



Creature of the Night

Kate Thompson

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I could hear Dennis talking to my ma. 'She was little,' he said. 'Little like me. But old. Older than you. Those words gave me a cold shock. I could see Dennis imagining fairies, but old ones?

When Bobby's mother moves the family into a rented house in the country, a neighbour tells him that a child was once murdered there. Bobby doesn't care. All he wants is to get back to Dublin and to resume his wild life there, stealing from the crowded shopping streets and racing stolen cars at night. But getting his old life back doesn't turn out to be so easy, and the longer he spends in the old cottage, the more convinced he becomes that something very strange is going on there. Was there really a murder? And if so, was it the one he has been told about?

Creature of the Night Details

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From Reader Review Creature of the Night for online ebook

C.G. Drews says

Okay **THAT WAS SEVERELY CREEPY**. I actually didn't know what to expect with this one. And honestly? It isn't my normal kind of book. BUT I JUST GOT SERIOUSLY ADDICTED TO IT. I didn't want to stop reading.

A Brief Run Down On What It's About:

- Bobby -- who is the BRAT OF THE CENTURY
- Seriously I wanted to slap this kid into the next century because he's really rude and sexist and disagreeable and cruel.
- But then his mother (who is awful) moves him and his little brother to the country and THINGS GET CREEPY.
- The neighbours are like "Ooh, fairies!"
- The little brother is like "I'm playing outside with a little woman no one else ever sees!"
- Bobby is like "Imma steal a car"
- I am like "THERE'S A FREAKING SERIAL KILLER OR SOMETHING OUT THERE PLEASE EVERYBODY PAY ATTENTION BEFORE THE LITTLE BROTHER GETS KIDNAPPED OR SOMETHING."
- #mildpanicattack

It's all VERY British. Am I allowed to say British? It's in Ireland??? IRISH. Whatever. They drink tons of tea, like Bobby is literally so addicted to tea. #British And between being AWFUL, he starts doing tons of manual labour with the farming neighbours. Like he's a thieving city kid....and he's learning how to fix cars and mow and ahhh **I have no idea why I found that so interesting BUT I COULDN'T GET ENOUGH.** The sensory details were so great that I really felt *in* the story.

...which made all the food DOWNRIGHT TORTUROUS. 'Scuse me. May I please have a ham sandwich and some TEA. (I don't even like tea. Wut's wrong with me.)

The characters are ALL very unlikeable though. I mean, ugh, Bobby is HORRID to his mother. And he's only 14 but totally addicted to smoking. And he blows money on drugs and his "friends" are the worst. Like **by all rights I should've hated him...**but I just sort of warmed up to him?! **His character development is A+.** I ROOTD FOR HIM TO GET HIS LIFE TOGETHER.

But argh argh argh to his mother. Like she had problems. I get that. But she totally *abused* the 4yo little brother (Dennis) who wet the bed all the time. (Duh to why he's *still wetting the bed*.) And AGH. It just made me sick how UNLOVED both Bobby and Dennis truly where.

I also liked how it focused on character development. And how there was **ZERO ROMANCE**. I'm so pleased about that.

Basically: it's a slow but very investing story with a good dose of CREEPY to keep you up at night. I mean, all that scrabbling going on in the night IS TOTALLY JUST NOTHING. #screams And I devoured the whole book in a few hours and it's just ... eep. **I JUST LIKE IT OKAY?!?! Even if a lot of the British lingo was lost to me. And even if I wanted to smack all the characters. I NEEDED to know the answer to who was the "creature in the night" and I got very invested in the characters.**

Nathanael Shafer says

Creature of the Night? by Kate Thompson Is a story about a kid, Bobby, fourteen years old. He originally was living in Dublin, and then he moved to the country near Ennis. His mom decided to move them to the country to get him away from the kids that are bad influences. The bad things Bobby did included stealing cars, stealing electronics, and stealing all kinds of stuff. When he comes to the country he finds out that someone was murdered in the house they are renting. So he finds a diary with hair in it from the person that lived at the house. His goal is to get his mom and brother out of the house before another murder happens. I thought this book was exciting and boring to read. It was exciting because it had ups and downs; however, there were some very slow parts to the action.

Sam Perlin says

Creature of The Night is a very misleading, and awful book. When I first saw this book at the local library, I thought it would be about spooky things like a ghost or a murder. But, then I realized this book had nothing to do with any of that. This is a very misleading book, which is the main reason I wouldn't recommend this book to anyone. Dennis, the main character, sneaks out of his house and goes to meet up with his old buddies in Dublin. When they go to Dublin, they smoke, drink, and rob many cars. This problem occurs when Dennis is telling his mom about his crazy friend: " HE threatened me with all kinds of stuff if I didn't do it. And then he'd buy drink and drugs and whatever he needed"(Thompson 76). This quote shows readers that this book has many bad/illegal things in it for many kids. If readers think it's cool for Dennis and his friends to do illegal things, then readers may think it is all right to do. Kate Thompson includes many inappropriate things, which is one reason I don't recommend this book. The other reason why I don't recommend this book, is because the title of this book is very misleading to the actual plot of this horrendous story. Originally, I thought this story was about something scary that happens at night, but then I found out the plot of this story revolves around kids that do many bad things. When Kate Thompson said, " So five minutes later I was back on the road, loads of petrol in the tank, and nothing but the empty road between me and lads"(Thompson 61). This is the quote that proved to me that the title and the cover are both misleading to the actual plot. To sum it up, I don't recommend, Creature of the Night, to anyone because Kate Thompson includes many inappropriate things and this book is misleading.

Alex Wenndt says

This book has almost nothing to do with the creature of the night, It is more about a 14 year old brat trying to adjust to a new home. I was not happy with this book because when I picked it up and read the description I was expecting a book about some fantasy creature not some book about a kid trying to adapt to a new life.

This book uses a ton of profanity because the main character of the book is a thief, a liar, a smoker, a drinker, and a rude little brat; keep in mind he is only 14. Warning, some part of this book I would consider to be vulgar. I would not recommend this book to kids, because I feel like it encourages bad behavior.

It is possible that I would of enjoyed this book a little bit more if the description actually described what the

book was about, because I was very disappointed that there wasn't more about the creature of the night.

Brian Dennin says

This book was average, but ended strong. It started out O.K., but then just kept dropping off. There almost wasn't any action in the majority of this book, just describing the 14 year old's work in his new community. Sometimes it would set you up to the main part, like "he woke up in the middle of the night to a creepy sound in the kitchen", but then nothing would happen. It wasn't until the last 50 pages did it get exciting, "edge of your seat" type material. He found a person who kept sneaking into his house that supposedly died 15 years ago. Then she described the scary night very well, the fog dropping in to set up the background. Then the book ended. There was some miniature altercations that dragged me on to keep reading, but I wanted to stop reading after the first 75 pages.

Charlotte Coldwell says

This is probably the only book I've ever really fully disliked. In my opinion, it's the worst book I've ever read. I read it as part of a school reading challenge and it annoyed the crap out of me. The main protagonist was an absolute pain. Maybe it's just that he's so opposite to me that I couldn't understand or sympathise with him. Also, the book didn't really have anything to do with the 'Creature of the Night' from the title. I think it was mentioned about three times, if that, and it was certainly nothing to do with the main plot. Basically, the boy and his mum move to the country and the boy's pissed off because he can't steal things or hang out with his friends, so he runs back to Dublin about four times, filling up most of the book, and realises at the end of it that his house has some kind of supernatural being living in it, but he's better off staying there anyway. Loathed it completely.

Sandra says

I remember reading this years ago and being terrified.

Joel says

*4.5

Pocos libros me han sorprendido tan gratamente como este.

Cuando lo comencé no tenía gran idea de lo que iba a encontrar pero suponía que iba a ser una historia con tintes fantásticos como su nombre lo indica. Pero no. Para nada.

No hay duda de que el título lo pusieron solamente para hacerlo más comercial, eso de "criatura de la noche" no es más que un agregado tonto para hacer que el libro sonara más interesante.

El libro va más sobre la contemporánea, sobre la vida de un adolescente al que obligan a mudarse a unas granjas, que debe soportar a su hermano y a su madre, que debe estar lejos de sus amigos, que debe pasar su

adolescencia como todos los adolescentes: sufriendo por cosas que no se debe sufrir.

Hermoso.

Y honestamente, la parte fantástica solo le quita esplendor a lo que pudo ser una obra perfecta.

Sesana says

I'm surprised that I liked this book as much as I did. From the plot description, I thought I was getting a dark urban fantasy. I ended up getting much more of a gritty urban contemporary. The former is right up my alley, the latter is not. And yet, I was fairly glued to it. All credit goes to Kate Thompson for that.

The story is far, far more about Bobby's shift from a thoughtless thug to... well, not exactly sure what. Something more, at least. The epilogue was a little too brief for me. I would have preferred to see a bit more about who exactly Bobby became, and how. There is a mystery, possibly involving a changeling, but it's very much on the back burner. The winning thing about this story is Bobby's voice. Here is where Thompson really nailed it. It's very, very real, and his gradual change is very believable. Would've liked to see more of that change, though.

There are a few genuinely chilling moments in here, like Bobby's realization that, although his little brother might have made up a fairy, he wouldn't have made up an old one. My favorite moment was when one of Bobby's Clare friends mentions how young his mother is. He'd known all his life that she'd been young when she had him, 14. But it's not until he's 14 himself that he realizes exactly what that means.

My one concern about this book is that the summary, which on my copy seemed to play up the fairy elements, might turn off the readers who would enjoy it the most, boys like Bobby.

The cover on my copy is the one with the house with the blue door. It's a striking cover, and it does suit the darker elements of the story. That's only a small part of the story, though. The paperback cover, with Bobby stalking the streets, is probably more representative of what's actually going on in most of the book. It's a great cover. The band of green countryside at the bottom reflects the effect that Clare is having on Bobby: always at the back of his mind, but fiercely kept there.

Ricki says

I hate to say it, but I really did not like this book at all. I think I have a high tolerance for foul language and misguided actions (I work in a high school and hear it all of the time), but it was just so excessive in this book. Bobby is 14-years-old. He drives, steals, lies (at one point, saying his mother has cancer), smokes, drinks, and swears constantly. Almost every page has the word "fuck," "bastard," "piss," or "kill." He has a terrible mother, and they are very abusive toward each other. He calls her a "fucking bitch" and a "lazy cow" and she calls him a "little shit." The fact that the author turns his behavior around in the last ten pages doesn't make this okay to me, as a reader. I didn't find the mystery to be very developed or believable, and I thought his bad behavior overshadowed that aspect of the plot.

I just don't see this as a book that I would want any teens reading. Bobby is a terrible role model. The only

redeeming quality about him is that he treats his brother with respect. He mistreats everyone else around him and is incredibly selfish.

Kathy says

If you come to this from *The New Policeman* you may be surprised -- and may not appreciate just what Kate Thompson has accomplished in this coming-of-age novel which goes back and forth between the Dublin streets and the countryside his mother thought would be a safe haven but has violence of its own. Although I have heard people say the realism and the fantasy don't mesh well, I think that might be an American reading. I wonder if Thompson's Irish readers are closer to a folkloric tradition, more likely to accept the changeling possibility. This would be a spectacular teen book discussion title -- just who is the creature of the night? And how can you come to care so much for a narrator who is so wrong-headed for so much of the story? Read it as teen grit, not as fantasy or horror.

Cameron Mccan says

Creature of the Night may be one of the best books written to cover the life of a troubled teen living in the suburbs of Dublin. The way the story flows is quite enticing to the average reader. The story line isn't the best but I've read worse. I enjoyed following Bobby on his rambunctious escapades through Dublin and seeing all of the different shenanigans he gets himself into.

Although the description of the book made it appear to be a mystical and magical type novel, it didn't expand on the fairy-tale sections very much. The title made the book seem eerie and creepy yet, there were few, if any, elaborate scenes protruding scary vibes. The cover of the book should have been different in my opinion, as it sends off a completely different vibe than what the story really portrays.

I was somewhat pleased with the storyline, although it seemed to drag on forever. Bobby kept returning to Dublin then getting sent back to the cottage his mother moved him to. It seemed somewhat repetitive and could have been easily rewritten to include better details and different escapades for Bobby to experience. Overall, "*Creature of the Night*" was a good read, however, the ending left me wanting more as it kind of just ended with no closure or reasonable ending.

Kaleb Mesick says

I liked how the story was told by Bobby. It made you realize that even though he was in trouble a lot he still had fears and feelings like everyone else. His mom made them move to the country to try to keep him out of trouble, but I didn't think she was a very good mom. When they moved to the country he did move next to some cool neighbors.

I liked this book because it was easy to read and was very interesting. All the people in the book seemed very real and could remind you of people you know in real life.

Kelly Thielen says

In my opinion, this was one of the worst books for teens that I've ever read. Until the very end of the story, the main character, his mother and his friends show absolutely no redeeming qualities. It's not until the very end that he shows some. I just don't think the average teen will make the cause-effect connections until the very end of the story. Until then they have a teen who treats his mother horribly, reels profanity, drinks, steals, lies and has no regard for any other person. As an adult, I could see what was happening, but even so, I couldn't get past all of the other stuff to enjoy the book. School Librarians - Note that this book had all very positive reviews in the library journals and none mentioned the extreme amount of profanity or any of the other vices of the main character. If this is a problem in your community, you may want to think twice about buying the book.

Plot Notes: Bobby is a foul-mouthed, fourteen-year-old thief who has been allowed to run around with the wrong crowd for years. Now his single mother, who has little motivation anyway, can not control him. In an effort to keep him out of jail, she moves him from Dublin to a small Irish village a couple hours away from Dublin. While there, Bobby can think of nothing more than getting back to his friends in Dublin. His "friends" use him to carry off the goods they steal - or the good they are selling so that they don't take the wrap - Bobby's younger and would be tried as a Juvenile. Bobby is not happy about the move. He and his mother argue constantly and talk horribly to one another regularly. He escapes back to Dublin a couple of times, always finding trouble and getting bounced back when he goes. The one redeeming aspect of the story is their kindly landlord who tries to take Bobby under his wing and show him some kindness and discipline. Finally, there is a last straw, and the landlord evicts them. It's then and only then that Bobby realizes the way things really are. Can he do what's right?

Queen Keely Tubbs of Salt "the Last of the Moral, Conservative Catholics on the Internet" (aka *Keelskilo*) says

This. Book. Was. BORING.

I'm sorry, but when I read the inside cover, I thought it would be loads more of a creep-fest, with spooky things going on and lots of murder, disappearances, and mystery.

No.

This book is very misleading: it is NOT what the inside cover tells you it is about. It is about "Bobby" coming from a messed-up background and learning to be a farming and occasionally putting milk and chocolate out for the "little woman" who may or may not be a fairy.

The book is quite resistant to explaining things.

So if you're looking for a cutsie little "coming of age" story with some sort of modern reality when there is little resolution, then go right ahead.

If you are looking for the eerie novel the inside cover suggests, try *Long Lankin* or *Ten*.

