



Title: Monsters: A Fan's Dilemma

Author: Claire Dederer

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BOOK RESUME: MONSTERS

BOOK SYNOPSIS

A timely, passionate, provocative, blisteringly smart interrogation of how we make and experience art in the age of cancel culture, and of the link between genius and monstrosity. Can we love the work of controversial classic and contemporary artists but dislike the artist?

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"Part memoir, part treatise, and all treat . . . nimble, witty . . . Her exquisitely reasoned vindication of *Lolita* brought tears to my eyes . . . This is a book that looks boldly down the cliff of roiling waters below and jumps right in, splashes around playfully, isn't afraid to get wet. How refreshing." —*The New York Times*

"Excellent . . . A work of deep thought and self-scrutiny that honors the impossibility of the book's mission. Dederer comes to accept her love for the art that has shaped her by facing the monstrous, its potential in herself, and the ways it can exist alongside beauty and pathos. Go ahead, she tells us, love what you love. It excuses no one." —*The New Yorker*

"[A] vital, exhilarating book . . . Although Dederer has done her homework, her style is breezy and confessional . . . *Monsters* leaves us with Dederer's passionate commitment to the artists whose work most matters to her, and a framework to address these questions about the artists who matter most to us." —*The Washington Post*

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Claire Dederer on her book 'Monsters: A Fan's Dilemma,' NPR \(2023\)](#)

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