

All the Hidden Monsters

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RECOMMENDED FOR: Lower to Mid Secondary
(Violence, Language)

SYNOPSIS

Sage is an ordinary girl and a werewolf, moving between worlds, desperate to make sense of her life.

When her supernatural friend, Lucy, is found murdered in the human domain, she's determined to join the investigation, led by handsome warlock, Oren Rinallis.

Sage is neither magical nor immortal, but she knows right from wrong, and can scent a killer like no other—unless she and Oren kill each other first . . .

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Amie Jordan is from Salford and studied Film and Media at Manchester Metropolitan University. When she isn't writing she spends most of her time knitting, having provided bespoke pieces for the costume departments of film, TV and theatre. Her other talents include solving Rubik's cubes, getting hard knots out of string, and quoting *The Lord of the Rings* start to finish.

Amie lives near Manchester city centre with her son and their two cats and two dogs, Marvy, Marmalade, Major and Percy Jackson.

THEMES

- Crime
- Fantasy
- Murder mystery
- Thriller
- Slow-burn romance
- Enemies-to-lovers
- Urban setting (Manchester)
- Friendship

WRITING STYLE

The novel is written in third person narrative, past tense—a classic style of storytelling. The two protagonists, Oren and Sage, are the dual narrators, this allows us an insight into how both characters are experiencing the events. The author's

writing style allows us to empathise with the characters and become fully invested in both the mystery and the hidden world she has created.

STUDY NOTES

- *All the Hidden Monsters* is an urban fantasy, set mostly in Downside, the underworld existing beneath the city of Manchester. It is now your turn to create a new and imaginative setting for a book. It must also be an underground world and have some fantastical elements. Write an extract where you introduce us to your new world. Think about how you will do this; will a character be stepping into this new world for the first time, or will they be comfortable with their surroundings? Will you write your chapter with no characters mentioned at all? Will you be writing in first, second or third person? Make sure to engage all five senses in your descriptive language to really allow the reader to understand the setting.
- In small groups, compile all the elements you would need to carry out a successful murder investigation on an A3 sheet of paper. Get creative and make it look good as well as making you include practical information. Some examples you could include are:
 - A case file for each victim—including any details about them and their death that you can source from the book.
 - A clue sheet—a list of all the hints the author put throughout the book (do any hints become more obvious now you know who really did it?).
 - An explanation of the links between the victims.
 - Any other information you can find that would be useful.

Once you have finished your murder investigation board, write a statement explaining the details of the case as if you are a member of the Arcānum addressing the public. Think carefully about what style of language you would use for this type of writing. Also consider which details you would share and which you would want to keep from public knowledge?

- As a class, discuss the two main characters, Sage and Oren, and the relationship that they share. Think about how their personalities differ—what language does the author use to show their similarities and differences?
 - Informed by your discussions as a class, draw up character sheets for both Sage and Oren. At the bottom of both sheets, write out one important question: What does this character want more than anything else? Then, try to answer it.
 - Next, go through the book as a class, and create a timeline of all the key moments that affect their relationship. Pick one of these moments and try to rewrite it, but this time from the other characters perspective.
 - What new insights would we gain from being told about that moment from another character? Use emotive language to express how they would be feeling at the time.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

- Given the choice, would you choose to live on as a ghost?
- What were your first impressions of Oren? How does this compare to your opinion of him by the end of the book?
- What did you think was the message behind Sage finally being given a chance at the Arcānum?
- Discuss the role that friendship plays throughout this story.
- How did you feel after the big reveal of the circumstances surrounding P's death?
- Do you prefer a slow burn romance, like Sage and Oren's, or a faster paced romance? Discuss how you felt about the connection between Sage and Oren as the story progressed. Did you have a favourite moment between the two of them?
- What did you think about the reveal of the killer's identity? Did you see it coming?
- What do you think happens next, after the end of the story?