

The Relationship Between the Natural and the Supernatural in Three Selected Gothic Novels.

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Abstract

Gothic Literature started in the 18th century in England and became famous literary genres to inspire passion. Poets of that time also incorporated Gothic elements in their works. It remained prominent and popular among the readers throughout the 19th and 20th century. This thesis examines the relationship between the natural and the supernatural in three Gothic texts: Horace Walpole's *The Castle of Otranto* (1764), Ann Radcliff's *The Mysteries of Udolpho* (1794), and Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* (1818). The idea of the topic is the link between the supernatural in these Gothic novels, which emerges from natural objects or normal beings, and causes a sensational atmosphere exploiting horror and violence and creating a prevailing atmosphere of mystery and terror. The topic is thoroughly investigated in the three novels under investigation. In this dissertation, the researcher shows how the three novelists give a natural phenomena supernatural perspective that creates a sensational atmosphere which terrifies not just the protagonist, but also the readers, and how this technique is still used to shock and thrill both readers and viewers today.