



# **Monster Hunters: On the Trail with Ghost Hunters, Bigfooters, Ufologists, and Other Paranormal Investigators**

*Tea Krulos*

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## Monster Hunters: On the Trail with Ghost Hunters, Bigfooters, Ufologists, and Other Paranormal Investigators Tea Krulos

Do ghosts exist? What about Bigfoot or Skinwalkers? And how will we ever know? Journalist Tea Krulos spent more than a year traveling nationwide to meet individuals who have made it their life's passion to hunt down evidence of entities that they believe exist but that others might shrug off as nothing more than myths, fairy tales, or the products of overactive imaginations. Without taking sides in the debate, Krulos joins these believers in the field, exploring haunted houses, trekking through creepy forests, and scanning skies and lakes as they collect data on the unknown poltergeists, chupacabras, Skunk Apes (Bigfoot's stinky cousins), and West Virginia's Mothman. Along the way, he meets a diverse cast of characters—true believers, skeptics, and hoaxers—from the credible to the quirky, and has a couple of hair-raising encounters that make him second-guess his own beliefs.

## Monster Hunters: On the Trail with Ghost Hunters, Bigfooters, Ufologists, and Other Paranormal Investigators Details

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## **From Reader Review **Monster Hunters: On the Trail with Ghost Hunters, Bigfooters, Ufologists, and Other Paranormal Investigators** for online ebook**

### **Leslie says**

Wow !! Great book. It's got interesting insights into the normal people who pursue the paranormal, and the weirdos who do the same thing.

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### **Sharon A. says**

I was interviewed for this book so you'll find me mentioned. I've not quite seen a book like this. The subject is approached with a journalists' attempt at impartiality. There are some minor errors I noticed but probably no one else would. It captures an interesting aspect of American culture.

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### **Monica says**

Tea Krulos' second book, *Monster Hunters*, manages to effortlessly combine information about paranormal investigations and cryptozoology while writing about the people who passionately pursue these fields. The book looks at exorcists, ufologists, cryptozoologists, and ghost hunters, focusing on the *Paranormal Investigators of Milwaukee*.

Krulos expertly writes about the people, simply presenting the facts about his time with the subjects and conversations had with them, allowing the reader to pass judgement, if they want to, on the people in the book.

The book, however, captures the personalities of the people and the disappointment or tension of some moments, particularly in camp outs and investigations with PIM. I can honestly say after reading this book that an entire chapter on an exorcist, who seemed more like a grifter, was one of the most fascinating things I've read this year.

While the book feels like it's written for a very specific niche, as someone who was deeply interested in cryptozoology in high school and then let it go, the book can have some appeal to general readers because the book is more about the people than about the subject. It also has fantastic illustrations and much tighter writing than Krulos' first book, making for a breezy read.

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### **Dee Eisel says**

Tea Krulos has brought us what should by all rights be a charming investigation of the ghost hunting and cryptid scene in the United States (with a special focus on Wisconsin). From Champ to the skunk ape to ghost investigations in reputedly haunted theatres, this is a book that has the potential to become a favorite for me. Alas, the author shoots himself in the foot.

I'll cut right to the point: The best sections are the ones on cryptids. Krulos has come up with a lively and entertaining group of people who hunt or collect stories about mysterious animal sightings. Even if Linda Godfrey (of Beast of Bray Road fame) is the only one who seems even somewhat anchored to this reality, the others are worth the price of admission. I love the founder of Champ Camp, for instance - he reminds me of some people I knew in college. I was charmed, even with the people with whom I don't want to, say, take in a meal.

The ghost hunting sections are, bluntly, annoying. The habit of constantly repeating one hunter's nickname got old very quickly and by the end almost became drinking-game worthy. The hunters themselves strike me as less quirky and more just plain mean. "Plain-spoken" is not the same as crass and uncaring. I wouldn't have wanted to go into a dark structure with any of them.

If that wasn't enough, the book derails into demon-hunting and exorcism way too much. I don't need to hear about lay exorcists trying to purge demons from people who are clearly hypnotically susceptible. It saddens me when I hear about people coming back over and over to be exorcised by this jerk. I long for the pages that could have been spent on, say, the chupacabra or lizard men instead of a flam-flam artist. I cry for the pain he's caused.

If you get this book, please stick to the beastie chapters, and leave the ghost hunting alone. Much as I like ghost hunting, take it from me: You'll be glad you did. Three of five stars.

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### **Matt Price says**

I liked the interviews with actual people, but it was mostly just paragraphs of interview quotes separated by setting context and some interesting tidbits on some of the subjects such as Loren Coleman's professional background before full time cryptohunting, and the internal politics of paranormal groups. This second subject could be the focus of an entire book. I liked how the author immersed in each context but not sure why he fled the scene so quickly when visiting a Larson meeting. I think an ethnographic study of these groups would be fascinating. I think one was just published by University of Nebraska Press.

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### **Matt Hlinak says**

In 'Monster Hunters' Tea Krulos once again explores a fascinating subculture with humor and compassion. His writing is clear and compelling, and I often shared the tingle up my spine that he experienced as he accompanied his unique subjects on their midnight adventures.

Read my full review at [Pop Mythology](#).

*I received a free review copy of this book from the publisher.*

Matt Hlinak  
Author of DoG

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### **Jenny GB says**

I enjoyed this exploration of people who hunt the monsters of this world whether real or imaginary. Krulos embeds himself in paranormal investigations and meets with insiders of the trades of hunting for the unusual and unexplained. While some of the people Krulos communicates with in the book are clearly frauds, many seem to have had experiences and they find the conventional explanations unsatisfactory. So, they turn to trying to capture evidence of something they can't explain. Krulos entertainingly records their investigations, personalities, and society while also informing about the major beliefs beyond the most common types of creatures that are hunted. He makes his subjects incredibly human. An interesting read if you are interested in the unexplained and the people that seek it out.

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### **Erik says**

I vacillated between three and four stars but finally decided to go with four because - dang it - this book was fun to read.

As a journalistic look into paranormal investigators (ghost hunters, Bigfoot folks, lake monster folks, etc.) it does a good job. Lets the investigators present their perspective, but also has a decent amount of input from skeptics (including Sharon Hill's brilliant term 'scientific' to capture practices that seem to be based in science but are ultimately smoke and mirrors). Presents some creatures that are clearly hoaxes, but also presents a couple of experiences the author had while researching the book that he has trouble explaining. That being said, I would've liked more from the skeptic point. For instance, if the author had taken his couple of 'I can't explain what happened here' experiences to the skeptics to see what explanations they could offer. So, as a journalistic look at the field, it was good but not great. Three stars.

That being said, and I fully recognize that I am to some degree talking out of both sides of my mouth here, this book was just plain fun to read. Let's face it, if you're considering reading this book you probably dig this stuff. (Full disclosure: in third grade I got heavy into the Loch Ness Monster and was always at least a little interested in paranormal stuff thereafter, an interest that wasn't exactly lessened after I worked as a tour guide at Philly's Eastern State Penitentiary and had a handful of experiences that to this day, with my Ph.D. in clinical psychology and everything, I must admit I have trouble explaining) . From that perspective, this book isn't life-changing literature but I found myself looking forward to getting back to it at the end of the day ... which in my book gets you four stars.

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### **Tassie says**

3.5 if I could...

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### **Emma Sea says**

Would have made a great essay or article. Krulos's writing style is engaging, but there just wasn't enough material to make a book. Although, I'd like him a whole lot more if he stopped calling women by their first names, and men by their surnames. Not OK, Tea. I appreciated the small sections on the history of various aspects of ghost hunting/fakery/the paranormal. Perhaps this aspect should have been stepped up in order to make a book I could walk away from feeling like I'd learned something. As it is, I'm berating myself for finishing. I feel like my time on this book was spent to no purpose.

1.5 stars

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### **Jann Obermeier goldberg says**

I enjoyed this book so much!

Tea's style of writing is fun and casual; his books are informative and entertaining. This book is as much fun as "Heroes in the Night," and I can't wait for the next one.

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### **Susie says**

I read Krulos' first book and not only did I enjoy it, but it made me look at a fringe culture in a new light, so when I saw he had a book out about ghost hunters, monster hunters and the like, I had to read this one, too. Like his book on real-life super heroes, he deals with these cultures in an empathetic manner, helping you to understand the motivations behind what they do. It's an inside look that some people might not otherwise get, and if you are at all interested in the subject matter, it's definitely worth that peek in.

As long as Krulops continues to pen books of this quality, I will continue to read them.

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### **Angel says**

**\*\*ARC provided through NetGalley in exchange for an honest review\*\***

Tea Krulos leads us on an adventure, chasing after monsters, ghosts, and other supernatural beings in this book. Of course, I am a fan of the paranormal. I wanted to read this book mostly because the Mothman was in it. Point Pleasant is a destination I hope to be seeing soon and I was excited to read more about it . However, there were plenty of other topics I was interested in as well.

I thought it would get boring during some parts of the book, like the bigfoot and skunk ape sections, because I've never really been into that. I was wrong, though. It was surprisingly interesting.

There were certain places in the book where I just had to lay down my kindle and shake my head. Not believing that some people could put any stock in what was going on. That was the section on Rev. Larson. Why can't people see that he's just trying to rip people off , stereotyping, judging, and embarrassing them while he's at it.

I really liked the ghost hunting trips he described. One of them being Bobby Mackey's in Wilder, Kentucky. The first time I heard about that place was on Ghost Adventures, my favorite ghost hunting show.

If you are interested in any form of the paranormal, you will like this book. Even if you're a skeptic. I still am even though I like to watch TV shows and read books about ghosts. Recommended!

## Kelly (and the Book Boar) says

Find all of my reviews at: <http://52bookminimum.blogspot.com/>

I don't watch a lot of television, but when I do I make sure to only watch educational programs like *Ghost Hunters* or *Finding Bigfoot*. When I saw *Monster Hunters: On the Trail with Ghost Hunters, Bigfooters, Ufologists, and Other Paranormal Investigators* available for request on NetGalley I was all over it.

Unfortunately this may have been a case of setting my expectations too high. While there were chapters regarding UFOs . . .

and aliens . . .

and the search for ~~Seattle~~ Bigfoot . . .

as well as other creepy beasts . . .

and crazy religious nutters . . .

and, of course, ghost hunters . . .

there just wasn't a whole lot of substance. Krulos didn't interview or spend time with anyone that I had ever heard of before. In fact, the people who any paranormal aficionado would want to hear about were mentioned . . . but only in passing (like, "yeah we know that guy – he's a real dick"). And while I realize the chances of actual evidence being discovered on *any* of the topics covered would be slim to nill, I was interested in hearing the author's first hand experiences and reactions. Instead, I read a whole lot of filler/backstory/blah that barely held my attention.

*ARC provided by NetGalley in exchange for an honest review. Thank you, NetGalley!*

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## Shauna says

A fun and interesting book. Even if you know a good deal about specific paranormal phenomena, you'll still enjoy this book. Hunting ghosts and monsters through skeptics and those dedicated to finding them, the author describes the personalities and events that make up the paranormal and cryptozoology field. I liked the book a lot because of the author's perspective on his experiences and his descriptive style.

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