lacking in the theory behind the how's and why's of paranormal phenomena. I'm happy to finally find a book that gives plausible explanations for all sorts of supernatural beings.

Plausible at least from the perspective of the magically minded. Based on some of the other reviews, it seems like those that are...errr...uninitiated into the world beyond the material may not understand what Greer is discussing. However, if you have an open mind about the paranormal, I'd highly recommend this book. It goes far beyond merely describing the supernatural but actually attempts to explain it and gives good tips for how to protect yourself when the supposedly impossible happens.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

One hell of a book and a must for Monster and Lore goers!

By Daniel E. Cureton

[[VIDEOID:mo1NWXBOITCE8IX]]A must for all paranormal seekers and monster hunters. Lots of useful and practical information! Very handy guide for avoiding vampires, capturing Bigfoot, how to handle ghosts, what types of spirits there are, how to identify the fae and more. Was the first book on the topic I read and it really helped me to get a good feel of the areas of magical creatures and understand that part of the world better. I'm not saying I want to go ghost busters on them spirits but I know the difference now between hauntings, replays and a friendly occupation. I didn't do much of the natural/ritual magic sections but it had some great suggestions for protection remedies using natural magic and ritual magic. I'd recommend as a great piratical guide. Greer's writing style is awesome too. Funny and easy to read, he tells it as is.

See all 45 customer reviews...

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