

The Thrift Book covers everything from food, to clothes, to holiday, right down to the nitty gritty of feminine beauty. India Knight has a thrifty solution to almost any money situation and her past life of extravagances manages to give her that superior air that beckons the reader to pay attention and hang off her every word.

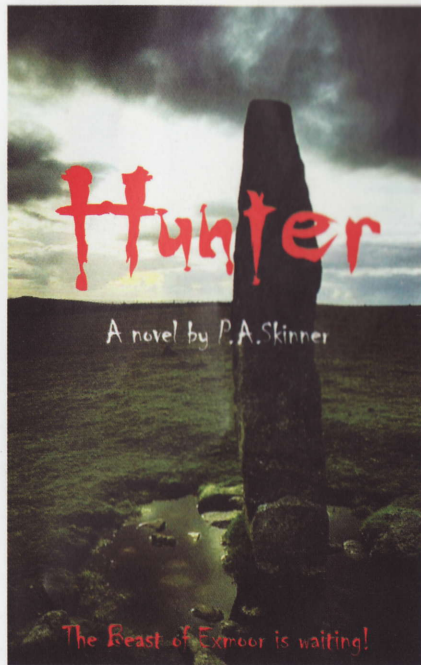
What I like about India Knight is that she's not trying to convert the world and create a thrift cult, she's just offering useful solutions to expensive situations that crop up on a daily basis. She doesn't claim to have written the bible, far from it – India Knight confesses to not having been completely persuaded by all the solutions contained within this book – and there is something humbling, yet passionate about her approach to the subject.

It's amazing how much of the content one can relate to, regardless of age. This book doesn't specifically target the middle-aged mother of two, desperately trying to save the pennies (as one might assume): It has a clever way of allowing you to select what is relevant to the individual and hone in on these extracts.

India Knight's witty tone can be found throughout The Thrift Book and is especially endearing (perhaps even reassuring) when approaching topics such as feminine hygiene, as well as the delicacy of offal and other such foods. I'm particularly fond of Knight's 'Ode to the Packed Lunch', as

to reintate organisations such as the Women's Institute for future generations and, while I don't feel that she has much success with this, she does offer food for thought. Her more successful campaigns lay in re-introducing knitting and other such crafts that are (believe it or not) becoming popular once again. Not to mention, pointing out the value of the humble packed lunch!

Despite her comic approach to being thrifty, there is a surprising amount of truth to Knight's words and some very valuable advice can be found within this book. Its release has coincided beautifully with our current economic climate and it could even be heralded as the credit crunch bible! – I seriously recommend it to anyone wanting to stash some cash.



Hunter

By P A Skinner, iUniverse.com, ISBN: 978-1440130991 - £11

Just when you thought you could brush aside the myth of the Exmoor Beast, 'Hunter' will get your senses tingling and your brain ticking.

'Hunter' tells the story of an ex-Royal Marine Commando, Hunter and his family. Relationships are fraught between Hunter and his wife and, in an attempt to reinstate the family unit, they head to Exmoor with their young son, Carl for a picnic. They could not ask for a better day until Carl goes missing and events take a turn for the worse.

What unravels is a mysterious thriller that will captivate the reader and have your fingers turning the pages faster than your imagination can keep up. 'Hunter' takes you on a whirlwind journey that will keep you on the edge of your seat as mythical creatures meet Pagan tradition and collide to create a novel that is sure to get people speculating.

Told through the eyes of Hunter, the book will keep you guessing until the very last sentence.

Despite their individual flaws, Skinner makes it surprisingly easy to establish a variety of relationships with the characters. This has the desired effect of drawing the reader into the story: rather than maintaining a safe distance from the action, the individual will find themselves sharing the protagonist's experience and wincing in all the right places.

While I wouldn't recommend reading 'Hunter' before bedtime, I would seriously recommend it to all manner of readers. As a self confessed lover of the classic novels, 'Hunter' is the first horror story that has kept me pinned to my chair, intent on reaching the end of the book.

Based on sightings of the Exmoor Beast, Skinner does a brilliant job of bringing this myth to life and the Beast really is waiting for you within the pages of 'Hunter'.



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