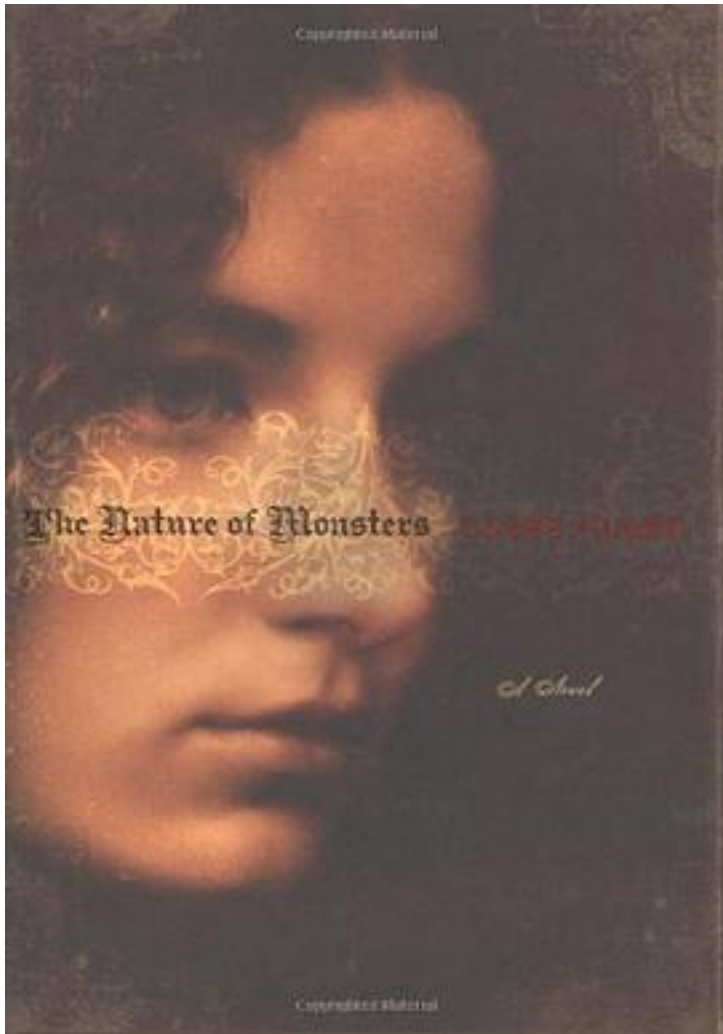


# The Nature of Monsters



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出版者:Harcourt

出版时间:2007-5

装帧:HRD

isbn:9780151012060

1666: The Great Fire of London sweeps through the streets and a heavily pregnant

woman flees the flames. A few months later she gives birth to a child disfigured by a red birthmark. 1718: Sixteen-year-old Eliza Tally sees the gleaming dome of St. Paul's Cathedral rising above a rebuilt city. She arrives as an apothecary's maid, a position hastily arranged to shield the father of her unborn child from scandal. But why is the apothecary so eager to welcome her when he already has a maid, a half-wit named Mary? Why is Eliza never allowed to look her veiled master in the face or go into the study where he pursues his experiments? It is only on her visits to the Huguenot bookseller who supplies her masters scientific tomes that she realizes the nature of his obsession. And she knows she has to act to save not just the child but Mary and herself. With exquisite prose, dark humor, and a historians eye for detail, Clare Clark has created another transporting novel.

作者介绍:

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