

The Oxford Book Of Victorian Ghost Stories

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collection of thirty five english ghost stories written during the victorian era

an interesting rereading of familiar texts by emily and charlotte bronte elizabeth gaskell and george eliot recovering the historical and literary roots of the supernatural as it appears in each women s work dickerson english rhodes college makes interesting observations about women s changing roles in the 19th century when scientific advancements relegated women to the home as arbiters of the spiritual while men occupied themselves with rational invention through close readings she demonstrates how the brontes gaskell and eliot resisted this division and simultaneously created a spiritual genre of writing traditionally denigrated by critics annotation copyrighted by book news inc portland or

ghostly coaches shuttling the mildewed cadavers of its ill fated occupants a young orphan being lured to a frosty death by a pale little girl with a mangled shoulder a man spends the night in a room with a fatal past a restless ne'er do well recognizes his fiancée with her throat cut in a twilight vision a beautiful woman is sold by her uncle to a corpse living beneath a church these are the images that haunted their authors brains and found their way into the golden age of the British ghost story as industrial Britain steamed away from its feudal agrarian past a sense of self-deceit and insecurity a lingering of violent potential and national shame pervaded the collective unconscious of the world's preeminent empire this psychological malaise manifested itself in the English ghost story which saw its golden era in the Victorian age the unsettling works of Dickens Gaskell Blackwood Hardy Nesbit Conan Doyle M. R. James Braddon Broughton Oliphant Wells and Le Fanu grace this brief homage to that unique literary era of elegance mystique and horror

six spine-tingling stories dug up and dusted down for today's readers enter the terrifying world of Victorian ghouls and ghostly apparitions if you dare

by flickering candlelight these haunting tales were carefully penned by some of the greatest writers of the Victorian era including Sheridan Le Fanu Catherine Crowe and Mary Elizabeth Braddon the Victorian era has been dubbed the golden age of the ghost story producing some of the most iconic and masterful ghost stories the genre has ever seen in this exquisite collection you will find 14 terrifying tales which have been haunting readers for more than a century be transported to cobwebbed crypts creaking manor houses and dusky moors where peril lies just around the corner includes the dream Sheridan Le Fanu the Italian's story Catherine Crowe Eveline's visitant Mary Elizabeth Braddon the body snatcher Rudyard Kipling and many more perfect for horror lovers these classic ghost stories are sure to terrify and entertain in equal measure

this book argues that theology is central to an understanding of the literary ghost story Victorian ghost stories have traditionally been read in the context of agnosticism as stories which reveal a society struggling with Christian orthodoxy in a new enlightened world this book however uses theological ideas from St Augustine through to modern theologians to identify a theological journey taken by the protagonists of such stories and charts each stage of this journey through the short stories it examines it also proposes a theory of reader participation which creates an imaginary space in which modern epistemology is suspended the book studies the work of four major authors of the supernatural tale Arthur Machen M. R. James Sheridan Le Fanu and Henry James

this work comprises a collection of classic and lesser known ghost stories from the Victorian and Edwardian eras it includes ghosts as fictional creations and as real apparitions it includes contributions from all over the world

the victorian era was a time of elegance superstition and a deep fascination with death and the supernatural with the rise of spiritualism séances and the fear of the unknown ghost stories thrived shaping the collective imagination of the time this book delves into the chilling world of victorian ghosts exploring the scares mass hysteria and real life hauntings that gripped society during the 19th century reports of ghostly apparitions surged dark candlelit mansions creaking floorboards and eerie mist covered streets provided the perfect setting for tales of restless spirits the book uncovers documented cases of victorian ghost sightings including the infamous hammersmith ghost which led to a tragic case of mistaken identity and murder and the terrifying borley rectory often dubbed the most haunted house in england mass hysteria played a significant role in these hauntings fear of spirits coupled with repressed emotions and societal anxieties led to widespread panic the book examines how victorian society s obsession with death seen in mourning rituals post mortem photography and spirit photography contributed to ghostly paranoia through eyewitness accounts newspaper reports and historical records victorian ghosts reveals the eerie world of real life hauntings the psychological fears that fueled them and the lasting impact of victorian ghost lore on horror today

in three ghost stories charles dickens weaves together a tapestry of spectral encounters exploring themes of redemption the human condition and moral reckoning written in his characteristic vivid prose dickens employs rich imagery and suspenseful narrative techniques reminiscent of gothic literature inviting readers into a chilling yet reflective world each story Äîmelding elements of horror with poignant social commentary Äîhighlights dickens s mastery in portraying the supernatural while simultaneously revealing the complexities of victorian society s moral landscape charles dickens an iconic figure of 19th century literature often drew inspiration from his own challenging experiences including a tumultuous childhood and a deep concern for the plight of the disenfranchised these influences permeate his storytelling enriching his ghost stories with layers of social critique and psychological depth dickens s persistent preoccupation with issues of social justice and morality is evident as he employs the supernatural as a vehicle for exploring the consequences of one s actions and the hopes for personal redemption three ghost stories is a must read for fans of gothic literature dickens enthusiasts and those interested in the moral dilemmas characteristic of the period engaging and thought provoking this collection serves both as an entertaining journey into the spectral realm and a profound reflection on the human spirit making it an invaluable addition to the canon of classic literature

the victorian ghost story an edinburgh companion invites readers to interrogate the multi layered multi vocal conversations that occur within the victorian ghost story its twenty four chapters provide a historical overview of the development of the ghost story and explore it in light of the new contexts of the period including mechanisation imperialism and changes to the economy as a much needed survey of critical work on the ghost story it features detailed analysis of major victorian writers such as charles dickens margaret oliphant charlotte riddell and henry james and it examines the places haunted by victorian ghosts haunted houses but also haunted museums fells pyramids and seascapes by engaging with ecocriticism race colonialism class and gender this interdisciplinary companion constitutes a significant scholarly contribution

to the victorian ghost story and how it relates to a broader gothic tradition

ghostly coaches shuttling the mildewed cadavers of its ill fated occupants a young orphan being lured to a frosty death by a pale little girl with a mangled shoulder a man spends the night in a room with a fatal past a restless ne'er do well recognizes his fiancée with her throat cut in a twilight vision a beautiful woman is sold by her uncle to a corpse living beneath a church these are the images that haunted their authors brains and found their way into the golden age of the british ghost story as industrial britain steamed away from its feudal agrarian past a sense of self deceit and insecurity a lingering of violent potential and national shame pervaded the collective unconscious of the world's preeminent empire this psychological malaise manifested itself in the english ghost story which saw its golden era in the victorian age the unsettling works of dickens gaskell blackwood hardy nesbit conan doyle m r james braddon broughton oliphant wells and le fanu grace this brief homage to that unique literary era of elegance mystique and horror

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this collection will delight all lovers of the traditional ghost story here are thirty five well wrought tales of haunted houses vengeful spirits and spectral warnings from beyond the grave each one of them guaranteed to generate the pleasurable shudder

the unquiet souls of the dead both as fictional creations and as real apparitions roam the pages of this haunting selection of ghost stories including man size in marble adapted for the 2024 a ghost story for christmas

the victorian era was a golden age of the paranormal famous writers such as charles dickens and edgar allan poe created fantastic tales that remain the models for contemporary ghost stories as the interest in the paranormal grew body snatchers stole corpses from cemeteries and scientists tried to reanimate them reflecting a society on the brink of madness join bestselling author jo anne christensen as she explores the most bizarre and remarkable stories from this fascinating era of haunted history

by the early 1830s the old school of gothic literature was exhausted late romanticism emphasising as it did the uncertainties of personality and imagination gave it a new lease of life gothic the literature of disturbance and uncertainty now produced works that reflected domestic fears sexual crimes drug filled hallucinations the terrible secrets of middle class marriage imperial horror at alien invasion occult demonism and the insanity of psychopaths it was from the 1830s onwards that the old gothic castle gave way to the country house drawing room the dungeon was displaced by the sewers of the city and the villains of early novels became the familiar figures of dr jekyll and mr hyde dracula dorian grey and jack the ripper after the death of prince albert 1861 the gothic became darker more morbid obsessed with demonic lovers blood sucking ghouls blood stained murderers and deranged doctors whilst the gothic architecture of the houses of parliament and the new puginesque churches upheld a victorian ideal of sobriety christianity and imperial destiny gothic literature filled these new spaces with a dread that spread like a plague to america france germany and even russia from 1830 to 1914 the period covered by this volume we saw the emergence of the greats of gothic literature and the supernatural from edgar allan poe to emily bronte from sheridan le fanu to bram stoker and robert louis stevenson contributors also examine the fin de siècle dreamers of decadence such as arthur machen m p shiel and vernon lee and their obsession with the occult folklore spiritualism revenants ghostly apparitions and cosmic annihilation this volume explores the period through the prism of architectural history urban studies feminism hauntology and much more horror as poe teaches us is the soul of the plot

the victorian ghost stories in this collection have been haunting readers for more than a century and are perfect for any serious spook lover this book features various terrifying tales by acclaimed victorian writers including charles dickens elizabeth gaskell mary louise molesworth and rudyard kipling readers are sure to be entertained by the short stories in this book that are filled with mysterious noises creepy train adventures and malevolent figures stories in this book include the story of the rippling train mary louise molesworth the body snatcher robert louis stevenson the cold embrace mary elizabeth braddon and many more

what does it mean to read or write with ghosts or to suggest that acts of reading or writing are haunted how can 19th century authors be read to acknowledge the various phantom effects which return within their texts in what ways do the traces of such ghost writing surface in the works of dickens tennyson eliot and hardy beginning with an exploration of hauntings the uncanny the gothic and the spectral julian wolfreys traces the ghostly resonances at work in victorian writing and how such persistence addresses the issues of memory and responsibility which literally haunt the work of reading

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