



BookLife Prize - 2026

Visibility : [public](#)

Plot/Idea: 8 out of 10

Originality: 8 out of 10

Prose: 9 out of 10

Character/Execution: 9 out of 10

Overall: 8.50 out of 10

Assessment:

Plot/Idea: This fourth book in the Mind Monsters series continues Alex Scott's quest for deliverance from the inner demons that burden her. After breaking ties with her abusive boss, Varath—a force that strengthens off of people's fear and shame—is unleashed, sparking a journey where Alex must draw on her inner strength to step into true freedom. The plot moves at a swift pace and can be read as part of the series or as a stand alone entry. Hatz's ideas are clever and genre-blending, and the novel reminds readers that the human mind is a powerful entity.

Prose: Even though Hatz's work is metaphysical, readers will be surprised by the wit she uses, illustrating that her characters are human despite the forces that overpower them.

Originality: Hatz's grasp of psychological nuances is impressive, and the novel cleverly examines how our darkest moments and challenges often disguise light on the verge of breaking through.

Character/Execution: Alex Scott is a strong character fighting not just for her freedom but also to overcome the shame and insecurities she's always struggled with. That's a heady quest, and Hatz incorporates a variety of surprising elements along the way—trauma, guilt, accountability, facing your fears—that will leave readers cheering for Alex to triumph in the end. JT is a classically unlikable villain who believes he is untouchable, but Hatz affords him more emotional complexity at the story's close as well.

Date Submitted: June 15, 2026