

## **Only A Monster**

By Vanessa Len

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*Blurb:*

Don't forget the rule. No one can know what you are. What we are. You must never tell anyone about monsters.

Only a monster would kill a hero. Right?

Every family has its secrets, but the summer Joan Chang-Hunt goes to stay with her Gran in London, she learns hers is bigger than most. The Hunts are one of twelve families in London with terrifying, hidden powers.

Joan is half-monster. And what's more, her summer crush Nick isn't just a cute boy - he's hiding a secret as well; a secret that places Joan in terrible danger.

When the monsters of London are attacked, Joan is forced on the run with the ruthless Aaron Oliver, heir to a monster family who are sworn enemies of her own. Joan is drawn deeper into a world that simmers with hostilities, alliances and secrets. And her rare and dangerous power means she's being hunted. She'll have to embrace her own monstrousness if she is to save herself, and her family.

Because in this story . . .

. . . she is not the hero.



*Lamont Review:*

Joan is a monster, who can steal time and has powers. She is from a very long line of monsters, from her mother's Hunt side of the family. Joan had no idea about any of this - until now!

What starts as an ordinary day - Joan is going to meet Nick, a boy she likes from work - suddenly comes crashing down around her when she steals time from a stranger. The realisation that she is a monster is terrifying to Joan. This is not how her life is supposed to be.

But Joan has no choice. Her family is one of the twelve powerful monster families that rule London, and Joan finds herself thrust into the middle of this dangerous world whether she likes it or not. Forced to go on the run with Aaron Oliver, a member of another monster family who are their arch enemies, Joan is going to have to learn to control her powers fast if she has any chance of saving herself and her family...

This is a gripping, fast-paced time travelling story that will have you hooked! It blurs the lines of who is really a hero, and who isn't, and will keep readers enthralled.

It is at times quite brutal and confronting, and will best suit readers 15 and older.

*Reviewed by Sam*