Here There Be Monsters

Fall is fully here and ‘tis the season to feel spooky. So here’s a selection of the latest and greatest monster books from this year that you have may have missed, from creepy tricks to literary treats.

**Shark Beach** by Chris Jameson
The Scullys thought they’d be able to salvage some of their dream vacation after a hurricane hits, but they didn't know about the nearby military research lab--or the toothy test subjects that escaped during the storm. A gory guilty pleasure from start to finish.

**Monster, She Wrote: The Women Who Pioneered Horror and Speculative Fiction** by Lisa Kröger
Meet the women writers who crafted some of literature’s strangest tales, from *Frankenstein* to *The Haunting of Hill House* and beyond. Part biography, part reader’s guide, with detailed reading lists to introduce you to more than a hundred authors and over two hundred spooky novels and stories.

**Stoker’s Wilde** by Steven Hopstaken & Melissa Prusi
Bram Stoker and Oscar Wilde must overcome their disdain for one another to take on a madman using supernatural forces to bend the British Empire to his will. This supernatural mash-up of Victorian morals and modern thriller features vampires, secret societies, portals to other realms, and the London theater.

**A Cosmology of Monsters** by Shaun Hamill
Noah thinks his tragic family history is the result of bad luck and mental illness, not the monsters his father was obsessed with...until one night he hears a scratching at the window. This twisted coming of age tale is perfect for fans of Stephen King and *Stranger Things*.

**The Toll** by Cherie Priest
Titus and his wife are traveling through the Okefenokee Swamp when they arrive at a strange, one-lane bridge. Sometime later, Titus wakes up in the middle of the road, alone. What follows is a southern fried gothic, packed with local color and eccentric characters.

**The Spirit** by Thomas Page
Back in print after 40 years, this horror thriller about an ex green beret, a hip anthropologist, and a super macho survivalist on the trail of a murderous monster they're sure is the legendary Bigfoot is an outrageous B-Movie in book form.

- Kristin

**13 Days of Halloween**: Want more things that go bump in the night? Follow us on Twitter Facebook, or Instagram from Oct 19th-31st. Every day we'll post a movie, book, or media recommendation to help get you in the holiday spirit.
Casting a shadow over the Owens family is the legacy of their ancestor, Maria, who was abandoned by her lover and suspected of witchcraft during the Salem Witch Trials. In her despair, she placed a curse on her bloodline to prevent her daughters from suffering as she did. Generations later, Franny, Jet, and Vincent have been raised to obey a series of rules to stop them from embracing their heritage: no wearing black, no walking after midnight, no red shoes, no candles, no books about magic, and (most importantly) no falling in love.

All is well until the siblings meet their Aunt Isabelle and uncover family secrets that alter the course of their lives forever. As each sibling tries to escape the fate of the family curse, they begin to test their unique abilities and discover that no matter how hard they try, they cannot escape the pains of falling in love.

Hoffman’s writing is warm and lyrical, and if you choose the audiobook you’ll be treated to a smooth narration by acclaimed actress Marin Ireland. Highly recommended as a spellbinding read for autumn.