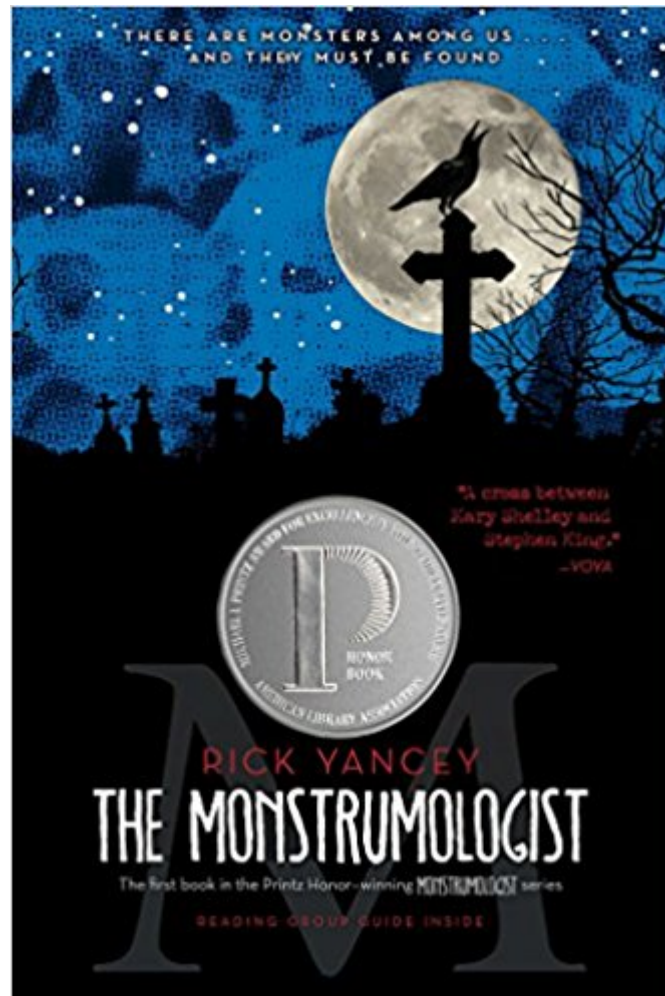




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The Monstrumologist



Synopsis

These are the secrets I have kept. This is the trust I never betrayed. But he is dead now and has been for nearly ninety years, the one who gave me his trust, the one for whom I kept these secrets. The one who saved me . . . and the one who cursed me. So starts the diary of Will Henry, orphan and assistant to a doctor with a most unusual specialty: monster hunting. In the short time he has lived with the doctor, Will has grown accustomed to his late night callers and dangerous business. But when one visitor comes with the body of a young girl and the monster that was eating her, Will's world is about to change forever. The doctor has discovered a baby Anthropophagus--a headless monster that feeds through a mouth in its chest--and it signals a growing number of Anthropophagi. Now, Will and the doctor must face the horror threatening to overtake and consume our world before it is too late. The Monstrumologist is the first stunning gothic adventure in a series that combines the spirit of HP Lovecraft with the storytelling ability of Rick Riordan.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

With a roaring sense of adventure and enough viscera to gag the hardiest of gore hounds, Yancey's series starter might just be the best horror novel of the year. Will Henry is the 12-year-old apprentice to Pellinore Warthrop, a brilliant and self-absorbed monstrumologist--a scientist who studies (and when necessary, kills) monsters in late-1800s New England. The newest threat is the Anthropophagi, a pack of headless, shark-toothed bipeds, one of whom's corpse is delivered to Warthrop's lab courtesy of a grave robber. As the action moves from the dissecting

table to the cemetery to an asylum to underground catacombs, Yancey keeps the shocks frequent and shrouded in a splattery miasma of blood, bone, pus, and maggots. The industrial-era setting is populated with leering, Dickensian characters, most notably the loathsome monster hunter hired by Warthrop to enact the highly effective "Maori Protocol" method of slaughter. Yancey's prose is stentorian and wordy, but it weaves a world that possesses a Lovecraftian logic and hints at its own deeply satisfying mythos. Most effective of all, however, is the weirdly tender relationship between the quiet, respectful boy and his strict, Darwinesque father figure. "Snap to" is Warthrop's continued demand of Will, but readers will need no such needling. -- Daniel Kraus

--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"Yancey takes...gore and violence...to thrilling new levels in this sophisticated tale."--"School Library Journal""This has all the elements of the best Victorian mystery and horror...Readers who like their horror truly horrible and yet archly distant and peppered with ecstatic Victorian-scented comments on the woes of the human condition will jump right in and not emerge until the last relieved gasp."--"The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books""This gothic thriller will appeal to kids who like scary with high brow Dickensian writing...Yancey builds the action towards the climactic cemetery scene while also deftly handling the changing interpersonal dynamic between the doctor and Will. Readers who enjoyed Yancey's Alfred Kropp series...won't want to miss this one. Recommended."--"Library Media Connection""This story is gothic horror at its finest and most disturbing. A cross between Mary Shelley and Stephen King, the tale will force readers to stay up late to finish and then remain awake, afraid to shut off the lights...The richness of the language, the strain of wry humor, and the perfectly drawn characters make it a marvelous read...This book is perfect for readers who want their nightmares in a literary package."--"VOYA"

I'm a grandmother, somewhere between menopause and death, and my usual selection of books would never include a monster book (except for the Twilight series maybe), but this was a free book for Kindle, so I downloaded it. Late one night, I finished "The Help" (excellent) and just opened this to prove to myself that I didn't like it, and I could delete it from my Kindle. I read a couple of pages, then a couple more, and before you know it, my husband is going to bed and I'm sitting up, scared to death and can't stop reading. Oh, it's gross, it will make your skin crawl at times, it's totally creepy. It's definitely not the kind of book you should read sitting up alone at night with hubby already gone to bed, but I loved it. I'll probably have nightmares for a long time over this, with the cold mist of the fog over cobblestone streets and unthinkable things that go bump in the night. The

surprise was the writing style. I didn't expect eloquent language, talented writing, page-flipping suspense, but it delivered all of that. So don't rule this one because you don't think this would be your cup of tea. It just may be.

This was great! At first, I found it really hard to get in to, probably because I am not adjusted to historical fiction as well but once I made the time to read, I thoroughly enjoyed it. It was pretty gory, creepy, lots of action and even humor. I adored Will Henry and he is one of my favorite main characters to date. I just want to fight for him but he fights for himself pretty well. Dr. Warthrop is a pain in the ass but for the most part, he is a sweet man in a way, if you can look past the mad scientist and neglectful at times care-taker. I enjoyed his and "Will Henreee's" companionship a lot and even though Dr. Warthrop was cruel at times, the story lets on that he is only that way because of his childhood and I understand at times why he is that way with Will. But Will is a trooper! The monsters: Wow. Anthropophagi. Ok so I kind of picture this Nickelodeon 90's cartoon monster character who was all shoulders, no head, but at times the narrator describes them as crocodile-like in their viscousness and how they hunt and then I saw them as more horrifying. What they do though-geez! Sick. And this author, Mr. Yancey doesn't hold back! I think that's what I loved about the book. I find in a lot of books, there is mundane, mundane, and then in one big climax there is something revolting or so out there that it makes a 3 star book a 5 star just for it's daringness. Well this whole book is pretty daring. In one point the monsters, the anthropophagi, rip apart a family in their home. One of the victims body is literarily in shreds all over the house, you can hardly tell it was once human, and that's a 5 year-old. I feel a lot of authors keep it safe (or sane) and stay away from child brutalities like that but this book is just honest, if that makes sense at all. It could happen to a kid, it does, it's horrifying and sick and it makes the reader, at least in my case, turn the pages even faster to get to the ending to find if justice is served. At first I didn't think I would be able to go on with the series, but I finished the book last night and immediately started with the Curse of the Wendigo

This is too scary to even tell about! Don't read it if you are alone. Don't read it if you are scared of monsters! Don't read it if you are scared of the grave yards! Don't read it if you are scared of scary things! The plot starts with a prologue when a very old man dies and leaves behind his diaries. The diaries include a strange story of Monstrumologist. The monstrumologists seem to have exists and even have had a society of their own even if nobody knew it. A young boy called Will Henry tells how a man called Erasmus Gray pulls his horse and cart up to Dr. Warthrop's house (where the orphan

boy lives) in the middle of the night. He reveals the body of a young woman and an Anthropophagi, "one wrapped around the other in an obscene embrace." The girl has part of her neck and face torn out..with fangs or something like that.Dr. Warthrop dissects both the girl and the monster, and finds an Anthropophagi fetus in the dead girl's womb.Warthrop explains to Will Henry that Anthropophagi require a host to grow their young in. Dr. Warthrop theorizes that because Anthropophagi are indigenous to Africa and have never been seen in the Americas before, there could only be one or two more in the area at most...or so he thought...The following night, Warthrop, Gray, and Will Henry go to the cemetery to return the girl's body to her grave.They meet the monsters, one of them loses his live and the other ones need to reconsider their theories and beliefs of these horrible monsters.

I cannot finish this book, and that is a rare occurrence for me. The premise is interesting, but the Monstrumologist himself is an absolutely insufferable character. He treats his prot  g   like absolute garbage and it's actually painful and infuriating to read. It is way overkill and takes away from the rest of the story. Disappointing, because I really expected to love this book!

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