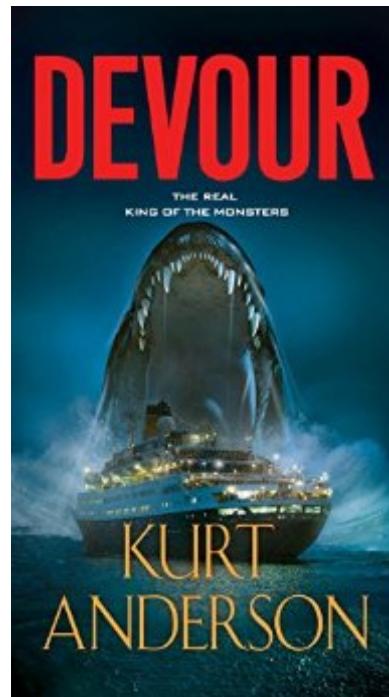


The book was found

Devour



Synopsis

It Lurks Deep beneath the ice of the Arctic Circle, something has awoken. A primordial creature frozen in time, it is the oldest, largest, most efficient predator that nature has ever produced. And it is ravenously hungry. It Hunts Thirty-five miles off the Massachusetts coast, a small research ship is attacked. All but one of its crew is killed by the massive serpentine horror that rises from the sea. The creature likes this human prey. The chewy outer hide. The tender saltiness within. And it wants more. It Feeds Responding to a distress signal, fishing-boat captain Brian Hawkins arrives in time to save the ship's last survivor. But the nightmare is just beginning. A casino cruise ship carrying high-stakes passengers--and a top-secret cargo--becomes the creature's bloodsoaked hunting ground. Even the U.S. Navy can't destroy it. Desperate but determined, Hawkins goes after the biggest catch of the century. But there's something he didn't count on: There's more than one. |

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Customer Reviews

ARC/Science Fiction: This book hasn't come out yet, so no spoilers here. I will tell you how the book made me feel. I have two disclaimers. One is that I received this book from NetGalley for an honest review. Next, just for giggles, I'll let you know that I've read another book called

Devour and it was crap, but I wrote an interesting review about a bunch of boring vampires. This book is sci-fi because it has a giant sea-something eating every mammal in sight; including humans for appetizers. There is no real pseudo-science to the book because the novel deals more in character study. I love sea monster books, but for some reason, I've never read Jaws. This book was fun and it kept me wondering how the two crews would get together because you know from the beginning who our protagonist/hero is and who is the antagonist/villain. The monster is just an interloper to the ocean who brings the characters together. With the bad guys outnumbering the good, there is bound to be betrayals and red herrings. I can forgive a lot when it comes to underwater books, but considering the setting is on a cruise ship, no one sees or whips out an iPhone for the whole first half of the book. The author also doesn't give me a feel for size. The cover of the book shows a monster bigger than a cruise ship, but that isn't true. I felt he needed to describe the monster in more detail; this wasn't a graphic novel and I couldn't understand the boat sizes either. I have no idea how big a tug or fishing boat is. I did forgive the premise of the book; since it was more a character study of people stuck due to circumstance. The reason for everyone being on the boat was preposterous. I even asked my boss about the plot because he is a diehard poker player.

This is a first for me, I normally just watch the animal attack horror movies but this one piqued my interest. Looking at the cover I thought Jaws, Alligator, and a whole array of different creature horror movies. But reading through the book I realized it was more like Deep Rising, without the tentacles, and Devour was a lot better. I liked this it was a good read once I got more than a couple chapters into it I inhaled the thing. It is in third person but it switches perspective between the main characters and the creature itself, that was a nice touch. I liked that it wasn't just the creature they were having to worry about but an alternate conflict that they are dealing with and the fact that the creature is there complicates matters. The perspective of the creature is interesting because of how it thinks. You see how its mind works as it finds out that the big things that float on the water have yummy bits fall out of them when you crash into them. The other characters are a fisherman who is trying to forget his past, a cocktail waitress just trying to earn some extra cash, a scientist who figures out what the hell is going on, and a young girl who is just a victim of circumstance. Frank Moore has everything planned out he's got a gambling cruise ship all set up as a cover for his true intentions, he never expected that a creature that was suppose to be extinct would defrost from the arctic circle and start hunting them. Brian Hawkins was just trying to earn a living as a fisherman when he picks up a distress call from another vessel. With the Coast Guard busy all the unusual

ocean activity Brain decides they are the other vessels only hope.

Devour by Kurt Anderson is a highly recommended thriller/horror novel set on the ocean, off the coast of Massachusetts. The novel follows several embedded story lines. Brian Hawkins is a fishing boat captain who responds to a distress call from a research ship. He manages to save the last survivor, but he also sees what they are up against and knows his ship is doomed. A primordial sea monster has awakened beneath the ice in the Arctic Circle and is starting to feed as it heads south following the current. When it discovers tasty morsels can be found on boats, it begins attacking boats and eating the crews. In the meantime, a casino cruise ship is setting out beyond territorial limits to facilitate a secret high stakes poker game and hide a secret cargo, while the rest of the unknowing guests partake of the normal games of chance. The monster is the hook, but the novel spends a lot of time setting up the characters on the boats. Brian is a compelling, credible character. The majority of the people introduced on the cruise ship are untrustworthy and unsavory characters, with very few exceptions. Frankie Moore, who is facilitating the high stakes game and trying to keep an eye on the men in the private security details of the two players involved, is an interesting character, but not likeable. It's not that the cruise ship portion of the plot is dull, it's just that, well, you're going to want more sea monster action because that's what you are expecting, but the bulk of the novel focuses on the various cruise ship characters. This makes the novel more of a thriller than horror novel. Devour will hold your attention and is a satisfying debut novel for Anderson.

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