

Gothic Novel & Horror Fiction

Engl 113 (Spring 2006)

Dr. Katherine D. Harris

Nightmares & The Tate Britain's Exhibit

Due: Thurs, 8/31 by 5pm (via email)

Reading

The Tate Britain held a very interesting exhibit in London last Spring on the visual aspects of the Gothic tradition. Fortunately for us, they also produced an excellent online exhibit of this show and included articles, images and educational assignments. For this assignment, you will need to use a computer with Internet access. (The links in this assignment are clickable from our Course website.)

To begin, visit the Tate Britain's online exhibit: "Gothic Nightmares: Fuseli, Blake and the Romantic Imagination" (<http://www.tate.org.uk/britain/exhibitions/gothicnightmares/>)

- Read the article: "Fuseli to Frankenstein: The Visual Arts in the Context of the Gothic": <http://www.tate.org.uk/britain/exhibitions/gothicnightmares/essay.htm>
- Look around the different rooms for images inside this Gothic tradition: <http://www.tate.org.uk/britain/exhibitions/gothicnightmares/rooms/>

Writing, Part I

After doing this reading and looking, write a 300-word synopsis of the "Fuseli to Frankenstein" article. Include a *brief* mention of any images that you found most fascinating (and explain why).

Writing, Part II

Select one image from Works in Focus

<http://www.tate.org.uk/britain/exhibitions/gothicnightmares/infocus/>

Write a 350-word nightmare in the Gothic style that centers around this painting. We've only just begun defining the Gothic tradition so do your best to replicate those elements we've discussed in class and those you've discovered within the Tate Britain's exhibit. I'm looking for inspired writing here. If you need help, look at the winning nightmares on the exhibit site.

Submission

Since we won't have a class meeting on Thursday, August 31, you are responsible for emailing this assignment to me by 5pm on Thursday, August 31. Either attach the document to an email or paste it into the body of the email. This assignment will be graded just like any other In-Class Essay. However, since this essay is being written (and typed) outside of class, the writing should be well-edited, properly punctuated and free of grammatical errors.