

The logo for 'booklife PRIZE' features the word 'booklife' in a lowercase, sans-serif font. 'book' is orange and 'life' is blue. A horizontal line with a star at each end passes through the 'i' in 'life'. Below this line, the word 'PRIZE' is written in a tall, thin, uppercase, sans-serif font.

booklife PRIZE

Title: Rock Gods & Messy Monsters

Author: Diane Hatz

Genre: Fiction/General Fiction (including literary and historical)

Audience: Adult

Word Count: 66,194

Assessment:

Plot/Idea: *Rock Gods & Messy Monsters* is a high-energy satirical story that unfolds against the backdrop of a corporate entertainment company. The plot fires off at a romping speed, taking readers through an array of trials and mischiefs that Alex and her cohort of colleagues get up to at music company, Acht Records.

Prose: Hatz's novel is satirical, zany, and funny. The prose holds nothing back with punchy descriptions that investigate and reflect upon the music industry's disjointed hierarchy and the mistreatment of women in the workplace.

Originality: The author creates a fantastical and zany world that nevertheless showcases the many power complexes and power plays of the workplace.

Character/Execution: While the characters are intriguing, satire-filled depictions of the various personas in the music industry workplace, at times, the characters crave more depth and range. The protagonist does have a recognizable story arc, yet her awakening to the dismal circumstances of her current career path comes across somewhat abruptly.

Blurb: Satirical, zany, hilarious—a gut-punching commentary about the inner workings of the music industry, its power complexes, and power plays.