



Charlie Sullivan and the Monster Hunters: The Varcolac's Diary

D.C. McGannon , C. Michael McGannon

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Monsters are real. They have always been here, even when we choose not to see them. Now, for the residents of Hunter's Grove, the choice is no longer theirs. As a power-hungry varcolac-a Greater-tries to break through the magic holding him back and lead his army of monsters to vengeance against human-kind, there are five who unknowingly possess the power to finish what centuries of humans before them have been unable to do. Charlie Sullivan and his band of new friends will be tested as they attempt to strengthen the magic that can lock the monsters and their evil prince away for good-even if the cost is their lives. This is the story of five unlikely friends who uncover the sinister past buried under their sleepy hometown of Hunter's Grove. This is a story about looking past differences, overcoming fears, and rediscovering what is truly important in this life. This is the story of Charlie Sullivan and the Monster Hunters of Hunter's Grove.

Charlie Sullivan and the Monster Hunters: The Varcolac's Diary Details

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From Reader Review Charlie Sullivan and the Monster Hunters: The Varcolac's Diary for online ebook

Danielle says

I was so pleasantly surprised by this book--as much because I have known the author for 30 years as by the freshness of the story itself. There are twists and convolutions throughout. It is adventurous and quick paced for the younger ones who will read it but there is enough myth, legend and historical reference to keep the older ones intrigued as well. Looking forward to book 2 in the series! Way to go McGannons.

Sarah-Jayne Briggs says

(I received a free copy of this book in exchange for a review).

(This review may contain spoilers).

I found this book to be an entertaining read, even though it was quite short. In some ways, it reminded me of books like the Animorphs, with a group of young people thrust into a huge responsibility.

There was a good element of mystery through this book in the disappearances and I thought it was good to see how those disappearances were the catalyst to draw the five together... though I did find it a bit confusing to suddenly find out quite a way into the book about Darcy's mother.

While I did think that the main characters were well-defined, I couldn't really see much of that in Donnie... or understand his sudden and apparent change of heart. I did think it was good to see that bullying was involved in the book, but I wasn't sure it added that much to the storyline... and not many of the effects on the characters were shown.

I did think that Darcy was the character easiest to empathise with. I thought that she did evolve somewhat over the course of the book. And I also thought it was really good to see the different abilities the children had.

I would have liked to see a bit more of the other characters' relationships with their families and also more of the training expanded upon. I was a bit disappointed to see that so much of it was glossed over, since even by the end of the book, I couldn't figure out where their sudden, apparent skillset came from.

The dream at the beginning added a new element of tension to the book, though I'm not sure why Charlie's abilities meant he had to be the leader. While he did have to deal with some inner conflicts, I didn't feel they were expanded upon like they could have been.

I really liked Liev and Lisa and I would have liked to see more of them. Some of Liev's comments made me smile and I enjoyed seeing him and his sister and how their ability linked together.

There was a lot of action in this book and I did think the characters managed to pull together really well. While there were some sad moments, there was also a lot that was hopeful. In the future sometime, I would definitely read the other books in this series.

Bill Tillman says

Monster Hunters: A midgrade fantasy

Charlie and four new friends go on a perilous trek into the Other world. It seems that someone is kidnapping the people of Hunter's Grove. Each of the five monster hunters finds they have magical talents to fight the Dark Prince.

D.C. McGannon says

This book is a long-time dream, being the result of a lot of hard work. As independent authors, D.C. McGannon and C. Michael McGannon have spent a considerable amount of time, effort, and resource to bring the highest level of quality to independent publishing. The story is fun and solid, and as much fun to read the second, third, and tenth time as the first. The cover art by @MDSmithDesign is superb.

The reader is at once drawn into the life, with all its struggle and laughter, of the characters. The story also brings to life many classic and ancient creatures, monsters, villains, and heroes celebrating their legendary status in the context of a modern story.

Well done! I am very much looking forward to Book 2 :)

Heather says

Great book with a great cast of characters. Keeps your attention and makes you want to come back for more. I really appreciated the underlying theme of bullying and how it was addressed, but I especially loved the unique challenges and monsters the Monster Hunters faced. Can't wait for more!

Jason Mueller says

I had the opportunity to read Charlie Sullivan and the Monster Hunters: The Varcolac's Diary and was impressed with the quality of writing from C. Michael McGannon and D.C. McGannon. This book takes the reader on a journey through the trials and tribulations of Charlie Sullivan and his young friends as they battle monsters, witches, and their own fears in a quest to save their town and world from the evil varcolac.

An excellently written tale, I look forward to reading the next in the series.

jake

Jessica Kong says

D. C. McGannon was successful in creating a great story with Charlie Sullivan and the Monster Hunters: The Varcolac's Diary. The characters are real enough that I found myself cheering them on and hoping they succeed in their mission. I look forward to reading the next installment.

Amy says

This is a quick read - a charming tale geared towards kids.

C. McGannon says

I may or may not have an unbiased opinion on this book. Either way, I have to say authors D.C. McGannon and C. Michael McGannon did a really bang up job on it!! ;)

Maritz Benitez says

I loved

I love it. He kept me interested at all time. I want to see the the second part. Love it.

Craig McGary says

I picked this book up for my oldest daughter. I thought she might enjoy it and asked her to let me know what she thought. She loved it! I ended up reading it with her and I have to say that I enjoyed the story as much, maybe more, than she did.

The story line was nothing new really, which is fine as long as it is done in a way that keeps me interested. Once we got started, we looked forward to the next time we could sit down and read it together. We both look forward to reading the next book.

If I had any issues with the book, maybe some of the middle portion dragged along a little bit but not so much that I lost interest. I still wanted to see what happened to Charlie and the team, and we kept turning the pages.

Thanks for writing a great book that I could enjoy with my daughter.

Holly says

I really enjoyed this book. The story grabs you and keeps you reading.

Marty King says

The characters are great! Reminded me high school clicks and how they came together as they matured for mutual reasons. I enjoyed the story and plan to buy book 2 after logging off here. A new twist on old characters make this book refreshing to read. YA to Adult can enjoy this book. I recommend it!

Danielle Forrest says

The book starts out with intrigue and a dab of mystery. People are going missing in their little town. Nobody knows why or what connects them. Nobody knows who could be next. Nobody knows when it will stop.

The book takes you along, mixing the everyday with the extraordinary. It gives a different spin on a very old story, that of the hero. I'm not sure if it's the book, or if I've just become accustomed to reading these types of stories. All stories are formulaic to a certain extent. I guess I've come to feel these types of stories are even more formulaic than most. There is the big bad (the Dark Prince), the leader (Charlie Sullivan), the teacher (Loch), the fellowship (the other four kids), the dark realm (Otherworld). There is discovery, then training, then conquering evil. I want to see some element I don't expect, something new, something different. I was especially drawn at the beginning of the book, but my interest waned near the middle, drudging through the training without much to keep me engaged.

The authors could have done a better job of capitalizing on the emotions in a scene, especially when dealing with teenagers that frequently feel things more urgently than adults. I never felt the urgency, the fear, that a big bad should instill. The Ancients are mentioned, but it isn't until they've already decided to risk their lives and are in the Otherworld, that they really understand how dangerous the Ancients are, or the Dark Prince for that matter. That sense of danger and urgency is never stressed early on. It kind of had an "Oh, the Dark Prince is bad and we must stop him." Telling rather than showing. I felt like the authors were pulling the cart ahead of the horses.

That being said, the best analogy I can make for reading this book would be like walking up a mild incline (beginning of the book), then suddenly coming across a hundred foot cliff you must climb (middle). Then, when at the top, the rest of the journey is like a water slide (end). The authors made me work for it, but it got better once I got to the top of that cliff. I enjoyed the battle scenes. They did a good job with the tension in the battles, maintaining the momentum. And I liked the ending, even if it wasn't altogether happy.

Was it a bad book? No. I think it could have been a great book, but it missed that, largely because it took me days to get through the middle. On the upside, I got more editing done than usual.

Source: Gifted by Author

eReader: Stanza for iPad

File type: ePub

Lauren Lynne says

You want action? You want adventure? Then you want Charlie Sullivan and the Monster Hunters! I enjoyed every moment I spent with Charlie and his band of Monster Hunters. I would love to use this book to read aloud to fourth and fifth grade students and will be sure to recommend it to my teacher friends. The story, on the most basic level, is not that unusual – boy discovers special ability and must save the world. BUT, the way that it is handled is truly unique! A mysterious stranger, middle school woes and disappearances mar life in Charlie's small town. Disappearances are not unheard of today, but boy was Charlie Sullivan surprised when he found out that the people who disappeared might have been abducted by MONSTERS. Wait, what? Who knew that those things were real, right? Now Charlie knows and he can hardly believe it, but it does kind of explain those nightmares he's been having! You will want to join Charlie and his band of unlikely heroes as they go off to battle evil in their own hometown. I am very much looking forward to book two!
