

JACK TEMPLAR
and the
MONSTER HUNTER
ACADEMY

Book 2

A NOVEL

By

Jeff Gunhus

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, businesses, organizations, places, events, and incidents either are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. And resemblance to actual persona, living or dead, events, or locales is entirely coincidental.

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Praise for Jack Templar Monster Hunter The Templar Chronicles Book 1

Selected as a 2012 Finalist for the Book of the Year Award. – *Foreword Reviews*

"Gunhus brings young readers a monster-filled romp to read at their own risk. The tone is set--sarcastic, tongue-in-cheek and likable; rooting for Jack is easy...Gunhus masterfully introduces fully realized characters with whom readers can connect almost instantly. The pacing is quick but not rushed, and events seamlessly progress, complete with action, cliffhangers and surprise reveals. " - *Kirkus Reviews*

"The action starts right from the first chapter and doesn't let up until the book ends. This is the first book in a series, and I look forward to reading the rest of them." -*The DMS*

"Jeff Gunhus has made a terrific fast paced fantasy. I even wanted to bolt my doors and lock my windows! Five stars for the best book of the year." -*Elizabeth A. Bolt*

"Everything in this book was something a reader could love - action, adventure, mythical creatures, mystery and even a touch of romance." -*Sandy @ Magical Manuscripts*

"Move over Harry Potter and Percy Jackson, there's a new kid in town - Jack Templar, and he will take you on a wonderful adventure of good vs evil, with friends and enemies at every turn." -*Penny Brien* "

“This was a fun read with non-stop adventure.

Reminiscent of Percy Jackson and Harry Potter, Gunhus creates an interesting world and characters that are easy to root for. Already anticipating the next story!” - *M. Profant*

“This is a fantastic read!! Jack Templar Monster Hunter is full of adventure, twist and turns, and a couple of surprises also!! "Middle Graders" (as well as everyone else) will love this book!! Definitely recommend this read if you are a fan of fantasy!” - *MSRheinlander*

“I love this book...the character and action descriptions are so vivid. At times, the monster battles were so intense I didn't even realize I wasn't breathing! I would recommend this book to all ages.” - *Tulip Bouliphant*

“Very rich and interesting characters. You get the feeling that there is much more of the story to unfold, so I am expecting sequels. Keep them coming!” -*Martha Biemann*

“I bought this book for my kids and found myself fighting them for time with it. From the first page you are drawn into Jack's discovery of a fantastic new world around him - a world he didn't know existed. It's a real fun, vivid read full of cliffhangers and non-stop action that will keep even your most reluctant reader interested.”
-*Jim Beard*

“Vivid imagery and tight, fast-paced narrative make this first book of a series a great read not only for middle teens, but for any reader who enjoys suspense a little on the darker side.” -*Book Diva*

For my own little monsters:

Jackson, William, Daniel, Caroline and Owen

And for Nicole: who always smiles when she tells me to
go write.

My name is Jack Templar and I am an orphan.

Just before my fourteenth birthday, I discovered that I came from a long line of monster hunters. You know, vampires, werewolves, zombies, you name it.

Not only that, but if monsters around the world could choose one human to kill, it would be me. Why? I haven't a clue. I'd like to find out some day, but for right now, I'm happy just to stay alive.

WARNING

Since I can't be certain that you read my first book about the night I found out I was a monster hunter, I should start out with a warning.

First, monsters are real. Vampires, werewolves, zombies, demons; you name it. In fact they are more common than you could ever imagine. Second, this book is not make-believe. This is a truthful account of my life as a monster hunter and the mysterious circumstances that seem to constantly surround me. Third, reading this book makes you fair game for monsters.

You heard me right: the simple act of reading this book will attract monsters to you and give them the go-ahead to attack. Usually, if you were under fourteen years old, you would be safe by the Law of Quattuordecim, an ancient truce between man and monster that protects non-combatant children on both sides until sundown on their fourteenth

birthday. I blew it by attacking a monster that was trying to eat someone I knew the day before my birthday. You're about to blow it by reading this book.

If you're over fourteen, you are already at risk for monster attacks, but in reality they are few and far between. Still, by reading this book, you are guaranteeing they will come after you. So don't come crying to me if a rock troll chops off your feet or a harpy eats one of your eyeballs. The choice is yours.

However, *if* you decide to turn the page, you'll be reading about the Monster Hunter Academy, a place no *non*-monster hunter has ever seen or heard about before. What happened there is not for those with weak stomachs or for those who are easily upset. There is blood and gore and death and, like it or not, some kissing. But there is also an adventure unlike anything you have ever seen before.

So turn the page if you dare. The adventure starts now.

Jack Templar

Beware.
Here there be monsters!

*Label found on ancient maps
describing the lands beyond the known world.*