



Tracking the Chupacabra: The Vampire Beast in Fact, Fiction, and Folklore

By Benjamin Radford

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Tracking the Chupacabra: The Vampire Beast in Fact, Fiction, and Folklore

By Benjamin Radford

Among the monsters said to roam the world's jungles and desolate deserts, none is more feared than the chupacabra? -the blood-sucking beast blamed for the mysterious deaths of thousands of animals since the 1990s. To some it is a joke; to many it is a very real threat and even a harbinger of the apocalypse.

Originating in Latin America yet known worldwide, the chupacabra is a contradictory and bizarre blend of vampire and shapeshifter, changing its appearance and characteristics depending on when and where it is seen. Rooted in conspiracy theory and anti-American sentiment, the beast is said to be the result of Frankenstein-like secret U.S. government experiments in the Puerto Rican jungles.

Combining five years of careful investigation (including information from eyewitness accounts, field research, and forensic analysis) with a close study of the creature's cultural and folkloric significance, Radford's book is the first to fully explore and try to solve the decades-old mystery of the chupacabra.

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Editorial Review

Review

Radford is thorough in his investigation; interviewing eyewitnesses, providing creepy photographs of otherworldly creatures, serving up DNA analysis, and contemplating theories of mass psychosis....this objective probe will appeal to readers interested in exploring and exploding modern mysteries. --Library Journal

The most comprehensive dissection of the chupacabra phenomenon that I have ever read. Ben Radford leaves no stone unturned in his tenacious, unrelenting pursuit of precisely what is--and, more to the point, what is not--behind this veritable celebrity of modern-day cryptozoology. Is the chupacabra a bona fide mystery beast, or is it just a media-hyped monster of the imagination? Read this compelling book, which combines healthy skepticism with objective investigation throughout, and judge for yourself! --Dr. Karl Shuker, zoologist and author of *The Beasts that Hide from Man* and *Extraordinary Animals Worldwide*

A wonderful adventure into the quirky legend of our newest popular monster. Radford manages a very rare feat of balancing the excitement and magic of the monster hunt, with the rational skeptical approach of the scientist. I really enjoyed it. --Dr. Stephen Asma, author of *On Monsters* and Professor of Philosophy and Distinguished Scholar at Columbia College

From the Inside Flap

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About the Author

Benjamin Radford is managing editor of *Skeptical Inquirer* science magazine and a Research Fellow with the nonprofit educational organization the Committee for Skeptical Inquiry. The author of five books and hundreds of articles, he is a regular columnist for *Discovery News* and *LiveScience.com*. He lives in Corrales, New Mexico.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Karen Jude:

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation or go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity that is look different you can read any book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent all day long to reading a publication. The book *Tracking the Chupacabra: The Vampire Beast in Fact, Fiction, and Folklore* it is quite good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space bringing this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can more easily to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book offers high quality.

Gilbert Kimmel:

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