



Misfit

Jon Skovron

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Jael Thompson has never really fit in. She's changed schools too many times to count. The only family she's ever known is her father, a bitter ex-priest who never lets her date and insists she attend the strictest Catholic school in Seattle. And her mother—well, she was a five thousand year old demon. That doesn't exactly help.

But on her sixteenth birthday, her father gives her a present that brings about some unexpected changes. Some of the changes, like strange and wonderful powers and the cute skater boy with a knack for science, are awesome. But others, like the homicidal demon seeking revenge on her family? Not so much.

Steeped in mythology, this is an epic tale of a heroine who balances old world with new, science with magic, and the terrifying depths of the underworld with the ordinary halls of high school.

Misfit Details

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Author : Jon Skovron

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From Reader Review Misfit for online ebook

Valentina Ayala says

Le habría dado 5 estrellas pero me di cuenta que este libro no tiene continuación y creó que la necesita, porque la historia queda como en un veremos y no se , quiero mas de la historia así que por esa pequeña razón le pongo 4 estrellas.

El libro estuvo genial, me atrapo desde el primer momento, y la verdad no entiendo muy bien porque tiene tan malas críticas. Me gusto la manera como escribe Jon Skovron, y el tema que trata el libro es muy profundo y en cierta medida te hace pensar ciertas cosas. Aparte la historia me pareció original, osea si en el mercado hay mas libro de demonios y mitad humanos, mitad demonios. Pero la manera en la que lo tratan en este libro es muy interesante y la protagonista, si es cierto que al principio me pareció un poquito sosa, a medida que el libro avanza coge fuerza y crece su personaje notablemente.

Y ahora Rob. No podía quedarme sin hablar de Rob, es genial su personaje, no es el típico protagonista badass que le enseña a la chica quien es y cual es su destino, Rob es un chico dulce, súper inteligente, súper leal, ay no se como que se me volvió un crush. Me encanto esta historia y sus personajes, la súper recomiendo.

Como dije anteriormente lo unico que me parece mal es que no tenga secuela porque en verdad creo que se necesita, aparte seria muy genial que tuviera una, pero pues bueno que se le va a hacer ya no creo que la saque, este libro salio en 2012 así que... Toco dejarlo a la imaginación.

Krystle says

I don't think I've ever dropped a book this fast before. Page 8. I can't comment on the characterizations, plot, themes, or relationships because, obviously, I didn't get that far into the book and I won't ever be able to make an honest assessment of them.

But what I can do is say what turned me off - the writing. This book is written in present tense and I am very wary of books with this type of style because it's very difficult to make it work. I've been lucky in that I've found some real superb books but this is one where it just fails horribly. The prose is just so awkward, rough, and doesn't flow at all. I keep noticing how much it gets in the way of the story and to be honest it feels like this is the author's first attempt at ever writing in this style and it really, really shows.

Rachel says

You can find more reviews on my blog: [Paper Cuts](#)

I found it better than people have been making it out to be, though it did have its flaws.

I had a hard time getting into Misfit, but I trudged through, and once I got a little bit into it, the book got quite interesting. I think my original problems stemmed from the book being written in third person present

tense. It reads like, "Jael sees her father's face," which just feels so unbelievably awkward to me. It also seemed to create a distance from the protagonist; we know everything she thinks, but it's not worded like she's telling us, but some other random person hanging around who happens to know all. But once I got over the writing, the story of Misfit hooked me.

I liked the different approach to demons, especially the fact that the author doesn't even delve into angels, which is obviously the more glamorous of the two. I also liked that the demons of today are actually the fallen gods of former civilizations. That connection to history makes the demons seem more plausible in today's world.

I also found most of the characters to be interesting. I am dying to know exactly how Dagon ended up where he was. I also felt like he was a very good character; a fallen god, resorting to being a baker in Hell, but very caring and nurturing towards his niece. Plus he always had sage-like advice. :) I didn't connect so much with Jael, but found myself not caring about that so much. I liked Jael's parent's relationship a lot, and felt like her mother, Astarte, was really the heart of the story. The flashbacks depicting Jael's parents were actually my favorite parts of the whole book.

I found the story to be compelling and the plot moved along. I never found myself getting bored with what was happening in the book or wondering when something exciting was going to happen, which is always a good thing. That comes from the interspersing of action-packed flashbacks, rather than the straight telling of just what was happening to Jael, and it worked quite well for me.

My biggest complaint from Misfit is the third person present tense. I have never been a fan of present tense in novels, but at least when it's in first person I can relate to the protagonist. I found myself not really caring about what happened to Jael except in how that would affect her family and friends. (Bad, I know.)

Oh! Almost forgot. I LOVED Jael's demon powers. I love love love how she has to communicate with elements, rather than just manipulate them to her will. I think it's unique and betrays the author's respect for the earth (No, I am not a hippie, but I can appreciate someone who cares.)

Misfit is a book I didn't expect to like, but found myself entranced by the engaging secondary characters and unique mythology.

***Warning* There is a decent amount of cussing and some lewd content, and I wouldn't recommend the book for younger YA readers.**

Shelley says

Rating 2.5 stars

*Genre: Young Adult Occult/Paranormal

Review

Misfit, by Jon Skovron, is the story of sixteen year old Jael Thompson who is a half demon, half mortal teenager who believes that her father, Paul Thompson, has no respect for her whatsoever and is a boring man who has somehow lost his way and is now stuck teaching at a Catholic High School in Seattle. She whines and bemoans about not being able to afford new clothes, or have an allowance and the fact that he forces her

to eat generic cereal for breakfast. Typical teenaged angst.

Her friend Brittany Brougher, even though she claims to be a devout Catholic, considers having sex with any boy that charms her pants off as being totally fine. Then, of course there is skater boy Rob McKinney who comes along and ends up being an item together with Jael. Rob immediate acceptance of Jael's secret was a bit over the top in my opinion. You would expect more from a teen with his background and so called intelligence.

This could be considered a coming of age party for Jael in that she finally learns about her heritage, as well as whom her mother was, on the day she turns sixteen. When her father gives her the necklace her mother made for her when she was just a baby, her demon powers come full circle. She also finally understands why her father moved her so many times to keep her away from harm in the form of a demon called Belial.

Her mother was known as Astarte, as well as others depending on where she was at the time in history. Her father, it turns out, was a top notch demon hunter who was feared by hell's minions. Astarte was also a succubus, whose powers are now manifesting in her daughters.

Note of contention: I was more than happy to read and follow the history of Astarte and the many other names she went by including Lilith the first woman. I was even happy knowing that her father wasn't really this boring, non-caring entity who went through life moping around the house keeping secrets from Jael while continually running at a moments notice. I even liked her demon uncle Dagon who helps Jael discover her elemental powers and who she really is. I enjoyed reading the back story about how Astarte and Paul met and fell in love. I personally think Paul and Astarte's story would have made an excellent novel if Skovron had decided to do an adult book, rather than a so called young adult novel.

The thing about this story is the whole idea of the Catholic Church hiding a half breed and helping them hide from Belial is a little bit like a Dan Brown novel. Then, of course, there is the whole priest who believes Jael is possessed and demands that she adhere to an exorcism thanks to her good friend Brittany.

I am pretty sure with the way that this book ended; this is the first book in a new series by this author. If not, he has a lot of explaining to do. He has to explain how he can leave the story the way he did without explaining certain characters like Ms. Speilman and her powers of healing. He has to explain why he ended the book by naming the rest of the Demons in hell that may be coming after Jael now that she has put a chink into Belial's plans of killing her. And, lastly, he needs to be able to look himself in the mirror and wonder if writing a book for young adults is the way to go.

ARC Recvd from Netgalley.com. Book releases 08/01/2011

Gatorgal21 says

This is actually a first for me, I am writing a review about a book that I have not actually finished. I wasn't expecting too much from Misfit, all I really wanted was a good, paranormal romance that would hopefully keep me, and anyone else entertained for a few days. I horribly misjudged it unfortunately. Not to say that there wasn't good things in it, the back story about her Father and her Mother was pretty interesting, the skater boy love interest had potential to be very different and refreshing, and the over-all concept wasn't bad at all. But those few spots of light are drowned out by all the other junk that screams through this book. I'll

start with the swearing, it wasn't atrocious, but it definitely wasn't clean either. I can usually deal with that though, what I cannot deal with though, is a paranormal romance that delves way too deep into religion. I'm okay with the recent angel novels, that stretch the truth soemtimes too fit their fictional story, but this one went a bit far for me. I did not like the view it took on Catholicism, or Christianity, I did not like the views it took on heaven and hell, and I definitely did not like the way it made my stomach hurt just by reading it and the bad taste it left in my mouth. Now, I read the reviews other people put on it, and all of them liked it, so if you have no problem with the stuff I mentioned, have at it. However, if you have any sort of faith, I would stay far away.

Reviwed by Kathryn Taylor

Wendy Darling says

Annnnd I'm done at 6%. Aside from a whole mess of writing issues, I expect to be a little more immersed in the characters and the story in a YA novel before I have to listen to an anecdote about a girl going down on a guy just because he bought her dinner at a fancy restaurant.

Ian Wood says

I rated this as worthy on my blog where you can find a very detailed review.

I don't do stars. A book is either worthy or warty imo, it's either worth your time or it's time wasted.

So this book is a bit weird. The pages are dirty - the chapter title pages and the first few pages before chapter one. This is not because a previous borrower did something unmentionable in polite company with this the book, but because the publisher did: the pages look like someone rubbed charcoal on them, or soot (or something). Icky! You don't get the with ebooks (for better or for worse!).

This novel is about young Jael, who is the daughter of a succubus (no, her last name isn't Bait!). She's rather like Lost Girl, but much younger. As as one herself now, she's attracting way too much attention, and she can't handle this intensity. Her father, who actually is a father in the church (don't ask how that works!) is about as much use as fathers typically are, but her uncle on her mother's side - a full demon himself - is of much more utility in helping her coming of age become smoother, and in advising her about staying off the radar of demons who would hunt her, and defending herself from them.

Far from a big time showdown à la summer blockbuster movies, which is what I was expecting given what led to it, the finale is rather tame. I felt a bit like I did after reading Sister Mischief's ending, but on reflection, I can accept this ending more easily than that one! Even the inevitable love interest isn't totally awful!

I was thinking one morning during my reading of this novel, walking across the parking lot to work with the wind blowing softly and a fleck or two of rain in it here and there, of why we can't all have the demon perceptions with which Jael, the mc, is blessed. I began to wonder why the demons have these perceptions, and given all that they do have, why on Earth would they be even remotely interested in us?

That part made no sense to me, but there are always issues with novels and in the end, you have to decide,

worthy or warty? This one is definitely worthy.

Teatree says

BAD d-n-f for me means i made it to 100 pg.s and do not want to read any more.

****WARNING SPOILERS OF THE FIRST 100 PAGES****

REVIEW: the first 13 pg.s were good. the next couple of chapters were o.k. even though they didn't give enough info at times to let the reader know what was going on, and out of place in the story her bff tells her a cute guy who has a great car took her to a "fancy" restaurant, so she went down on him(WHAT ! women DO NOT think that way). Jael knows nothing about her mom except that she was a demon and shes now dead.

Then in ch 4 it's the story of how Father Paul (Jael's dad) met Astarte (Jael's mom). I was really looking forward to this part of the story. But I was disappointed and confused by the whole thing. It was an academic attraction, they talked about history and theology for like 4 pg.s then BAM ! Insta-love (because she saw his soul-no sex) But what had me con-fuzzed was the description of who Astarte was, it says she was; a demon, a succubus, The Phoenician goddess, Aphrodite, Venus, Isis, Durga, Gauri, & Kali. And later Erzulie, Freda among others(I'm not going to list them all I think you get the idea. It's like the author just put down what ever goddess came to mind-ALL of them REALLY !! it's too much and the goddess thing doesn't fit with the demon & catholic thing AT ALL.) She says she was a goddess and now shes a demon because that's what people believe. She tells him about hell. Apparently it's been a long time since her and Lucifer Morningstar/Satan have talked... then she looks into his eyes and is able to meet with his soul. Then the next morning he walks out the door to kill himself by jumping off a cliff. She appears out of nowhere in perfect time and saves him. They say they love each other. The story skips to they've been married for yr.s and fighting demons together. Apparently the demons are getting into real estate and it's up to Paul and Astarte to stop them(yes you heard right the big evil plan is real estate. I don't know why buying real estate is evil they never say.) And then there's the name dropping in this book, LOTS of names like Lao-tzu & Abaddon & bokur & the loa & Belial and lots more. Am I supposed to know who these people are with out explanation ?? With out any background ?? The author just throws out words and phrases. And sometimes Catholic things work to fight demons and some times they don't. An example is a piece of scripture in a door way and a demon can't cross, except Astarte can because shes too old, it says.

THEN HERE COMES THE STRAW THAT BROKE THE DEMONS BACK FOR ME.....An exorcism (which would normally be cool) goes like this

"In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be gone!" shouted Paul, splashing holy water on the man. (so far, so good)

"In the name of Muhammad, Siddhartha, Lao-tzu, and Confucius, of Zeus and Jupiter, of Shiva, and Osiris, in the name of the faith of all those named and unnamed, I cast you out, you parasite, you scavenger, you bottom-feeding scum of mortality!" (WHAT?, But wait there's more!!)

"In the name of Yahweh, El, and Brahman!"

I think he forgot- 'in the name of the President of the United States, and the brand Nike, by the power of Ben and Jerry's ice cream' ..I just can't take the 'every thing and the kitchen sink' way this author has, pick a damn group and stick with it. I thought from the description this book was going to be demons and priests, and half demons and catholic things. But no it's a confusing patchwork, that's not even half explained. Very Disappointed.

Heidi says

Smart, sexy and truly dangerous, MISFIT breaks new ground without forgetting the heart of its story. Though MISFIT is written for teens, adults, too, will appreciate its nuance, philosophical nature, and particularly the back story of Jael's parents, which is beautifully and painfully rendered. Math geek/skater boy Rob is about the freshest love interest I've read in awhile- he reads like someone you could really know, while still transcending the page. Skovron writes our tortured heroine Jael sympathetically and with guts. MISFIT made me laugh, cry and, most importantly, think—about what matters in life and the choices we make to get there.

I love this book and can't wait to recommend it to everyone I know.

Kitten Blue says

First of all, Jon Skovron is a really talented writer with loads of very interesting things to say, not to mention he's downright hilarious at times. However: (1) I can see why this book rubs some people up the wrong way. (2) It's pretty obvious why most of the rest find it aggravating, too.

MY biggest problem is that about 50% of *Misfit* is comprised of flashback scenes. Don't get me wrong, this is *fascinating* info-dumpage; unfortunately - IT'S STILL INFO-DUMPAGE. As much as I want to know about everything that has happened in the past, in *HuMoNgoNoRMouS* detail, I'd like to spend time with Jael and Rob *more*. This is just my personal reading preference, though. Characters make or break books for me, so if I'm dragged away from the protagonist for too long, I get Super Mega Antsy. Think Daughter of Smoke and Bone - the second half was like pulling teeth.

OTHER PEOPLE'S biggest problem will be the religious whatnot. As long as reading about it doesn't leave me Deathly Bored, I couldn't care either way how authors choose to twist the heaven and hell stuff, but that's because I don't believe in it *anyway*, so I can appreciate the wonderful world of artistic license. Not everyone is like me, though, and this book WILL PISS THEM OFF, GUARANTEED, because if there's one thing I've learned about religious people, it's that they tend towards taking EVERYTHING personally.

Mmmm ... that's all ... a good read, but kind of a chore to get through ... The End.

P.S. My brain decided to call Jael's succubus mom, Astarte, Ass Tart. This was very distracting.

Jen (The Starry-Eyed Revue) says

Review originally posted at The Starry-Eyed Revue.

I wasn't sure what to expect from this book going into it. I'd read the synopsis and was vaguely aware that it was about a teenage girl, demons, and supernatural powers. Sounded like my kinda read.

But the writing just blew me away! The story is written on a level that young and old alike can enjoy. The author exceptionally weaves philosophy and mythology into the back story of his heroine and her not-so-priestly father, and even though you start off feeling sorry for Jael's situation and resolve to dislike her dad, you find yourself rooting for Jael and empathizing with her father as they battle demons hell-bent on revenge.

While scuffling with demons and learning about her new-found powers, Jael still has time to develop feelings for her friend Rob. This love-interest is the kind of guy I was drawn to when I was in high school. He wasn't perfect and he didn't have it all figured out, but best of all, Jael didn't make what was going on between them a priority over the things that should have taken precedence in her life, namely keeping herself alive. It was quite refreshing to read a romantic lead who wasn't the end-all for the main character.

Jon Skovron has created an intriguing world within a world, full of darkness and danger but not without it's tender moments. The story is gutsy and heart-breaking and forces the reader to analyze their own beliefs and actions when faced with difficult decisions. MISFIT was a fantastic read, and I highly recommend you pick it up when it comes out next month.

I received a copy of this book for review from Netgalley.

OpenBookSociety.com says

Brought to you by OBS staff member Annabell

Beware of spoilers

Jael Thompson has spent most of her life moving around with her father who used to be an ex-priest. Her father is more equipped as a boot camp sergeant than a father to a sixteen year old teenager. Jael finally feels at home in Seattle. She has a new best friend, Britt, and a new crush on a genius skater named Rob. But in the back of Jael's mind she hangs onto the fear that her father will force them to move again. Jael and her father hold a very dark secret: her mother used to be a demon and Jael's father lives in constant paranoia they will be caught by Hell's minions who are seeking them. On Jael's sixteenth birthday, her father gifts her with a necklace her mother had left behind for her along with the big secret he has been keeping for years: the necklace contains Jael's demon essence. Once Jael's powers are placed into her, she instantly becomes a powerful threat to Hell and the Grand Duke Belial is sending everything he can after her. Belial loathes half-breeds and is also after Jael for revenge for what her mother did to him. He will use anything he can to take Jael down, including her best friend and her big crush.

There are moments when a book leaves you completely breathless. Where the heroine may be flawed but redeems herself through growth in maturity and wise decisions. A book that leaves you wonderfully satisfied when you read it. Well, Misfit is not that novel.

Jael is one of the most selfish heroines I have ever read. She lacks common sense and wisdom. She also has no skill for self-preservation. Her attitude toward her father was such a big turn off. She was always acting so bratty and like a know-it-all even though she knew nothing about being a demon! She uses her powers in the open multiple times even though she's been warned that's how Belial will be able to find her. Britt, her best friend, was another lousy character. She is crass, superficial, vain, and irritating. She cares more about boys

than self-respect. She was useless to the story except to deliver a very predictable outcome later on. Belial, the Grand Duke, that is built up so much throughout the novel, completely disappoints when he is finally revealed. He is far too cliché of a villain with his huge ego and even bigger monologues.

There are a few good characters. Rob is a skater who from the outside looks as if he cares more about outdoor acrobats than school. But he is actually a math and chemistry genius. He is really sweet, optimistic, and loveable. Uncle Dagon, demon baker for Hell and the brother of Jael's mother, gave the story much of the comic relief it needed and provided a break in the always serious Paul (Jael's father) and Jael's angst.

One of the elements of the plot I really didn't care for was the fact that Jael could see someone's spirit and affect it. She uses that power on Rob even though she knows how incredibly dangerous it is and stupidly does it in public. She could have killed Rob! It made the romance between Rob and Jael seem completely fraudulent. Jael had no redeeming qualities so I couldn't believe Rob could actually fall for her. Another element that made the plot fall apart was the fact that Jael was strong enough to defeat the Grand Duke of Hell, Belial. She has only had her powers for a very short amount of time and has no real way to control them. She makes more mistakes than progress, yet she somehow miraculously is able to defeat Belial. It was too unbelievable, even for a fantasy/supernatural novel. There should have been more of a build up. The dialogue was also a problem. So much of the dialogue read too dry and stale making it harder to connect with the story and characters.

The only real aspect of this book that I truly enjoyed and loved were the flashback scenes of Jael's parents, Paul and Astarte. The scenes were centered around how they met, fell in love, and fought demons together. I would have preferred very much for the author to have created a novel around Paul and Astarte (even though the constant reminder of Astarte's beauty was borderline annoying at times). Jael's story is just too boring and irritating because she is far too rebellious against a father who loves her and is trying to protect her, and cares more about herself than others.

Misfit has potential to be a good book but is lacking, the main character ruins the unique premise behind the story. The book doesn't end on a cliffhanger but offers a doorway for the author to create more novels. I do hope Jael's character improves far better in later additions.

Tamara Van dishoeck says

aan het einde van het boek baalde ik er van dat het een standalone was en niet het eerste deel van de serie. dit boek was spannend maar had ook een vleugje humor en romantiek. en vond het leuk dat demonen niet de standaard demonen waren maar dat er meer achter zat. er zaten wendingen in die ik niet zo snel verwacht had. heb dit boek bij het boekenfestijn meegenomen vorig jaar en absoluut geen spijt van gehad. kan je dit boek zeker aanraden.

Mundie Moms & Mundie Kids says

3.5-

I really liked Misfit's unique mythology and Jon's writing style. He can be edgy, yet funny, darker, yet writes a great love story, and his humor and wit in the story were great! I really liked the way he incorporated

Misfit's back story in with present day. It gave me a better understanding about what was going on and what had happened to make Jael's father the way he was, as well as understand why Jael plays an important role with everything that's going on. There are at times a darker feel to the book, but it's also a story about a girl who's trying to discover more about who she is, falls in love for the first time and deals with a betrayal of her best friend. Not to mention a father who doesn't show much emotion towards his daughter, nor does he tell her much about her mother or her heritage.

One of the things I liked about Jael is her independent attitude, and her desire to seek out the truth and find answers. She's a grounded character who's also broken in the sense she's grown up without a mother and has a father who hasn't always made the choices for her, even though he felt he had her best intentions at heart. No matter how hard I tried, I did not connect with her character. Surprisingly that lack of connection didn't take too much away from the story, because there are some great secondary characters that made up for it. Aside from Jael, her relationship with her BFF Britt, was the only other relationship I felt was a little forced and not relatable at all. What I did like was the back story on Paul, Jael's father, her mother Astarte and getting to meet Dagon, her Uncle, who's also her mother's brother.

I'll admit when I first read about Jael's dad, I wasn't a fan. It wasn't until I got to know more his story that I felt I understood him more, or maybe it had to do with all the emotions that came alive in the story whenever Paul and Astarte's relationship is mentioned. In getting to know more of their back story, I also came to admire Jael's mother Astarte more, and what she did for her daughter. When she's introduced in the book I may or may not have judged her for what she does, and I quickly learned there's so much more to her than meets the eye. I loved her uncle Dagon. He's by far my favorite character. He's definitely the most unique character to get to know, and he's a lot of fun. He not only provided the right amount of humor to the story, but he's the one person who really gave Jael the chance to learn more about her demon side. I liked that even though they're demons, they're not necessarily evil. Then there's the main love interest Rob. The skater boy with a sense of humor who at times comes across as an absent minded professor, but I enjoyed that about him. I liked his character, because he accepts Jael for who she is demon side and all.

I liked the different layers to this book, and the way Jon was able to create characters with realistic emotions that I was able to relate to. Misfit has a rich demon mythology, but there's so much more to it. I enjoyed getting to see Jael grow into her own character and how her father changes over the course of the book. There's a lot of great character development as the story goes on with many of the different characters. I'd definitely recommend this for teens, and I also think adults will enjoy it as well. There is some minor language in the book, but nothing that I thought was offensive for teen readers.

Christy LoveOfBooks says

I love this book. Sometimes when I love a book, it's hard for me to articulate exactly why. That seems to be the case with Misfit, but I'll try naming a few reasons. I loved the blending of so many beliefs through history. Jael kicks ass! Rob and Jael's relationship. How her mother's story was told. The use of the elements. On and on...

I don't know if Skovron plans on making this into a series, but I really hope so!
