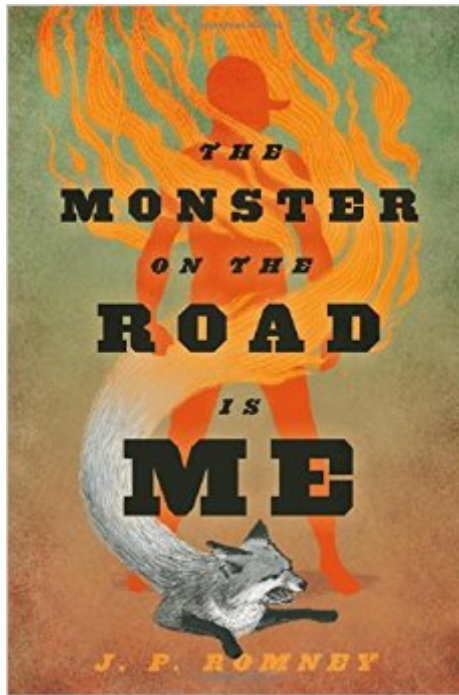


The book was found

# The Monster On The Road Is Me



## Synopsis

It starts with the crows. When you see them, you know heâ€™s found you. Koda Okita is a high school student in modern-day Japan who isnâ€™t very popular. He suffers from narcolepsy and has to wear a watermelon-sized helmet to protect his head in case he falls. But Koda couldnâ€™t care less about his low social standing. He is content with taking long bike rides and hanging out in the convenience store parking lot with his school-dropout friend, Haru. But when a rash of puzzling deaths sweeps his school, Koda discovers that his narcoleptic naps allow him to steal the thoughts of nearby supernatural beings. He learns that his small town is under threat from a ruthless mountain demon that is hell-bent on vengeance. With the help of a mysterious and not to mention very cute classmate, Koda must find a way to take down this demon. But his unstable and overwhelming new abilities seem to have a mind of their own.

| J.P. Romney's *The Monster on the Road Is Me* is a darkly comic debut novel about the unexpected strength we find when we are tested beyond our limits.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 580 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 336 pages

Publisher: Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR) (August 30, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0374316546

ISBN-13: 978-0374316549

Product Dimensions: 5.8 x 1.2 x 8.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.9 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #186,925 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #166 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Asia #297 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Humorous #606 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Being a Teen

Age Range: 12 - 18 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

*The Monster on the Road Is Me* was a phenomenal book. It was so different from other things I read which is why I loved it so much. You won't have an experience like this with any other young adult

novel. I quickly fell in love with the main character, Koda, who was so easy to relate to and instantly felt like he would have been my best friend. His character was very witty and sarcastic and kept me laughing throughout the unfortunate events that occurred. There were some Japanese words in the book but I was able to understand what they meant by the context they were used and the paragraph that followed often had the English form of the word as well. I would highly recommend this to anyone looking for something unique and thrilling.

While designated as a YA novel, this book is not just for the younger reader. The writing is clever, sophisticated, disarming, and funny all at the same time. Set in Japan and drawing on Japanese mythology, the novel tells the story of Koda, a teenager with the unfortunate life challenge of narcolepsy brought on by stress so his parents make him wear a pretty gigantic helmet. You can see the YA appeal as most can emphasize with the young protagonist who sticks out from his peers due to parental attempts to keep him safe. According to the book jacket, the author lived in Japan as a Japanese English teacher (JET) and his familiarity with the language and culture comes shining through, as does his affection for Japanese culture. This book is reminiscent of works by Neil Gaiman, Haruki Murakami, and even Stephen King, as the supernatural is seamlessly woven into the minutiae of every day life. I thoroughly enjoyed this novel and hope to read more offerings by this talented new author.

Great read! An intriguing story that you won't find anywhere else. The concept is fresh and new. It captures your attention by getting you engulfed in the Japanese culture of a teenage boy growing up in a small village, but dreaming of so much more. The author is incredibly witty and comedic, actually causing me to laugh out loud. If you're looking for a gripping and enthralling read, this book is for you!

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