



Monster Hunter Legion

Larry Correia

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Monster Hunter International might be the premier monster eradication company in the business, but they've got competition.

When hunters from around the world gather in Las Vegas for a conference, a creature left over from a World War Two weapons experiment wakes up and goes on a rampage across the desert. A not-so-friendly wager between the rival companies turns into a race to see who can bag the mysterious creature first.

Only there is far more to this particular case than meets the eye, and as Hunters fall prey to their worst nightmares, Owen Zastava Pitt and the staff of Monster Hunter International have to stop an ancient god from turning Sin City into a literal hell on earth.

Monster Hunter Legion Details

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From Reader Review Monster Hunter Legion for online ebook

Evgeny says

“Holy shit!” I exclaimed, and that was one of the most coherent comments of the bunch.”

Monster hunters from all over the world gathered in Las Vegas for a conference. As an additional bonus there was a show of new and experimental weapons practically across the road from the hotel the hunters stayed, so nobody in the right mind wanted to miss this.

Thus the story began without big excitement: a big group of people from Monster Hunter International came to get some food in all-you-can-eat buffet, but ended up being the primary participants of the good old-fashioned bar brawl. The one what only ends in total wrecking of the place.

Once the fun (as well as humorous part of the book) was over the real work came. A failed scientific/wizarding experiment conducted by a secret government agency escaped and infiltrated the hotel with monster hunters. Now poor trapped people must fight not only literally indestructible monster, but the bureaucracy as well. Let me give you a spoiler: the latter is scarier.

On the good side the interesting survivors from seemingly unrelated solitary adventures of Earl Harbinger from the previous book made a spectacular appearance here. On the negative side, there was not enough Agent Franks (but we get to learn an awesome fact from his biography). After the all-out fighting I mentioned above Owen's very special humor failed him as the story took a very dark turn.

“I folded the restraining order into a paper airplane and sailed it over to Julie without even interrupting my narrative. She caught, unfolded, and read it while mouthing something that looked suspiciously like ducking mother truckers, but I’m not very good at lip reading.”

I thought long and hard about the rating.

In my opinion for now the best books of the series are the first two, but I feel generous enough to give this one the same rating: 4 stars.

Bruce Burns says

This was a fascinating book to read. Correia (the self-styled International Lord of Hate after he got caught up in writer's politics when he refused to toe the line and defied the liberal strangle-hold on sci-fi and fantasy awards) is one of the current kings of pulp fiction for good reason.

Nemesis is the fifth installment in the Monster Hunter series (think Buffy the Vampire Slayer interpreted by The Expendables) and it is chock-full of rip-roaring action. Correia is a self-taught author who did all the right research. He read a ton of science fiction and fantasy and paid attention to what worked. Then he went and did it. In terms of writing craft Correia's characterization is solid, bold, and memorable. His dialogue drips with snark in delightfully irreverent ways. P.C. has nothing to do with things that flow from this man's

keyboard.

The story revolves around a prior supporting character, Agent Franks from the Monster Control Bureau. Now we know (spoiler) that Franks is short for Frankenstein... and he's been working for the Government on condition that the government never try to make any more like him.

But (coincidence?) a corrupt bureaucrat takes an end-run around the law and sets Franks up for the fall and breaks Franks' contract with America (and gosh, stated like that a libertarian's take on the Republican Revolution of 1996 doesn't seem to be completely unintentional either).

A former government contractor, Correia drips contempt for bureaucratic corruption in the federal government. He's a devout Mormon, Libertarian, and Gun Nut, and that's probably stated in reverse order. Correia's earliest books were sometimes too technically spec-heavy for non-shooters to enjoy as much as his targeted fan base, but this mistake is long in the past. There is very little but sheer fun in this romp.

This book deals largely with cosmology, and Correia has never been one to beat around the bush. He does an amazing job integrating Mormonism and Cthulu-esque noir urban fantasy. I am not a Mormon, though I grew up with them (only non-Mormon in my Boy Scout troop so it was all right to beat me up, for example) and while I prefer Christianity I did not have a hard time reading this book, since the differences are as clear and unapologetic as anything else Correia does (Cliff's Notes version: orthodox Christianity has Grace and Mormonism has Works). Also, I did some double-checking and Correia is absolutely correct that the Tomte are extortionist thug-punks. This book was well-written by a guy with sincere beliefs whose beliefs inform his writing very well. I can and do respect that and enjoy it more than people mealy-mouthing around.

That being said, this is an action adventure. It can never be a movie because Hollywood cannot afford the sort of property damage involved in this story, but it would be delightful to see them try. Correia continues to cameo-in almost all of the established MHI people, including a fun bit where *Preternatural Tarantulas* goes after Franks. The story is fast-paced, eventful, and relevant to contemporary issues in a time when a new corruption or scandal comes up every day. Cultural relevance is a big part of a successful story.

Of course, it's a conservative-libertarian non-politically-correct, alpha-male, anti-government escapist romp, so Hollywood will never make the effort.

That's fine. Pick up a copy today and check out the difference with your own imagination to supply the special effects.

UniquelyMoi ~ BlithelyBookish says

There are no words to describe my totally irrational fan-girling for this series. Every single book is fabulous. Every. Single. One!

There's a teeny bit of on-the-page romance but it pretty much takes a back-seat to the ongoing saga of the dedicated men and women who make up *Monster Hunters International*.

The world is complex, the characters are compelling, and their mission to save the world is - start to finish - hardcore action and excitement and peril. Epic. Simply *epic!!!*

Tim The Enchanter says

Here Be Dragons - 4 Stars

Random Ramblings

Yes! Dragons! Not gonna lie. I've been waiting for one of these UF series to whip out one of these bad boys! While it only has a minor role, Larry Correia continues to masterfully introduce us to the monsters and mythical beast we all know and love and at the same time give them their own MHI spin.

This installment feels as if it is a transition book in the series. It is different from the others as there is less action and the majority of the book is set in a single locale. Characters introduced in the previous installment are incorporated into the MHI world and rumblings of a new foe are heard. It feels like we are gearing up for an epic showdown! Cowboy up monster hunters, the fun is just getting started!

Plot summary

The monster hunters are invited to the first annual conference of monster hunting professionals. Hunters from around the world converge in Nevada to talk shop and buy new things that go boom. In true MHI style, there is no such thing as down time and a nightmare monster is loose in the Sin City. There is a powershift in the government and old foes take on a new light and new foes pose greater threats. Behind the scenes, an unknown and ancient power is gearing up and the testing the hunters for what will soon come.

The Good

The author does a great job of keeping the series from becoming formulaic. While Owen Z. Pitt is there to save the day, new friends, foes and locales are introduced to keep the series fresh. In this installment, we are introduced to hunters from other countries. While I was disappointed that Canada was not represented (Go Canada!), adding other hunters leads to more interesting plot developments.

I've described this as a transitions book. There are always times in a series where the storylines shift and author has to introduce new characters and redirect the readers focus. Sometimes these books can be a drag as it feels like a #1 in the series and you just want to get on with the story. While at time the story did drag, Correia made sure that we got our share creative monster destruction.

Having really enjoyed the previous book in which the story focused Ed Harbinger instead of Owen Pitt, I was hoping we would get to learn about the other characters a bit more. Corriea did not disappoint and we get some solid sections of the book devoted to Holly and Owen's brother Pitt. This helps the series overall and keeps you from becoming bored with the one star of the show.

The Bad

This one did drag from time to time which did bring down the "ye-haw" factor. This one was less of a UF/Western than the other books. While it only brought my rating down a bit. Overall, it lacked the excitement of some of the other books but it was an excellent read nonetheless.

Final Thoughts

I am running out of great things to say about this series. This series stands alone amongst the UF series. There are no wizards running about town casting spells and saving the day. Just good old modern cowboy action. If you are reading this review and haven't tried the series yet, what are you waiting for? Go grab the first book and let the adventure begin.

Content Advisories

It is difficult to find commentary on the sex/violence/language content of book if you are interested. I make an effort to give you the information so you can make an informed decision before reading. *Disclaimer* I do not take note or count the occurrences of adult language as I read. I am simply giving approximations.

Scale 1 - Lowest 5 - Highest

Sex - 1.5

The series is low on sexual content and this is no exception. There is one scene in which some strippers were invited to a party but there are no graphic descriptions. There is an odd but G-rated romance subplot.

Language - 3.5

The author does not shy from adult language and the characters let fly the occasional mother f-er. There is moderate use of adult language throughout the book but it has decreased since the first novel.

Violence - 4

This book receives a lesser violence rating than the rest. Granted, there is still a large dead and undead monster body count but it is reduced from the other novels. You will still get the monster gore albeit a slightly reduced portion.

Mike (the Paladin) says

If I were wont to use such phrases I might open this review with "HOT D**N this is a good book!" But I don't use those phrases so I'll just say...now among my favorites!

Get this series. Start at book 1 (Monster Hunter International) and follow the series. As I've said before, this is prime, 100% grade A brain candy. It's an action treat for lovers of Urban Fantasy, Action, Horror, thrillers and so many crossover genre areas that it will appeal to a great many readers and groups of readers. And among these let's not leave out the gun enthusiasts among us.

I've had some "shots" taken at me and those who enjoy these books by people who consider themselves the literati among us...and those who are very involved in anti-gun matters. I've been insulted because you see, these books are obviously not up to the standards of some among us.

Cool. I admit this is wonderfully fun literary junk food. It appeals to our need to escape now and then from

the day to day grind. It fulfills a need to vicariously fight a grand battle where good and evil face off and you are part of trying to save a world that is unable or unwilling to participate in its own defense.

So enjoy. I can list other series and other books I like better. I can list other books that have "moved me" more but that's not what we're doing here. We're taking a vacation...for your brain. And while we must inevitably come back from a vacation it still rests us and renews us for the day to day grind we live.

Highly recommended, high octane action fun. Enjoy.

Beanbag Love says

What can I say? I'm crazy about this series.

Monster Hunter Legion takes place largely in Las Vegas during a convention of monster eradication companies. This was a great premise, IMO, because we'd read in earlier books about other monster hunting companies, but we really hadn't met any worthy of the vocation. So getting competitive, slightly insane mercenaries together for a weekend in Vegas is just a lot of fun.

However, it also necessitated a kind of clunky, outline-like beginning to get all these characters in the same place and introduce some new ones. That doesn't take long, though, and before you know it, the adventure has begun.

The past MHI books have often felt like a roller coaster of action and suspense. This installment maintains the suspense throughout and the action builds steadily rather than hitting and receding intermittently. It's very effective and the climactic action sequence is as good, if not better, than anything in any previous MHI book. By the time everything all came down, I was completely invested, emotionally engaged, and on the edge of my seat.

I loved Monster Hunter Alpha, but this is a great follow-up. The first person POV is back from the first two books, but Correia does switch out and give us at least one more POV, so I appreciated that. I personally love his facility with third person, I think he's one of the best in the business at delineating character "voices" and interpretations.

The story holds together very well and lives on in the thoughts after it's finished. It may be an action-based urban fantasy but it's got all the elements needed for an overall satisfying reading experience.

This story has a lot less "gun porn" than the first three (I thought Alpha already had pulled back on that element). I never minded the gun porn, but it's like my friends teasing me that I like "guy music", it's not for everyone. I also like "guy movies" and, apparently, "guy books". I love that visceral kick I get from hard and fast action whether it be from thrashing guitars, breathless car chases, or stories that include every action device you can think of twisted on its head. I like a wide variety of genres and this no less than anything else.

The first three books are available together in an omnibus called "The Monster Hunters" (very inexpensive in e-book from Baen). So, if you can abide "guy books", I highly recommend this series.

Rich Tate says

I've often looked at this series as a saga that would garner cult classic status but the latest installment of MHI really pushed the writing and story to a whole new level.

The earlier installments have often reminded me of The Black Company in the way it was written, this is certainly not a bad thing mind you as I was a huge fan of that saga, but it was something that would never truly break into the mainstream.

Monster Hunters International always had that same sort of feel to me, mainly because the author is a true gun expert. While his writing is very enjoyable as a gun enthusiast I would imagine it can at times put other people who may not be as familiar with firearms off. It sort of pushed the reading into that niche area of fiction that I'm sure isn't for everyone.

Now we have the fourth installment of the story that really smashes down all those walls. The gun geek talk decreases greatly and Corriea truly focuses on the two most important parts of the story, his characters and the plot itself.

The story itself is extremely well written and all hinges upon a very interesting and original antagonist that is slowly revealed through the novel also creating a bit of a mystery vibe that ends with the bang fans of this saga are used to.

The work that he spends developing the characters was also obviously no small feat and it will immediately leave you wanting more.

There really aren't many bad things I can say about this novel. Corriea took everything he was doing well and made it better while shying away from the things that could irritate his audience just enough to still maintain the style of novel you've come to expect from him.

If you're a fan of the series this a must read and his best story yet.

Jessica says

I could not have loved this book more! Well, if there were a torrid love scene between Mosh and Holly, maybe. . . But that's just not Larry's style, sadly.

What is Larry's style? Why it's SHEER FUN. It's scary creatures and hilariously snarky dialogue and things going KABOOM! It's orcs sacrificing chickens to make their helicopter go faster! It's velvet Elvis paintings and trailer trash elves and heavily armed men wearing body armor over their fuzzy footie pajamas and chain smoking werewolves strategizing with dry erase boards! (This last is more entertaining than you'd think. Love you, Earl!) Larry's writing is tight: his plotting is impeccable, his characterizations are to die for, and his imagination is so big it's probably stored in some pocket dimension somewhere. I loved the first two books, but I really feel that he's coming into his own with MONSTER HUNTER ALPHA and now LEGION. He's more comfortable with his writing, he's established his world, and now we're going to have some real serious fun with it! If you haven't tried these books, don't start here, you'll have a lot of fun surprises ruined for you! Start with MONSTER HUNTER INTERNATIONAL, but please do start!

*Warning: These are adult books. They contain adult violence, themes, and swears. There is no sex, the violence is not gratuitous, the F-bomb is used sparingly, but they are not for kids, okay?

The Pirate Ghost (Formerly known as the Curmudgeon) says

GREAT GOOGLEY-MOOGLE! HOLY SMOKE! E-GAD, MAN! BOWHICA! SNAFU! FUBAR! and ZOWIE!

The fourth book in the Monster Hunter International Series by Larry Corriea is no joke. It's every bit as much fun as the first 3, maybe better than the last two, but, it's too close to call. The crew's back, and, yes, they pissed off another supernatural, monstrous and wicked evil monster being. I mean, c'mon Pitt! Haven't you met a supernatural being that you didn't piss off?

Here we go again, and this time, the Ghosts, Ghouls, Vampires, Werewolves and other assorted nasty and naughty entities of aren't the only thing that want's a piece of Owen Pitt this time. Every...body, corporeal, physical, undead, possessed, living or what ever state the body you call home is, you need to stand in line and take a number. Pitt will deal with you as your number comes up.

"Oh, Yea, Earl Harbinger gets what ever's left."

Is there any entity between here and the 9 levels of hell that Pitt hasn't pissed off?... other than Julie and gang I mean.

It starts with a huge brawl that's fun to read and ends with monster battle... uuhh... in every way a guy can mean..."monster, battle."

The zingers and one liners fly, the humor is up, the action is hup, the tension is up...hell everything's up!

There's just one problem with this book.

It's too damned short!

Great fun, great read, highly recommended and best of all....

HOLLY's BACK!.... aahhh.. Hoooolllyyyyy.... she's so...hot...(Blink-blink-cough) um... I mean... very skilled and intelligent, great in a crissis.

where was I... oh, yes.

If you liked the first three, this book won't let you down. If you've been doing the audiobook, as I have, it's super-high-quality like all of the others.

Warnings... lots of violence... improvised weapons, blowing things up with cleaning supplies, eating people, cutting people up, and blowing things up here. Hand to hand, gun, hand to claw, hand to tentacle, hand to archic magic weapon, hand to... you get it right? lots of violence. All in good fun and the proper light.

oh, yea, there is a good plot, strong female and male characters, both hot and not so hot, in this book. It's not just an action packed marshmallow. This series has a serious plot, and it's executed with classic timing. The back story keeps your attention, and is well woven through the combat and things of supernatural significance.

Great read. Enjoy 4.75 stars on the Hugh Scale. (one more book this good and I raise the entire series to 5.)

Veronika Sebechlebská says

Ten moment, ke? sa vaše sny stanú skuto?nos?ou...a vzápätí sa vám pokúsia odhryznú? hlavu, spravi? si ve?eru z vašich vnútorností a spôsobi? koniec sveta ako ho poznáme. Proste ve?ká stranda.

Jen says

Great book, thought shot through it because the next one is about Franks!!! Four stars, because the Pitt men decided to have their important convo without the Mrs. Excuse me, but she has a right to be there for her husband's last moments. Eff you Pitt males!

And i want to know what Strider is and to see Franks wipe the floor with him. What a jerk!

Good read, per usual. On to the next!

Michael says

This book has been amazing. Larry Correia keeps them coming and I can't get enough. I read through this very fast because I kept wanting to pick back up and not stop. The latest Monster Hunter International book was fast paced and added more to the story so far. We see the return of a lot of characters that we are all familiar with and get a glimpse at the big picture. Owen is struggling in this book with becoming who he needs to be. We meet some of the major players here now too, things that have been foreshadowed through the past three books finally starting to come around.

What I did see here was much less persepctiv changes, while the last book Monster Hunter Alpha had more than the first two this one had almost no change at all. 90% of the book is told from Owen's perspective this time. Sorry for those fans of the other characters but I have a feeling we'll see more from them in upcoming books as the four chosen ones have been hinted at. We already saw a book dedicated to Earl in this aspect and now one for Owen. Maybe the next one we will see is Julie's turn up to bat?

Anyway, to all fans of the series you will love this latest entry into the series, and to new readers, start with MonsterHunter International and work your way up. It is definately worth it and will keep you better informed.

Clarissa Emiria says

First time read in May 2015, re-read 19-27 February 2017..

I absolutely loved it this time around and has thus bumped up my rating to reflect it, from four to five stars <3 I liked it last time as well, I just enjoyed it more this time I think... It was so much fun revisiting this World and these characters from mostly Owen's POV again ^__^

I also greatly enjoy Oliver Wyman's narration of these audiobooks, I highly recommend checking out really any audiobook with him, he's one of my favourite narrators..

I am excited for the continuation of the story with the sixth book of the series, although, I don't actually know when that will come out...? I suppose I could look.. xD I am considering reading Monster Hunter Nemesis now, actually, while this is fresh in my mind.... Hmm....

There were a couple of heartbreak moments in the story, at least they were heartbreak to me... But I am a softie and I get invested and sucked into stories... xD But I don't know that I would want to change a thing... xD I do the same with movies and tv-shows and it's terribly taxing.. xD

Jonathan Wilson says

I love this series, action Action ACTION escalation Escalation!!

Oliver Wyman who does the audible narration for this series is phenomenal, he brings the story to life!

Dawn says

I'm a one book at a time kind of girl. Once I start a book I finish it, there's no switching back and forth for me. So you can imagine my distress when, in the middle of reading another perfectly good book, I heard from a friend that there was an eARC for sale of the newest Monster Hunter book.

Crap.

I needed to read it. Had to read it... Now now now! But what about the other book? I can't just abandon it... I should probably finish it first, and then move on to Monster Hunter Legion once my plate is clean...

No. No! Not happening. I absolutely could not wait one more moment, I needed me some MHL like I needed air. So I didn't just walk.. I ran to my purse to get my debit card so that I could snatch up a copy as quickly as humanly possible, and then immediately fell onto the couch and began reading.

That, my friends, is an amazing feeling. To have a series that hooks you that much, that it makes you want to drop every other book when a new entry in the series comes out... That's awesome right there. There aren't many series that have that effect on me, so I treasure each and every one.

The weird thing.. I still can't believe that this series makes me feel that way. I mean come on. Monster

Hunters? Gun porn? So not my thing. But the characters.. The plot.. The action and the humor, it all adds up to perfection for me. It's the kind of book that I don't want to put down, I just want to keep reading and savoring it forever and ever.

So Monster Hunter Legion. How was it? Pretty awesome. It was a definite step up from Alpha, which I found kind of tough to get into. Legion takes us back to Owen and crew, where as Alpha concentrated on just Earl off on his own. For me, that's where Alpha suffered.. No Owen? No Julie? No Holly or Trip? It was still good (I mean come on, it was set entirely in Michigan, score) but it lacked the flavor all of those other characters bring to the story. But like I said, there was no such problem with Legion. It felt just like International and Vendetta, but without seeming repetitive or redundant. Why not five stars? I guess just because International is still my favorite, and compared to that, this one just couldn't beat it for the top spot.

Now I'm just left with one problem.. I'm done with Legion and it hasn't even been released yet. Damn it! It's going to be a long wait for the next book in the series... But I have a feeling it'll be worth it. Highly recommended!
