

On Monsters: An Unnatural History of Our Worst Fears, 2009, 368 pages, Stephen T. Asma, 0199745773, 9780199745777, Oxford University Press, 2009

Hailed as "a feast" (Washington Post) and "a modern-day bestiary" (The New Yorker), Stephen Asma's *On Monsters* is a wide-ranging cultural and conceptual history of monsters--how they have evolved over time, what functions they have served for us, and what shapes they are likely to take in the future. Beginning at the time of Alexander the Great, the monsters come fast and furious--Behemoth and Leviathan, Gog and Magog, Satan and his demons, Grendel and Frankenstein, circus freaks and headless children, right up to the serial killers and terrorists of today and the post-human cyborgs of tomorrow. Monsters embody our deepest anxieties and vulnerabilities, Asma argues, but they also symbolize the mysterious and incoherent territory beyond the safe enclosures of rational thought. Exploring sources as diverse as philosophical treatises, scientific notebooks, and novels, Asma unravels traditional monster stories for the clues they offer about the inner logic of an era's fears and fascinations. In doing so, he illuminates the many ways monsters have become repositories for those human qualities that must be repudiated, externalized, and defeated.

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*Aboriginal Populations in the Mind Race and Primitivity in Psychoanalysis*, Celia Brickman, 2003, Psychology, 285 pages. In this subtle and commanding analysis, Celia Brickman explores how the colonialist racial discourse of late-nineteenth-century anthropology found its way into Freud's work.

*Women Willing to Fight The Fighting Woman in Film*, Silke Andris, Ursula Frederick, 2007, Performing Arts, 207 pages. *Women Willing to Fight* is a collection of essays that explores the presence of the fighting woman in contemporary Hollywood cinema. Drawn from a variety of genres, the authors.

*Social Relations and Human Attributes*, Paul Q. Hirst, Penny Woolley, 1982, Social Science, 297 pages. An examination of the organization of human relations within society includes discussions of the history of attitudes toward mental illness and the interaction between biology.

*Deformed Discourse The Function of the Monster in Mediaeval Thought and Literature*, David Williams, 1999, Literary Criticism, 392 pages. In *Deformed Discourse* David Williams explores the concept of the monster in the Middle Ages, examining its philosophical and theological roots and analysing its symbolic.

*The Gods Drink Whiskey Stumbling Toward Enlightenment in the Land of the Tattered Buddha*, Stephen T. Asma, Apr 25, 2006, Travel, 288 pages. Buddhism, Booze, and the Four Noble Truths.

*Mythical and Fabulous Creatures A Source Book and Research Guide*, Malcolm South, 1987, Social Science, 393 pages. "[This] book provides thorough documentation of the best-known creatures of fantasy with a breadth of coverage that is both impressive and delightful." Choice.

*True (patriot) Love? Gender and Culture in the Canadian Historical Romance*, Sunnie Rothenburger, 2006, Historical fiction, Canadian, 399 pages. Crucially, the racial/cultural and gendered stereotypes such narratives employ are often contradictory: women have less power than men, and yet they have enough power to choose.

Buddha, a Beginner's Guide , Stephen T. Asma, Jan 9, 2009, Philosophy, 164 pages. Originally published by Writers and Readers in 1998, this is an iconoclastic, illustrated romp through the life of the Buddha both a credible exploration of his life and.

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An account of the author's several careers--in show business, flying, and writing--of his marriages and friendships, and of the ups and downs of a turbulent life  
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