

Tales Of The Dead Ghost Stories Of The Villa Diodati

Tales of the Dead Joel Eisenberg 2006-04-01 Topos Books is proud to reproduce and reintroduce influential, heretofore lost works that served as muse to authors of many of the world's literary masterpieces. That is the mission behind the Villa Diodati Endangered Classics line, so named for the Villa Diodati in the village of Cologny, Switzerland, where Mary Shelley conceptualized "Frankenstein" during the storied "Haunted Summer" of 1916. In the midst of a fierce storm, following a reading from a French translation of a book of German ghost stories entitled "Fantasmagoriana, ou Recueil d'Histoires d'Apparitions, de Spectres, Revenans, etc.," the poet Lord Byron challenged Percy Bysshe Shelley, Mary Wollstonecraft (Shelley's future wife), Mary's stepsister Claire Clairmont, and Byron's physician John Polidori to each write a ghost story. The result was literary legend in the form not only of "Frankenstein," but also Polidori's "The Vampyre." The English translation of "Fantasmagoriana" appeared in print for the first time in 1813 under the title "Tales of the Dead," so it is only fitting that Topos Books' Villa Diodati Endangered Classics line celebrates its inauguration with the first American edition of "Tales of the Dead" in over a century.

Haunted Chuck Palahniuk 2005-05-03 Haunted is a novel made up of twenty-three horrifying, hilarious, and stomach-churning stories. They're told by people who have answered an ad for a writer's retreat and unwittingly joined a "Survivor"-like scenario where the host withholds heat, power, and food. As the storytellers grow more desperate, their tales become more extreme, and they ruthlessly plot to make themselves the hero of the reality show that will surely be made from their plight. This is one of the most disturbing and outrageous books you'll ever read, one that could only come from the mind of Chuck Palahniuk.

Encyclopedia of the Undead Bob Curran 2009-01-21

Frankenstein Susan Tyler Hitchcock 2007-10-30 This lively history of the Frankenstein myth, illuminated by dozens of pictures and illustrations, is told with skill and humor. Hitchcock uses film, literature, history, science, and even punk music to help readers understand the meaning of this monster made by man.

His Masters Reflection Andrew Edwards 2018-10-10 Qualifying as a doctor in 1815 at the tender age of nineteen, John Polidori was employed less than a year later by the poet, Lord Byron, as his travelling physician. The precocious medic was seemingly destined for a bright future that would enable him to combine his profession with a love of literature. In *His Masters Reflection*, the authors follow Polidori's footsteps as he accompanies Byron through Europe to Switzerland where they eventually meet the Shelleys and Claire Clairmont. Fulfilling his father's prophecy, the fateful summer will prove to have a devastating impact on Polidori's life and legacy. Byron's keen wit and elevated status would leave the sensitive doctor feeling isolated and undervalued. Fuelled by acerbic comments from the poet's friends, Byron finally releases Polidori from his contract, leaving the penniless medic to wander over the Alps on foot to Italy, his father's homeland. Despite attempts at establishing himself as a doctor to the expatriate community, he has to admit defeat and return to England. Still harbouring literary ambitions, his one chance at fame is cruelly denied when *The Vampyre*, the story he had written in Geneva, is attributed to Byron. Gossip and retelling of events have cast Polidori in the role of a petulant plagiarist. Concussion from a riding accident deeply affected Polidori's temperament and behaviour, leaving questions surrounding his death, which history has recorded as suicide by prussic acid, despite the coroner's verdict of visitation by God. The authors delve into his final years in an attempt to redress the balance. The handsome Polidori was more than just his master's reflection.

Tales of the Dead T. J. Hale 1992

Genius, Power and Magic Roderick Cavaliero 2013-04-26 Before unification, Germany was a loose collection of variously sovereign principalities, nurtured on deep thought, fine music and hard rye bread. It was known across Europe for the plentiful supply of consorts to be found among its abundant royalty, but the language and culture was largely incomprehensible to those outside its lands. In the long eighteenth and nineteenth centuries- between the end of the Thirty Years War in 1648 and unification under Bismarck in 1871 - Germany became the land of philosophers, poets, writers and composers. This particularly German cultural movement was able to survive the avalanche of Napoleonic conquest and exploitation and its impact was gradually felt far beyond Germany's borders. In this book, Roderick Cavaliero provides a fascinating overview of Germany's cultural zenith in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. He considers the work of Germany's own artistic exports - the literature of Goethe and Grimm, the music of Wagner, Schumann, Mendelssohn and Bach and the philosophy of Schiller and Kant - as well as the impact of Germany on foreign visitors from Coleridge to Thackeray and from Byron to Disraeli. Providing a comprehensive and highly-readable account of Germany's cultural life from Frederick the Great to Bismarck, 'Genius, Power and Magic' is fascinating reading for anyone interested in European history and cultural history.

The Frankenstein Notebooks Charles Robinson 2022-07-30 Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* is arguably the best known work of the English Romantic period. First published in 1996, this edition of *The Frankenstein Notebooks* contains not only facsimiles and transcriptions of all of the surviving manuscripts related to the novel and a corrected, critical text of *Frankenstein* (or *The Modern Prometheus*) but also a full range of factual information, drawn from Shelley's and William Godwin's letters and journals, from newspaper ads of the day, and from other available scholarship about the conception, gestation, and birth of Mary Shelley's monster. This two volume set contains a wealth of information vital to the creation and reception of *Frankenstein*. It will enable scholars, critics and students to see for themselves the exact extent of P. B. Shelley's editorial contributions and trace the artistic and ideological development of the novel at various stages in its formation. It will also enable the reader to explore the text itself to test and evaluate their own theses. This set will be of keen interest to those studying *Frankenstein*, the Romantics and 19th century literature.

Frankenstein, Or, The Modern Prometheus Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley 2008 "In the summer of 1816, Mary Wollstonecraft Godwin, then eighteen years old, began to write the novel *Frankenstein* after she and her lover Percy Bysshe Shelley took part in a ghost-story competition at Lord Byron's villa by Lake Geneva. Over the next nine months - a period which saw their return to England in autumn 1816 and subsequent marriage - she (with Percy) drafted the entire novel in a form materially different from the two standard editions of 1818 and 1831, which were based on a later fair copy." "Until now, no one has been able to read what Mary Shelley herself initially wrote in this original draft of the novel. Going back to the unique draft manuscript of the text held in the Bodleian Library, Charles E. Robinson has teased out Percy Shelley's amendments, isolating them from the story in Mary Shelley's hand. Both texts - with and without Percy's interventions - are presented in this edition, allowing us for the first time to read the story in Mary's original hand and also to see how Percy edited his wife's prose."--BOOK JACKET.

The Cambridge History of the Gothic: Volume 2, Gothic in the Nineteenth Century Catherine Spooner 2020-08-06 This second volume of *The Cambridge History of the Gothic* provides a rigorous account of the Gothic in British, American and Continental European culture, from the Romantic period through to the Victorian fin de siècle. Here, leading scholars in the fields of literature, theatre, architecture and the history of science and popular entertainment explore the Gothic in its numerous interdisciplinary forms and guises, as well as across a range of different international contexts. As much a cultural history of the Gothic in this period as an account of the ways in which the Gothic mode has participated in the formative historical events of modernity, the volume offers fresh perspectives on familiar themes while also drawing new critical attention to a range of hitherto overlooked concerns. From Romanticism, to Penny Bloods, Dickens and even the railway system, the volume provides a compelling and comprehensive study of nineteenth-century Gothic culture.

Unsuspecting Souls Barry Sanders 2010-03-05 During the nineteenth century, something vital went missing: the human being. In *Unsuspecting Souls*, Barry Sanders examines modern society's indifference to the individual. From the Industrial Revolution, where the disappearance of care for human beings begins slowly, to our own age, where societal events require less person-to-person interaction, Sanders laments that what makes us most human is slowly dying. Our days are filled with little but a continuous bombardment of "information," demands on our attention, that brings us out of

our world and into one of inhumanity and abstraction. We are losing entirely any palpable attachment to our physical reality. And we've also lost the original sense of a collective consciousness. This loss has been fomenting for two centuries now, dating back to the rise of European powers and worldwide colonization. This has led to the notion that we need to define what is torture, an idea that not long ago would have seemed absurd, and need to pick our poisons among several forms of radical fundamentalisms, each one not only a threat to the other but a threat to humanity itself. From Edgar Allen Poe to Abu Ghraib, this is a fascinating and worrisome story, impeccably researched and compellingly written.

The Pleasures of Reading Catherine Sheldrick Ross 2014-06-27 Based on years of ground-breaking research, this book supplies a look at the unique relationship between each text and the individual reader that results in a satisfying, pleasurable, and even life-changing reading experience. Following up on her critically acclaimed *Reading Matters: What the Research Reveals about Reading, Libraries, and Community*, Catherine Sheldrick Ross takes a new look at pleasure reading through 30 thought-provoking essays based on themes arranged from A to Z. In short lively chapters, she discusses topics ranging from "Alexia," "Bad Reading," and "Changing Lives" to "Romance Fiction," "Self-help," "Titles," "Vampires," and "Year of Reading." Drawing on her own research as well as other published sources, Ross comments on the significance of each theme, provides examples of the phenomenon, and develops the topic chronologically, through further examples, or through reversals. The essays are unified by an underlying theory of reading that views readers as sense-makers, actively engaged in reading themselves into the text and reading the texts back into their own lives. It gives educators and librarians insights into their roles with readers and offers a message about the importance of pleasure reading. A short list of resources for further reading is supplied with each topic.

British Identities, Heroic Nationalisms, and the Gothic Novel, 1764-1824 T. Wein 2002-07-22 *British Identities, Heroic Nationalisms, and the Gothic Novel, 1764-1824* considers three interlocking developments of this period: the emergence of the Gothic novel at a time when national upheavals required the construction of a new nationalist identity, the Gothic novel's redefinition of heroes and heroism in that nationalist debate, and changes within class and gender as well as audience and author relations. The scope of this study extends beyond the confines of the novel proper to include chapbooks and illustrated redactions.

Tales of the Dead: Selections from Fantasmagoriana, the Classic German Book of Ghost Stories Sarah Elizabeth Utterson, trans. 2019-10-27 These six classic tales of ghosts and hauntings, culled from *Fantasmagoriana* (1818), a German book that reputedly helped inspire Mary Shelley to pen her immortal novel *Frankenstein* while staying with Percy Shelley and the mad, vampiric Lord Byron on that haunted summer at Villa Diodati, in Switzerland, two hundred years ago. That night saw the birth of monsters such as the vampire Lord Ruthven, made famous by John Polidori's story *The Vampire*, as well a vampire tale by Byron himself, one left never finished. But the hideous visage of *Frankenstein's* monster was born from the nightmares of Mary, to stalk the earth and the dark, troubling dreams of man, forever. These six German classics of supernatural terror gave birth to the inspiration for such ghastly horrors. For, Fear, just as much as Love, is a universal language.

Tales of the Dead Sarah Elizabeth Brown Mrs [Utterson 2022-10-27 This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work is in the "public domain in the United States of America, and possibly other nations. Within the United States, you may freely copy and distribute this work, as no entity (individual or corporate) has a copyright on the body of the work. Scholars believe, and we concur, that this work is important enough to be preserved, reproduced, and made generally available to the public. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.

Kafka, Gothic and Fairytale Patrick Bridgwater 2021-11-08 *Kafka, Gothic and Fairytale* is an original comparative study of the novels and some of the related shorter punishment fantasies in terms of their relationship to the Gothic and fairytale conventions. It is an absorbing subject and one which, while keeping to the basic facts of his life, mind-set and literary method, shows Kafka's work in a genuinely new light. The contradiction between his persona with its love of fairytale and his shadow with its affinity with Gothic is reflected in his work, which is both Gothic and other than Gothic, both fairytale-like and the every denial of fairytale. Important subtexts of the book are the close connexion between Gothic and fairytale and between both of these and the dream. German text is quoted in translation unless the emphasis is on the meaning of individual words or phrases, in which case the words in question are quoted and their English meanings discussed. This means that readers without German can, for the first time, begin to understand the underlying ambiguity of Kafka's major fictions. The book is addressed to all who are interested in the meaning of his work and its place in literary history, but also to the many readers in the English and German-speaking worlds who share the author's enthusiasm for Gothic and fairytale.

The Original Frankenstein Mary Shelley 2011-10-12 Working from the earliest surviving draft of *Frankenstein*, Charles E. Robinson presents two versions of the classic novel—as Mary Shelley originally wrote it and a subsequent version clearly indicating Percy Shelley's amendments and contributions. For the first time we can hear Mary's sole voice, which is colloquial, fast-paced, and sounds more modern to a contemporary reader. We can also see for the first time the extent of Percy Shelley's contribution—some 5,000 words out of 72,000—and his stylistic and thematic changes. His occasionally florid prose is in marked contrast to the directness of Mary's writing. Interesting, too, are Percy's suggestions, which humanize the monster, thus shaping many of the major themes of the novel as we read it today. In these two versions of *Frankenstein* we have an exciting new view of one of literature's greatest works.

Transylvania Robert Z. Cohen 2011-01-15 Provides an overview of the people, beliefs, traditions, and history of Transylvania and examines the area's folklore.

The Vampyre and Ernestus Berchtold; or, The Modern Oedipus John William Polidori 2007-09-14 In 1816, John William Polidori travelled to Geneva as Lord Byron's personal physician. There they met Mary Godwin (later Shelley) and her lover Percy Shelley and decided to while away a wet summer by writing ghost stories. The only two to complete their stories were Mary Shelley, who published *Frankenstein* in 1818, and Polidori, whose *The Vampyre* and *Ernestus Berchtold* were both published in 1819. *The Vampyre*, based on a discarded idea of Byron's, is the first portrayal of the alluring vampire figure familiar to readers of Bram Stoker and Anne Rice. *Ernestus Berchtold* scandalously draws on the rumours of Byron's affair with his half-sister for a Faustian updating of the myth of Oedipus, which it combines with an account of the struggle of Swiss patriots against the Napoleonic invasion. Along with Polidori's work, this edition also includes stories read and written by the travellers in the Genevan summer of 1816 and contemporary responses to *The Vampyre* and *Ernestus Berchtold*.

Fantasmagoriana Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley 2011-12-03 In the gloomy summer of 1816, a motley collection of poets, exiles, and adulterers gathered at the Villa Diodati on the shores of Lake Geneva...*Fantasmagoriana*: a collection of Gothic tales by Mary Shelley, Lord Byron, Percy Bysshe Shelley, and John William Polidori, all originating in a night of ghost storytelling. Contains the complete *FRANKENSTEIN* and Polidori's influential *THE VAMPYRE*, plus Gothic works by Byron, Shelley, and Mathew 'Monk' Lewis.

Romantik 2021 Gísli Magnússon 2022-12-12 "Romantik. Journal for the Study of Romanticisms" is a multidisciplinary journal dedicated to the study of romantic-era cultural productions and concepts. The journal promotes innovative research across disciplinary borders. It aims to advance new historical discoveries, forward-looking theoretical insights and cutting-edge methodological approaches. The articles range over the full variety of cultural practices, including the written word, visual arts, history, philosophy, religion, and theatre during the romantic period (c. 1780-1840). But contributions to the discussion of pre- or post-romantic representations are also welcome. Since the romantic era was characterized by an emphasis on the vernacular, the title of journal has been chosen to reflect the Germanic root of the word. But the journal is interested in all European romanticisms - and not least the connections and disconnections between them - hence, the use of the plural in the subtitle. *Romantik* is a peer-reviewed journal supported by the Nordic Board for Periodicals in the Humanities and Social Sciences (NOP-HS).

Encyclopedia of the Undead Bob Curran 2009-03-19 What lurks out there in the fog? What was that eerie sound in the dead of night? What flitted by at the end of the street, just beyond the farthest street lamp? From earliest times, tales of the restless dead and their fellow travelers have terrified mankind. Whether around a remote campfire or in the middle of a bustling city, the unquiet spirits and attendant creatures that have tormented

humanity since the prehistoric darkness haven't gone away—they still have the power to strike fear in our hearts. Encyclopedia of the Undead traces those shadowy entities—vampires, werewolves, ghouls and monsters—that lurk just outside the range of human vision and inhabit our most frightening tales. Drawing on a wide range of beliefs and literature, it traces these horrors from their earliest recorded inception and charts their impact upon the human psyche. In this book, history and terror mix to create the things that lurk in the darkest corners of our minds. You'll find detailed descriptions of terrors from all over the world—from the mist-shrouded mountains of Eastern Europe to the sweltering jungles of the Caribbean islands, from the dark, stone-lined tombs of the uncoffined dead beneath the remote New England hills to the dark magics that lurk beneath the thriving, colorful surface of a city like New Orleans. In addition to the more conventional creatures, Encyclopedia of the Undead also details some of the more obscure Things that gnaw at the edges of men's minds—Incubi and Succubi, the Mara, and the dark legends that have influenced writers from Sheridan Le Fanu to H.P. Lovecraft. This is a book for all those who are interested in the darker side of the human mind—the side that examines and even embraces those beliefs and imaginings that form the basis of our most archetypal fears. This is the book for those brave enough to plumb the depths of our worst nightmares!

The Vampyre John William Polidori 2021-03-09 When Aubrey, a young Englishman, meets a mysterious man from London high society, Lord Ruthven, they become unlikely friends. Shortly after, Aubrey decides to accompany the noble on a trip to Rome. However, when a moral disagreement arises between the two, Aubrey decides to leave Ruthven in Rome, and goes off on his own. Arriving in Greece, Aubrey meets Ianthe, and the two share an immediate connection. After sharing stories and an evening together, Aubrey and Ianthe part ways for the night. However, after a devastating turn of events, Aubrey and Ruthven reunite, and Aubrey, ready to leave Greece behind, is happy to travel with the older man once again. But as they continue their travels, Aubrey slowly begins to notice Ruthven's odd behavior. After even more consideration, Aubrey realizes a shocking pattern—nearly everyone that Ruthven comes in close contact to meets an untimely end. Afraid of his newly acquired knowledge, Aubrey attempts to distance himself from the suspicious man, though he is forced to reconsider his efforts when Ruthven expresses intent to marry Aubrey's sister. First published under Lord Byron's name, *The Vampyre* rose to immediate commercial success. However, though he was inspired by a discarded piece of Lord Byron's work, both authors have since admitted that John William Polidori was the true writer of *The Vampyre*. Considered to be the first work of vampire fiction, *The Vampyre* had an immense role in shaping vampires as literary figures, influencing the canonical rules of vampires that many still follow today. First published in 1819, Polidori's *The Vampyre* remains to be a thrilling and spooky read centuries later, and has since inspired both film and theater adaptations. With mystery and eerie suspense, Polidori's work is an extraordinary example of 19th century gothic horror. This edition of *The Vampyre* by John William Polidori features a striking new cover design and is printed in a font that is both modern and readable. With these accommodations, *The Vampyre* caters to a contemporary audience while preserving the original innovation of John William Polidori's work.

Frankenstein Mary Shelley 2020-09-16 "In this new edition of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, David Wootton's Introduction gives the reader both a clear and gripping account of the biographical circumstances that led to the novel's writing and the most striking and original interpretations of its central themes and of the intellectual and cultural influences on them. Offering a new account of the complex history of its composition, and drawing upon his deep knowledge of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century scientific debates, Wootton reveals the ways in which the origins of Shelley's novel are inextricably linked to conceptions of the origins of life itself. We have here a transformative reading of one of the world's best-known stories."

—Laura Marcus, Goldsmiths' Professor of English Literature and Fellow of New College, University of Oxford

Strange Star Emma Carroll 2018-03-20 From the critically acclaimed author of *In Darkling Wood* comes a spine-tingling novel inspired by *Frankenstein* with more than a hint of mystery and suspense. One stormy June evening, five friends meet at Villa Diodati, the summer home of Lord Byron. After dinner is served, they challenge each other to tell ghost stories that will freeze the blood. But one of the guests—Mary Shelley—is stuck for a story to share. Then there's an unexpected knock at the front door. Collapsed on the doorstep is a girl with strange scars on her face. She has traveled a long way with her own tale to tell, and now they all must listen. Hers is no ordinary ghost story, though. What starts as a simple tale of village life soon turns to tragedy and the darkest, most dangerous of secrets. Sometimes the truth is far more terrifying than fiction . . . and the consequences are even more devastating. Praise for Emma Carroll's *In Darkling Wood*: "A haunting and poignant exploration of family, loss, and redemption." --Booklist, Starred "A tale brimming with emotion and atmosphere. . . . [In *Darkling Wood*] is absorbing and well written. Hand this to readers who enjoy fantasy, fairy tales, and magical realism." --School Library Journal, Starred "Magic and mystery adds appeal to this already compelling family drama...and Carroll manages to wrap all of the threads into a wholly satisfying ending." --Bulletin

Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley Betty T. Bennett 1998-11-30 "Recognition of Mary Shelley's systemic dual focus on public and domestic power as the means to interrogate traditional norms and propose alternatives materially alters parochial perceptions of her objectives and her achievements. Her novels, outside of *Frankenstein*, and recently, *The Last Man*, have been dismissed as simple, mutual dissociated "romances" or experiments in genre solely to intersect with a market niche; they are neither. Rather, they and all of Mary Shelley's major works voice a cosmopolitan, socio-political reformist ideology that evolved as their author's acute awareness of world events enabled her to calibrate her literary voice to deal with unfolding rather than past societal issues. Her multidisciplinary fusion of literature, political philosophy, and history calls for a commensurate multidisciplinary reading in order to understand the complexities of both the author and her works." —Betty T. Bennett In this book, Betty T. Bennett offers an extensively expanded version of the introduction she wrote for Pickering and Chatto's eight volume set, *The Novels and Selected Works of Mary Shelley*. Along with her insightful retelling of Mary Shelley's eventful life story, Bennett gives us a fresh reading of *Frankenstein* in the context of its author's full career. She also discusses a variety of Mary Shelley's lesser known works, including *Matilda*, *Valperga*, *The Last Man*, *Perkin Warbeck*, *Lodore*, *Falkner*, and her travel books. The result is a compelling portrait of Mary Shelley as she saw herself—an inventive, irreverent writer whose desire for political and social reform was at the heart of her literary expression for three decades.

The Monsters Dorothy Hoobler 2009-05-30 "A superlative, riveting history" (BookPage) of Mary Shelley's creation of *Frankenstein* and the personal and poetic background behind the story. One murky night in 1816, on the shores of Lake Geneva, Lord Byron, famed English poet, challenged his friends to a contest—to write a ghost story. The assembled group included the poet Percy Bysshe Shelley; his lover (and future wife) Mary Wollstonecraft Godwin; Mary's stepsister Claire Claremont; and Byron's physician, John William Polidori. The famous result was Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, a work that has retained its hold on the popular imagination for almost two centuries. Less well-known was the curious Polidori's contribution: the first vampire novel. And the evening begat a curse, too: Within a few years of *Frankenstein*'s publication, nearly all of those involved met untimely deaths. Drawing upon letters, rarely tapped archives, and their own magisterial rereading of *Frankenstein* itself, Dorothy and Thomas Hoobler have crafted a rip-roaring tale of obsession and creation.

A Geography of Victorian Gothic Fiction Robert Mighall 2003 This is the first major full-length study of Victorian Gothic fiction. Combining original readings of familiar texts with a rich store of historical sources, *A Geography of Victorian Gothic Fiction* is an historicist survey of nineteenth-century Gothic writing—from Dickens to Stoker, Wilkie Collins to Conan Doyle, through European travelogues, sexological textbooks, ecclesiastic histories and pamphlets on the perils of self-abuse. Critics have thus far tended to concentrate on specific angles of Gothic writing (gender or race), or the belief that the Gothic 'returned' at the so-called fin de siècle. Robert Mighall, by contrast, demonstrates how the Gothic mode was active throughout the Victorian period, and provides historical explanations for its development from late eighteenth century, through the 'Urban Gothic' fictions of the mid-Victorian period, the 'Suburban Gothic' of the Sensation vogue, through to the somatic horrors of Stevenson, Machen, Stoker, and Doyle at the century's close. Mighall challenges the psychological approach to Gothic fiction which currently prevails, demonstrating the importance of geographical, historical, and discursive factors that have been largely neglected by critics, and employing a variety of original sources to demonstrate the contexts of Gothic fiction and explain its development in the Victorian period.

The Monsters Dorothy Hoobler 2009-05-30 The authors of the award-winning *In Darkness*, *Death* share the remarkable true story of *Frankenstein*'s origins and the curse on its creators.

Lost Souls Short Stories 2018-12-15 New Authors and collections. A collection of new tales with brilliant new writers and lost souls from the

darkest corners of literature and legend: Morrigan's ravens in Celtic myth mingle with Dante's infernal spirits and the work of John Milton. And with the dark fiction of William Hope Hodgson and Arthur Machen this promises to be a haunting, chilling read. Classic authors include: E.F. Benson, Ambrose Bierce, Mary Elizabeth Braddon, F. Marion Crawford, Dante, Charles Dickens, Amelia B. Edwards, Sheridan le Fanu, Mary E. Wilkins Freeman, W.F. Harvey, William Hope Hodgson, E.T.A Hoffmann, James Hogg, Washington Irving, Henry James, M.R. James, Jerome K. Jerome, Perceval Landon, Friedrich Laun, H.P. Lovecraft, Arthur Machen, Charles Maturin, E. Nesbit, Margaret Oliphant, Edgar Allan Poe, Walter Scott, Sarah Elizabeth Utterson, Edith Wharton, along with a retold tale from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*.

The Picture of Dorian Gray Oscar Wilde 2003-02-04 An astounding novel of decadence, debauchery, and secrecy from one of Ireland's greatest writers. Nominated as one of America's best-loved novels by PBS's *The Great American Read* Enthralled by his own exquisite portrait, Dorian Gray makes a Faustian bargain to sell his soul in exchange for eternal youth and beauty. Under the influence of Lord Henry Wotton, he is drawn into a corrupt double life, where he is able to indulge his desires while remaining a gentleman in the eyes of polite society. Only Dorian's picture bears the traces of his decadence. A knowing account of a secret life and an analysis of the darker side of late Victorian society. *The Picture of Dorian Gray* offers a disturbing portrait of an individual coming face to face with the reality of his soul. Shocking in its suggestion of unspeakable sin, this novel was later used as evidence against Wilde when he was tried for indecency in 1895. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Written in Blood Paul Adams 2014-07-01 The British Isles has a remarkable association with vampires - chilling supernatural creatures of the night. From the nineteenth-century writings of John Polidori, James Rymer, Sheridan Le Fanu and Bram Stoker, to the modern literary horrors of Clive Barker, Ramsey Campbell, Brian Lumley and Kim Newman, the vampire casts a strange and compelling shadow that spreads from the realms of fantasy into the world of the living. Here you will find vampire murderers and vampire hunters together with the real-life mysteries of Croglin Grange, Alnwick Castle, the Vampire of the Villas, the Yorkshire Vampire and the enduring phenomenon of London's famous Highgate Vampire. In this thought-provoking book, illustrated with never before seen photographs and drawing on extensive original research, writer and paranormal historian Paul Adams explores the fascinating history of British vampirism in both fact and fiction. With extensive chapters on the post-war revival of Gothic cinema horror and the influence of cult studio Hammer Films on the vampire in British television and music, here is a modern guide where every page is truly written in blood ...

The Handbook of the Gothic Marie Mulvey-Roberts 2016-11-09 This revised new edition of *The Handbook of the Gothic* contains over one hundred entries on Gothic writers, themes, terms, concepts, contexts and locations, featuring new entries on writers including Stephen King and Wilkie Collins, new genres and a new Preface which situates the handbook within current studies of the Gothic.

Encyclopedia of the Undead Bob Curran 2009-01-21 WHAT LURKS OUT THERE IN THE FOG? WHAT WAS THAT EERIE SOUND IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT? WHAT FLITTED BY AT THE END OF THE STREET, JUST BEYOND THE FARTHEST LAMP?From earliest times, tales of the restless dead and their fellow travellers have terrified mankind. Whether around a remote campfire or in the middle of a bustling city, the unquiet spirits and attendant creatures that have tormented men since the prehistoric darkness haven't gone away; they still have the power to strike fear in our hearts. *Encyclopedia of the Undead* traces those shadowy shapes that lurk just outside the range of human vision and inhabit our most potent and frightening tales - vampires, werewolves, ghouls, and monsters, every one of them the stuff of nightmares. Drawing on a wide range of belief and literature, it traces these horrors from their earliest recorded inception and charts their impact upon the human mind. You'll find detailed descriptions of terrors from all over the world - from the mist shrouded mountains of Eastern Europe to the sweltering jungles of the Caribbean islands; from the dark, stone-lined tombs of the uncoffined dead beneath the remote New England hills to the dark magic that lurks beneath the thriving, colourful surface of a city such as New Orleans. *Encyclopedia of the Undead* also details some of the things that gnaw at the edges of men's minds - Incubi and Succubi, the Mara, and the dark legends that have influenced writers such as H.P. Lovecraft. This is a book for all those who are interested in the darker side of the human mind, one that examines the beliefs and imaginings that form the basis of our worst fears. Within its pages, history and terror mix to create the things that lurk in the darkest corners of our perceptions.

Fantasmagoriana (Tales of the Dead) A.J. Day 2008-07 It was on a 'dark and stormy night', during the summer of 1816 that an eccentric group of English literati gathered at the Villa Diodati. The atmosphere at the Villa was charged by the violent streaks of lightning that licked at the mountain tops and split a black sky. As the wind outside whipped up the surface of lake Lemano into a cauldron of waves the occupants of the Villa; Lord Byron, Mary Shelley, Dr John Polidori, Percy Shelley and Claire Clairmont, whipped themselves into a gothic frenzy with recitals of haunting poetry and ghost stories. The stories that they read came from a book, originally written in German, that had recently been translated into French. The book that they read from was called *Fantasmagoriana*. *Fantasmagoriana* has a unique place in literary history. This is the first full translation of the stories that inspired Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* and Dr John Polidori's *The Vampyre*.

Vampires: Classic Tales Mike Ashley 2013-12-10 Drawing on a 200-year-old tradition, this original collection features a deft combination of vintage vampire tales with more contemporary stories. Anthologist Mike Ashley introduces a dozen fantasies that weave together dark, psychological elements with well-recognized vampire themes. His notes trace the development of vampire fiction, illustrating the genre's life beyond the well-known conventions established by Bram Stoker's *Dracula*. Selections range from Lord Byron's contribution to the legendary storytelling session that produced Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* to Nancy Holder's "Blood Gothic," a modern perspective on the corrupting influence of the romantic vampire image. Additional contributors include Alexandre Dumas, Karl von Wachsmann, Tanith Lee, Elizabeth Lynn Linton, Julian Osgood Field, R. Murray Gilchrist, Dick Donovan, Brian Stableford, Sidney Bertram, and Ernst Raupach.

Mary Shelley Horror Stories Mary Shelley 2018-12-15 Curated new collections. Mary Shelley, whose *Frankenstein* is the foundation of modern SF, fantasy and horror fiction, was born to the writer William Godwin and social campaigner Mary Wollstonecraft. This new, special collection brings together extracts of her novels and short stories, with an emphasis on the supernatural.

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Goth Chic Gavin Baddeley 2021-02-01 *Goth Chic* is the first book to properly explore Gothic culture in the modern world. Gavin Baddeley unearths hidden gems from the underground alongside better-known manifestations, including horror comics, fetish clubs, Goth-rock superstars and vampire cultists. The result is a book that provides a peerless primer for Gothic culture novices and an incisive analysis to challenge and compel even the most seasoned veteran of this dark underworld.

Making the Monster Kathryn Harkup 2018-02-08 A thrilling and gruesome look at the science that influenced Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*. The year 1818 saw the publication of one of the most influential science-fiction stories of all time. *Frankenstein: or, The Modern Prometheus* by Mary Shelley had a huge impact on the gothic horror and science-fiction genres, and her creation has become part of our everyday culture, from cartoons to Hallowe'en costumes. Even the name 'Frankenstein' has become a by-word for evil scientists and dangerous experiments. How did a teenager with no formal education come up with the idea for such an extraordinary novel? Clues are dotted throughout Georgian science and popular culture. The years before the book's publication saw huge advances in our understanding of the natural sciences, in areas such as electricity and physiology, for example. Sensational science demonstrations caught the imagination of the general public, while the newspapers were full of lurid tales of murderers and resurrectionists. *Making the Monster* explores the scientific background behind Mary Shelley's book. Is there any science fact behind the science fiction? And how might a real-life Victor Frankenstein have gone about creating his monster? From tales of volcanic eruptions, artificial life and chemical revolutions, to experimental surgery, 'monsters' and electrical experiments on human cadavers, Kathryn Harkup examines the science and scientists that influenced Shelley, and inspired her most famous creation.

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