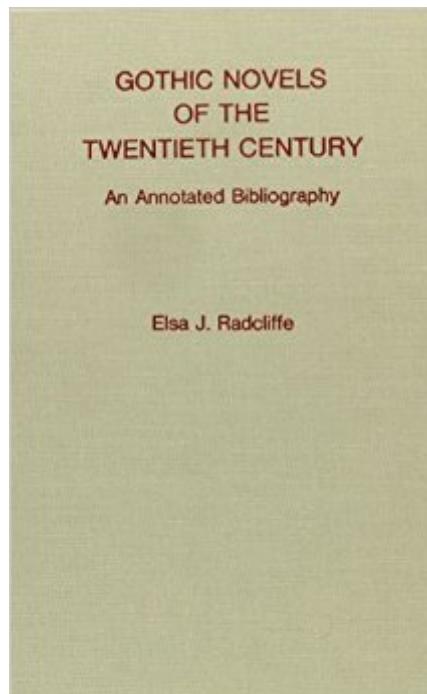


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Gothic Novels Of The Twentieth Century



Synopsis

Easy to use, competently indexed, and fun to explore, this bibliography is an irresistible antidote for all forms of gothic snobbery. Recommended for gothophiliacs, gothophobiacs, and readers with idle nights and empty weekends.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.3 out of 5 starsÂ [See all reviewsÂ \(3 customer reviews\)](#)

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Customer Reviews

This is a thoroughly weird book that is, unfortunately, one of the only sources I know of that contains a comprehensive bibliography of gothic romances printed in the 60's and 70's--some of which were only ever printed in paperback. While by no means complete, Radcliffe does assemble a list that contains both well-known authors (such as Victoria Holt and Mary Stewart) along with lesser known authors. Unfortunately, the book is marred by Radcliffe's strict interpretation of the gothic novel, which allows little room for the the gothic romantic suspense novels that flourished during this period and have been given little serious scholarly study. She assigns letter grades to the novels that she has read (many of which she admits to not completing), and many of those letter grades seem highly off-the-mark. (A C for Mary Stewart's lovely "Moon-spinners" and intriguing "Touch Not the Cat"? Those are considered classics nowadays!) Even du Maurier's "Rebecca"--the accepted forerunner to the twentieth century gothic romance--is called "not Gothic" and overrated by Ms. Radcliffe. Her opinions appear based less on scholarly study and more on a bad mood half the time, preferring to call a novel "sick" or "pure junk" without explaining why. Ultimately, if you can ignore this unlikable author, the book is worth seeking out if you want a good bibliography of the gothic

novels of the twentieth century. As a list, it's helpful; as anything else, it's "pure junk," as Ms. Radcliffe would say.

Interesting bibliography of 20th century "gothic romances". Published in 1979, so not a comprehensive look at the Twentieth Century. Most of the mentioned novels were romantic suspense paperback originals. The included annotations are rather subjective and opinionated. They are useful for a general idea of the various listed novels' subject content and the authors' writing skill. Alphabetical listings by the author's name. Some pseudonyms included. All in all, a helpful bit of publishing history.

I love this reference book. It's given me so many new ideas for short stories of my own.

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