

Special Issue

Legacy of Gothic Tradition in Horror Fiction

Message from the Guest Editor

The phrase “gothic tradition” often evokes images of isolated castles, stormy weather, distressed heroines, plotting villains, ghosts, family secrets and secret passageways, and heroes with excellent timing. Many think of Horace Walpole’s 18th century *The Castle of Otranto* (1764) as the beginning of gothic, Ann Radcliffe and Matthew Lewis as popularizing and defining the genre, and Charles Robert Maturin as writing “the last” of the gothic novels, *Melmoth the Wanderer* (1820). However, as indicated in the title of this special issue, the gothic tradition continues; it passed along its legacy to many creative talents who have produced works into the present day. This issue will focus upon gothic’s influence in horror fiction. Please send an abstract of 500 words with a short bibliography to Dr. Sharon M. Gallagher at smg16@psu.edu by November 30, 2023. Finished essays of 5,000 – 6,000 words (not including bibliographic information) will be due by May 31, 2024.

Guest Editor

Dr. Sharon Gallagher
The Behrend College, Penn State University, State College, PA, USA

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 October 2024)



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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
humanities@mdpi.com

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Albrecht Classen

Department of German Studies, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ
85721, USA

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