

### American Gothic Tales

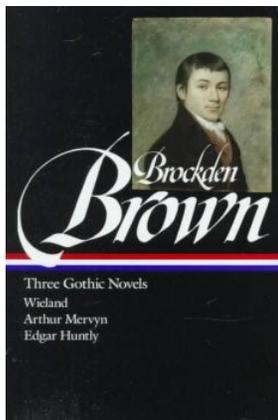
Ed. Joyce Carol Oates  
**SS AMERICAN**

This remarkable anthology of gothic fiction, spanning two centuries of American writing, gives us an intriguing and entertaining look at how the gothic imagination makes for great literature in the works of forty-six exceptional writers. In showing us the gothic vision- a world askew where mankind's forbidden impulses are set free from the repressions of the psyche, and nature turns malevolent and lawless.

### Three Gothic Novels

Brockden Brown  
**FIC BROWN**

Into a brief lifetime (1771-1810) also dedicated to "epic" poetry and political commentary, Brown crowded several ambitious melodramas that absorbed various European romantic influences, and foreshadowed the more accomplished "Gothic" fiction of Poe, Hawthorne, and Melville. *Wieland* (1798), his only widely read novel, spins from the actual story of a deranged farmer who murdered his family, a gripping tale of madness complicated by the notorious "science" of ventriloquism. Its successors--*Arthur Mervyn* (1799), which vigorously dramatizes an epidemic of "yellow fever" in Brown's native Philadelphia, and *Edgar Huntly* (1799), a collection of nonstop action scenes unified by the intriguing theme of sleepwalking--are in many ways its equals.



# GOTHIC:

*Stories Of The Dark And Stormy Variety*



### Uncle Silas

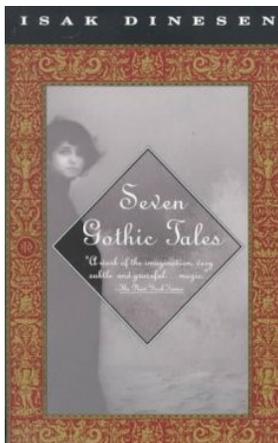
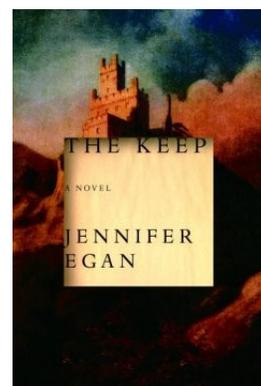
Sheridan Le Fanu  
**FIC LE FANU**

Maud Ruthyn, the young, naïve heroine, is plagued by Madame de la Rougierre from the moment the enigmatic older woman is hired as her governess. A liar, bully, and spy, when Madame leaves the house, she takes her dark secret with her. But when Maud is orphaned, she is sent to live with her Uncle Silas, her father's mysterious brother and a man with a scandalous-even murderous-past. And, once again, she encounters Madame, whose sinister role in Maud's destiny becomes all too clear.

### The Keep

Jennifer Egan  
**FIC EGAN**

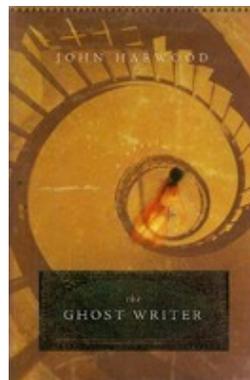
Two cousins, irreversibly damaged by a childhood prank, reunite twenty years later to renovate a medieval castle in Eastern Europe. Built over a secret system of caves and tunnels, the castle and its violent history invoke all the elements of a gothic past: twins, a pool, an old baroness, a fearsome tower. In an environment of extreme paranoia, cut off from the outside world, the men reenact the signal event of their youth, with even more catastrophic results.



### Seven Gothic Tales

Isak Dinesen  
**FIC DINESEN**

Originally published in 1934, *Seven Gothic Tales* is a modern classic. Here are seven exquisite tales combining the keen psychological insight characteristic of the modern short story with the haunting mystery of the nineteenth-century Gothic tale, in the tradition of writers such as Goethe, Hoffmann, and Poe.



### The Ghost Writer

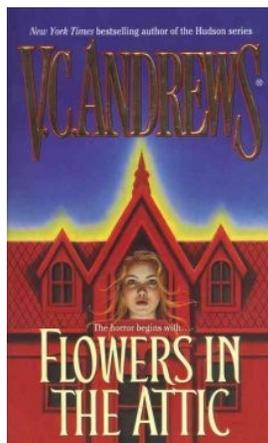
John Harwood  
**FIC HARWOOD**

Timid, solitary librarian Gerard Freeman lives for just two things: his elusive pen pal Alice and a story he found hidden in his mother's drawer years ago. Written by his great-grandmother Viola, it hints at his mother's role in a sinister crime. And as he discovers more of Viola's chilling tales, he realizes that they might hold the key to finding Alice and unveiling his family's mystery - or will they simply bring him the untimely death they seem to foretell?

### Flowers in the Attic

V.C. Andrews  
**FIC ANDREWS**

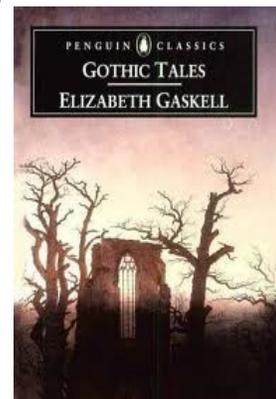
Chris, Cathy, and the twins are to be kept hidden until their grandfather dies so that their mother will receive a sizeable inheritance, however, years pass and terrifying things occur as the four children grow up in their one room prison.

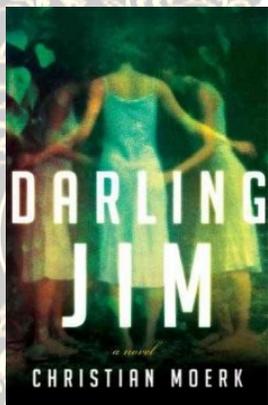


### Gothic Tales

Elizabeth Gaskell  
**823.8 G**

Gaskell's chilling Gothic tales blend the real and the supernatural to eerie, compelling effect. 'Disappearances', inspired by local legends of mysterious vanishings, mixes gossip and fact; 'Lois the Witch', a novella based on an account of the Salem witch hunts, shows how sexual desire and jealousy lead to hysteria; while in 'The Old Nurse's Story' a mysterious child roams the freezing Northumberland moors. Whether darkly surreal, such as 'The Poor Clare', where an evil doppelgänger is formed by a woman's bitter curse, or mischievous like 'Curious, if True', a playful reworking of fairy tales, all the stories in this volume form a stark contrast to the social realism of Gaskell's novels, revealing a darker and more unsettling style of writing.





### Darling Jim

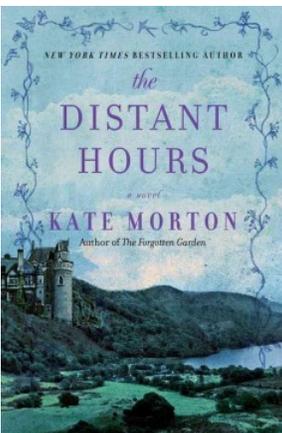
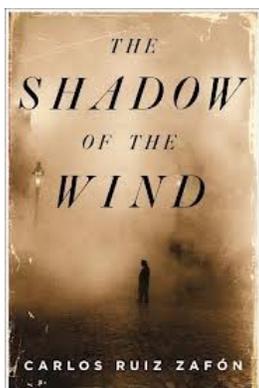
Christian Moerk  
**FIC MOERK**

The Walsh sisters and their aunt are found dead in their suburban Dublin home, and it seems the secret behind their demise will never be known. But then Niall, a young mailman, finds a mysterious diary in the post office's dead-letter bin. From beyond the grave, Fiona Walsh shares the most tragic love story he's ever heard. Niall soon becomes enveloped by the mystery surrounding storyteller Jim, a seductive stranger who travels Ireland weaving tales and leaving a trail of victims in his wake, the Walsh sisters among them. Niall must now hunt for the truth and the vanished third sister while there's still time.

### The Shadow of the Wind

Carlos Ruiz Zafon  
**FIC RUIZ ZAFON**

Barcelona, 1945-- Daniel's widowed father, an antiquarian book dealer, initiates him into the Cemetery of Forgotten Books, a repository for books forgotten by the world. Daniel's father coaxes him to choose a volume from the labyrinth of shelves. Daniel so loves the novel he selects, *The Shadow of the Wind* by Julian Carax, that he sets out to find the rest of Carax's work. To his shock, he discovers that someone has been systematically destroying every copy of every book this author has written. In fact, he may have the last one in existence. Before Daniel knows it, his seemingly innocent quest has opened a door into one of Barcelona's darkest secrets; an epic story of murder, magic, madness and doomed love.



### The Distant Hours

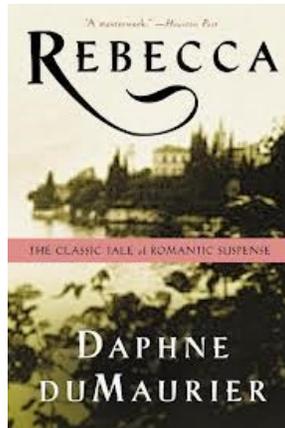
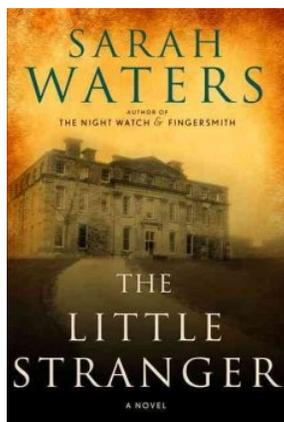
Kate Morton  
**FIC MORTON**

A long lost letter arrives in the post and Edie Burchill finds herself on a journey to Milderhurst Castle, a great but moldering old place, where the Blythe spinsters live. The elderly Blythe sisters are twins and have spent most of their lives looking after the third and youngest sister, Juniper, who hasn't been the same since her fiance jilted her in 1941. There are secrets hidden in the stones of Milderhurst, and Edie is about to learn more than she expected. The truth of what happened in "the distant hours" of the past has been waiting a long time for someone to find it.

### The Little Stranger

Sarah Waters  
**FIC WATERS**

Dr. Faraday, the son of a maid, has built a life of quiet respectability as a country doctor. One dusty postwar summer in his home of rural Warwickshire, he is called to a patient at Hundreds Hall. Home to the Ayres family for more than two centuries, the Georgian house, once grand and handsome, is now in decline- its masonry crumbling, its gardens choked with weeds, the clock in its stable yard permanently fixed at twenty to nine. But are the Ayreses haunted by something more ominous than a dying way of life?



### Rebecca

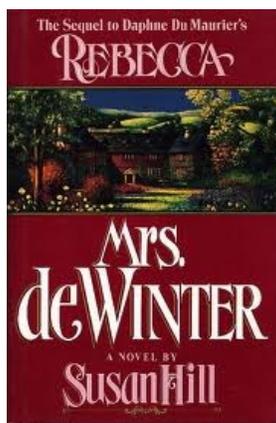
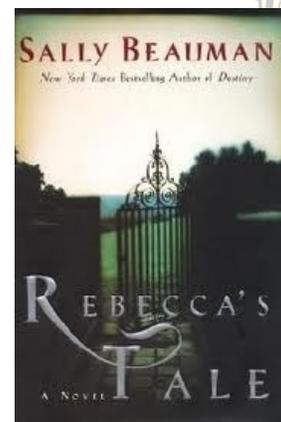
Daphne Du Maurier  
**FIC DU MAURIER**

A classic novel of romantic suspense finds the second Mrs. Maxim de Winter entering the home of her mysterious and enigmatic new husband and learning the story of the house's first mistress, to whom the sinister housekeeper is unnaturally devoted.

### Rebecca's Tale

Sally Beauman  
**FIC BEAUMAN**

April 1951. It is twenty years since the death of Rebecca, the hauntingly beautiful first wife of Maxim de Winter. It is twenty years since the inquest, which famously -- and controversially -- passed a verdict of suicide. Twenty years since Manderley, the de Winters' ancient family seat, was razed to the ground. But Rebecca's tale is just beginning. Family friend Colonel Julian receives an anonymous parcel in the post. It contains a black notebook with two handwritten words on the first page -- Rebecca's Tale -- and two pictures: a photograph of Rebecca as a young child and a post-card of Manderley.



### Mrs. De Winter

Susan Hill  
**FIC HILL**

In a voice true to the original story, This sequel to Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca* chronicles Rebecca's continuing shadow on the lives of Maxim de Winter and his second wife: a mysterious wreath bearing a card with the initial "R" is discovered near Maxim's sister's grave, and unwelcome visitors include Jack Favell, who has visions of blackmail, and Mrs. Danvers, who seeks revenge. The narrator's happiness with Maxim is threatened by his first wife's invasive presence.

### The House of the Seven Gables

Nathaniel Hawthorne  
**FIC HAWTHORNE**

Generations before the present story begins, wealthy Colonel Pyncheon covets Matthew Maule's land. When Maule is hanged for witchcraft, he puts a curse on the Colonel- and all his descendants. Now the menacing Judge Pyncheon continues the family tradition of hiding cruelty under a dazzling smile, while his scowling niece, Hepzibah, and half-mad nephew, Clifford, are reduced to poverty by his machinations. But the younger generation, embodied in their distant cousin, Phoebe, becomes a ray of hope penetrating the dark house.

