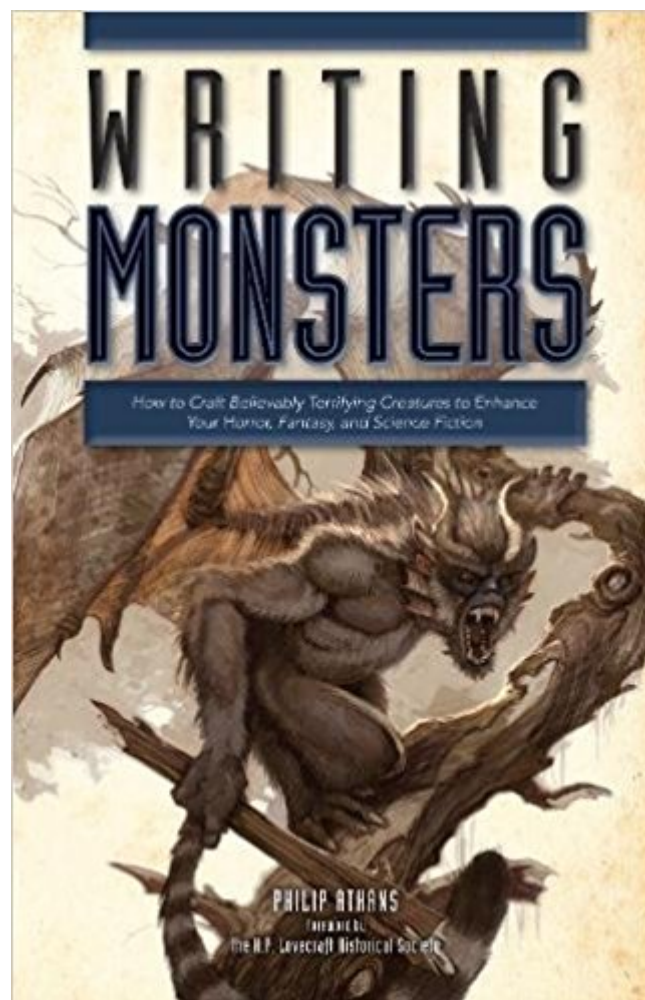




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# Writing Monsters: How To Craft Believably Terrifying Creatures To Enhance Your Horror, Fantasy, And Science Fiction



## Synopsis

Monsters are more than things that go bump in the night...Monsters are lurking in the woods, beneath the waves, and within our favorite books, films, and games--and there are good reasons why they appear so often. Monsters are manifestations of our fears and symbols of our society--not to mention they're a lot of fun--but each should serve a purpose and enhance the themes and tension in your fiction. In *Writing Monsters*, best-selling author Philip Athans uses classic examples from books, films, and the world around us to explore what makes monsters memorable--and terrifying. You'll learn what monsters can (and should) represent in your story and how to create monsters from the ground up. *Writing Monsters* includes: In-depth discussions of where monsters come from, what they symbolize, and how to best portray them in fiction Informative overviews of famous monsters, archetypes, and legendary creatures A Monster Creation Form to help you create your monster from scratch An annotated version of H.P. Lovecraft's chilling story "The Unnamable" Whether you write fantasy, science fiction, or horror, your vampires, ghouls, aliens, and trolls need to be both compelling and meaningful. With *Writing Monsters*, you can craft creatures that will wreak havoc in your stories and haunt your readers' imaginations--and nightmares.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Philip Athans is the New York Times best-selling author of *Annihilation* and more than a dozen other books, including *The Guide to Writing Fantasy and Science Fiction*. He teaches creative writing, appears at numerous conferences and conventions, and is a freelance editor, ghostwriter, and

publishing consultant (www.athansassociates.com). His blog, Fantasy Author's Handbook, is updated every Tuesday, and you can follow him on Twitter @PhilAthans.

I found this book very helpful in understanding the difference between bad guys and non-sentient (self-aware) creatures. Monsters are the later according to Mr. Athans

Good suggestions and guidelines, and it never hurts to seek out further information if you want to become a writer.

Has a good amount of information from masters of the horror genre. More importantly, it takes that information and breaks down WHY things are horrific. Includes a template to help you keep in mind the specifics of your terrifying creature

If you want to write, and you want your novel to have monsters in it, this is the book I highly suggest you purchase and read. I've taken an online class called, "Horror Writing Intensive: Analyzing the Work of Genre Master Stephen King", taught by this great author, Philip Athans. Not only was his book great but so was his class. In the book, he has a link to a "Monster Writing Form" that will be of tremendous help when developing a monster for your story. This book has many helpful tips and suggestions, as well as the link I mentioned earlier. The book and the monster writing form have been very helpful to me while writing my Sci-Fi novel, "Deep Light", which will be finished before December 2017.

ok it was a gift but nice quality

I enjoy this different approach to crafting a character. A hero is only as good as its villain, and monsters make for very fun villains! A good break of fresh air in an ocean of writing advice books.

For a first time writer this is very informative. I will definitely be rereading it.

One of the best books on writing I've come across. It will help anyone, no matter what genre one writes in.

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