

Those Who Fight Monsters: Tales of Occult Detectives
edited by Justin Gustainis
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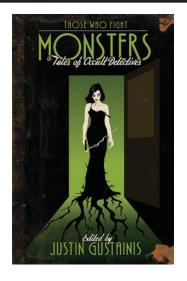


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**Those Who Fight Monsters** 

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**Those Who Fight Monsters: Tales of Occult Detectives** 

Introduction: Down These Mean Crypts a (Wo)Man Must Walk by Justin Gustainis

Little Better than a Beast (a Marla Mason story) by T. A. Pratt

**Dusted (a Cosa Nostradamus story)** by Laura Anne Gilman

The Demon You Know...(a Demon-Hunting Soccer Mom story) by Julie Kenner

The Spirit of the Thing (a Nightside story) by Simon R. Green

Holding the Line (a Jill Kismet story) by Lilith Saintcrow

**Defining Shadows (a Detective Jessi Hardin story)** by Carrie Vaughn

**Deal Breaker (a Quincey Morris story)** by Justin Gustainis

See Me (a Smoke and Shadows story) by Tanya Huff

**Soul Stains (a Vampire Babylon story)** by Chris Marie Green

**Under the Hill and Far Away (a Black London story)** by Caitlin Kittredge

An Ace in the Hole (a Sazi story) by C. T. Adams and Cathy Clamp

Hell Bound (a Hell on Earth story) by Jackie Kessler



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Meet the Authors Page One

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### T. A. Pratt

T. A. Pratt's stories have won a Hugo (and lost a Nebula and World Fantasy Award), and have appeared in *The Best American Short Stories*, *The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror*, and other nice places. He lives in Oakland CA and has a website at **www.timpratt.org** 



#### Laura Anne Gilman

Laura Anne Gilman is the author of the "Cosa Nostradamus" urban fantasy novels (most recently Hard Magic), as well as the mainstream fantasy Weight of Stone: Book 2 of The Vineart War. She lives in New York City, where she also runs d.y.m.k. productions, an editorial consulting company. Her website may be found at www.lauraannegilman.net



#### Julie Kenner

Julie Kenner does not hunt demons, but she does spend her days wrangling two small children and an equal number of cats, not to mention a husband. She's also the author of numerous novels, including the "Kate Connor: Demon Hunting Soccer Mom" series and the newly released "Blood Lily Chronicles." Visit Julie online at www.juliekenner.com



### Simon R. Green

Simon R. Green has worked as a shop assistant, bicycle repair mechanic, actor, journalist, and mail order bride. And every day he's glad he doesn't have to do any of that any more. His best known series are the "Deathstalker" books, (like "Star Wars," only with a plot that makes sense,) the "Nightside" books, and the "Secret Histories," featuring Shaman Bond, the world's most secret agent. Although he does not have a website as such, there is a tribute site, to which he sometimes contributes information, at www.bluemoonrising.nl



#### **Lilith Saintcrow**

Lilith Saintcrow is the author of several paranormal romance, urban fantasy, and young adult series, including the "Jill Kismet" and "Strange Angels" series. She lives in Vancouver, Washington, with her children, several cats, and other strays. Her website may be found at www.lilithsaintcrow.com/journal



### **Carrie Vaughn**

Carrie Vaughn is the bestselling author of a series of novels about a werewolf named Kitty who hosts a talk radio advice show. The seventh installment, *Kitty's House of Horrors*, was released January 2010. Her young adult novel, *Voices of Dragons*, and fantasy novel, *Discord's Apple*, will also be released in 2010. Carrie lives in Boulder, Colorado and is always working on something new. Visit her at **www.carrievaughn.com** 



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### **Justin Gustainis**

Justin Gustainis is a college professor living in upstate New York. He is author of *The Hades Project, Black Magic Woman, Evil Ways* and the forthcoming *Hard Spell* and *Sympathy for the Devil*. His website may be found at **www.justingustainis.com** 



#### Tanya Huff

Tanya Huff lives and writes in rural Ontario and is probably best known for her *Vicki Nelson Blood* books—although there's another twenty novels out there including *Smoke and Shadows, Smoke and Mirrors* and *Smoke and Ashes,* the *Tony Foster* books. *The Enchantment Emporium* is her most recent. She maintains an active LiveJournal page at **andpuff.livejournal.com** 



#### **Chris Marie Green**

Chris Marie Green is the author of the "Vampire Babylon" series, which includes Night Rising and A Drop of Red. In 2011, Ace will publish her new postapocalyptic urban fantasy/western noir "Bloodlands" series. She has a website at www.vampire-babylon.com



## **Caitlin Kittredge**

Caitlin Kittredge is a full-time writer who lives in Seattle with collections of comic books, cats and vintage pinup clothing. She's the author of the bestselling "Nocturne City" and "Black London" urban fantasy series, and the novel The Witch's Alphabet, a steampunk adventure for young adults. Her website is www.caitlinkittredge.com



### C. T. Adams and Cathy Clamp

C. T. Adams and Cathy Clamp are real people with slightly twisted minds who write strange fiction for fun. They are happily the award-winning, USA Today bestselling authors of the "Tales of the Sazi" and "Thrall" series for Tor Books. They are also now writing urban fantasy as "Cat Adams" and released a new series, "The Blood Singer" in June, 2010. Both C.T. and Cathy spend their days working in a law office in central Texas, which is what many claim warped their brains. They share a website at www.ciecatrunpubs.com



### **Jackie Kessler**

Jackie Kessler lives in upstate New York. She is the author of the "Hell on Earth" series, co-author (with Caitlin Kittredge) of Black and White and its upcoming sequel Shades of Gray, and, writing as Jackie Morse Kessler, the author of the upcoming young adult novel Hunger. She has a web presence at www.jackiekessler.com



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#### C. J. Henderson

With some 60 books under his belt, author C. J. Henderson, creator of supernatural detective *Teddy London* and, now occult investigator *Piers Knight*, welcomes all to come to **www.cjhenderson.com**, to comment on his story here, and to read others which he posts for the enjoyment of all.



#### **Rachel Caine**

Rachel Caine is a fictional person who writes many, many novels, including the "Weather Warden" series (8 novels to date, and one more in 2010), the "Morganville Vampires" series (8 novels, with 12 planned), and the "Outcast Season" series (3 novels so far, with 1 more to come). She lives in the Dallas, Texas area. Her website is at www.rachelcaine.com

Advance Praise for Those Who Fight Monsters: Tales of Occult Detectives

The Romantic Times Magazine advance review...

Anthology
THOSE WHO FIGHT MONSTERS: TALES OF OCCULT DETECTIVES
Various Authors
4 stars

Justin Gustainis pulls together 13 of today's most talented UF writers to produce a dark and gritty anthology dedicated to occult detectives. The stories features a range of UF cops, PIs and talented sleuths who are the answer to the immortal question, "Who you gonna call?" when things go wrong. What makes this anthology enticing is that it features many familiar faces from established series and pushes a couple of secondary characters into the forefront. A truly excellent collection.

SUMMARY: A sampling of the stories provided give readers further adventures featuring the worlds of Laura Anne Gilman's Cosa Nostradamus, Simon R. Green's Nightside, C. T. Adams & Cathy Clamp's Sazi, Caitlin Kittredge's Black London and Rachel Caine's Outcast. It also features the exploits of Gustainis' Quincy Morris, T. A. Pratt's Marla Mason, Jackie Kessler's Jezebel, Tanya Huff's Tony Foster and Lilith Saintcrow's Jill Kismet. There is plenty of down-and-dirty action as these detectives face threats of the most unusual kind, and handle them with their own inimitable styles.

(EDGE Science Fiction and Fantasy Publishing, Mar., 2011, 240 pp., \$14.95) Jill M. Smith



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Tell Us About Your Characters, Page One

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### T. A. Pratt says...

"Despite lacking much in the way of tact and having a tendency to solve all her problems with violence, **Marla Mason** has been chief sorcerer and protector of the city of Felport for a few years now, and no one's succeeded in assassinating her yet."



## Laura Anne Gilman says...

"Danny Hendrickson is a former NYPD officer, currently working as a private investigator in New York City. He likes to keep his half-faun genetics under his hat, so to speak."



### Julie Kenner says...

"Soccer mom **Kate Connor** spends her days driving carpool, organizing Gymboree playdates, and hunting demons. Just another day in suburbia..."



## Simon R. Green says...

"John Taylor is a private eye who operates in the Twilight Zone, solving cases of the weird and uncanny. His beat is the Nightside, that sour secret heart of London, where the sun has never shone and it's always three o'clock in the morning, the hour that tries men's souls. Gods and monsters can be found there, often attending the same self-help groups. John Taylor is your last chance for justice, the truth, and other disturbing things."



### **Lilith Saintcrow** says...

"Jill Kismet is the resident hunter of Santa Luz, a city somewhere in the American Southwest. She likes bullwhips, .45s, and breakfast burritos. Oh, and holding back the tides of Hell. She's a big fan of that."



# Carrie Vaughn says...

"Jessi Hardin is a homicide detective with the Denver Police Department. She heads the department's new Paranatural Unit and has (rather inadvertently) become an expert on emerging issues of law enforcement and the supernatural."



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## Justin Gustainis says...

"Quincey Morris, who is descended from the man who gave his life in the fight to destroy Count Dracula, is an occult investigator living in Austin, Texas."



## Tanya Huff says...

"Tony Foster is the second assistant director on "Darkest Night", the most popular syndicated vampire detective show on television. He's one of only three wizards currently practicing in the world and he intends to keep practicing until he gets it right. Given the amount of supernatural flotsam showing up in Vancouver lately, he's being given a lot of opportunity."



### **Chris Marie Green says...**

"Former Hollywood stuntwoman **Dawn Madison** is currently in retirement from vampire hunting and resides near San Diego. Kiko Daniels, who lives nearby, runs a paranormal detective agency with his partner, Natalia Petri."



## Caitlin Kittredge says...

"Petunia Caldecott is a former Detective Inspector with the Metropolitan Police, London. She graduated from London City College and currently resides in Whitechapel. Jack Winter is a mage and a pain in her arse, but he sometimes makes himself useful. He hails from Manchester, England."



### C. T. Adams and Cathy Clamp

"Tony Giodone's skill as a hit man has resulted in a stack of cold case files in the homicide divisions of a number of major cities. Even before he was attacked and turned into a werewolf, if you met Tony in a dark alley, he'd be walking back into the light alone. Although still an assassin, he's now working for Wolven, the police force of the Sazi council—in other words, the good guys."



### **Jackie Kessler**

"The succubus **Jezebel** has turned her back on her Hellish past (sort of) and now lives as the human Jesse Harris, working as an exotic dancer in New York City. Note: this story takes place before Hell's Belles."



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**C. J. Henderson says:** "Museum curator **Piers Knight** is a quiet fellow who likes good food, quiet evenings with a pot of tea and a good book, and being left alone by all the world. While usually well fed and well read, he rarely gets more that a week or two to himself before Fate, Destiny, or some other joker comes knocking at his door, bringing him all manner of bothers."



Rachel Caine says: ``Cassiel was once a Djinn (genie), and is now, thanks to a disagreement with a higher ranking Djinn, trapped in human form as a punishment. Her only hope for long-term survival is partnership with a supernaturally-gifted Warden, Luis Rocha, who controls the elements of the earth. Cassiel and Luis both reside in Albuquerque, New Mexico, when not battling supernatural forces elsewhere.``

## More Advance Praise for ``Those Who Fight Monsters: Tales of Occult Detectives``

"I rarely give anthologies a good review and usually moan about how I should stop torturing myself by reading them...Well this time around I am happy to announce that this anthology could actually be the best I have read, ever! Did you see the line up? A Demon Soccer Mom Hunting story was inside as well as one of my favourite Succubi, Jezebel! An amazing Carrie Vaughn story which I hope is the start of a new series because I would totally love to read more. The best Laura Anne Gilman story I think I have ever read and of course T.A. Pratt! How I have missed you!!! And not forgetting the wonderful editor of this collection, Justin Gustianis. It has been way too long since we saw Quincy and I can't wait for more.

Worth buying! Awesome author selection with stories bursting with paranormal goodness. ``
— Amberkatze`s Book Blog

From http://amberkatze.blogspot.com/2011/02/24-those-who-fight-monsters-by-justin.html