A GOTHIC READING LIST FOR LIBRARIANS & TEACHERS

**(\*\* denotes Southern Gothic titles)**

I. GOTHIC HOUSES

(with dark curses and/or characters with dark secrets)

Classics

*The Castle of Otranto* by Horace Walpole (the father of all Gothic novels!)

*Mysteries of Udolpho*, by Ann Radcliffe

*Jane Eyre*, by Charlotte Bronte

*Wuthering Heights*, by Emily Bronte

*The Woman in White*, by Wilkie Collins

“The Fall of the House of Usher,” by Edgar Allan Poe

*The Picture of Dorian Gray*, by Oscar Wilde

*Rebecca*, by Daphne du Maurier

“A Rose for Emily” by William Faulkner\*\*!

<< ! **Dark themes/content alert!**

*Other Voices, Other Rooms*, by Truman Capote\*\*!

*The Violent Bear it Away*, by Flannery O’Connor\*\*!

*Bastard out of Carolina*, by Dorothy Allison\*\*!

*Child of God*, by Cormac McCarthy\*\*!

YA options:

*Dark Companion*, by Marta Acosta

*The Casquette Girls*, by Alys Arden\*\*

*Wake Unto Me*, Lisa Cache

*The Dark Unwinding* (+ sequel), by Sharon Cameron

*The Poisoned House*, by Michael Ford

*Beautiful Creatures* (+ sequels), Kami Garcia and Margaret Stohl\*\*

*Masque of the Red Death* (+ sequels), by Bethany Griffin

*The Fall*, by Bethany Griffin

*Ashes on the Waves*, by Mary Lindsey

*Set in Stone*, by Linda Newbery  
*Strands of Bronze and Gold*, by Jane Nickerson\*\*

*The Mirk and Midnight Hour*, by Jane Nickerson\*\*

*Thorn Abbey*, by Nancy Ohlin

*Asylum*, by Madeleine Roux

*Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea*, by [April Genevieve Tucholke](https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/5288442.April_Genevieve_Tucholke)

*Winter’s Bone*, by Daniel Woodrell\*\*

*Prophecy of the Sisters*, Michelle Zink

MG options:

*Long Lankin*, by Lindsey Barraclough

*Serafina and the Black Cloak*, by Robert Beatty\*\*

*Tennyson*, by Lesley Blume\*\*

*The Visconti House*, by Elsbeth Edgar

*Cavendish Home for Boys and Girls*, by Claire Legrand

*The Dead End*, by Mimi McCoy (See more in the “Poison Apple” series)

*The Aviary*, by Kathleen Odell

*The Book of Elsewhere: The Shadows*, by Jacqueline West (More in this series)

GOTHIC MONSTERS

Classics:

*Frankenstein*, by Mary Shelley

*Dracula*, by Bram Stoker

*Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, by Robert Louis Stevenson

*The Island of Dr. Moreau*, by H.G. Wells

YA Options:

*The Diviners*, by Libba Bray

*Unspoken*, by Sarah Rees Brennan

*Clockwork Angel* (Infernal Devices books), by Cassandra Clare

*Servants of the Storm*, by Delilah S. Dawson\*\*

*Blood Magic*, by Tessa Gratton\*\*

*Claire de Lune*, by Christine Johnson

*Twilight* (+ sequels), by Stephanie Meyer

*This Dark Endeavour* (+ sequels), by Kenneth Oppel

*Beware the Wild*, by Natalie Parker\*\*

*Sisters Red*, by Jackson Pearce

*Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children* (+ sequels), by Ransom Riggs

*Broken*, by A.E. Rought

*The Madman’s Daughter* (+ sequels), by Megan Shepherd

*Shiver* (+ sequels), by Maggie Stiefvater

*The Unnaturalists* (+ sequel), by Tiffany Trent

*The Monstrumologist* (+ sequels), by Rick Yancey [!Note: 12yo protagonist, but added to YA list for high levels of gore]

MG Options:

*Doll Bones*, by Holly Black

*Crooked Hills*, by Cullen Bunn\*\*

*The Monsters of Morley Manor*, by Bruce Coville

*Coraline*, by Neil Gaiman

*Encyclopedia Horrifica*, by Joshua Gee (reference)

*A Monster Calls*, by Patrick Ness

*Splendors and Glooms*, by Laura Amy Schlitz

*Monsterology*: the Complete Book of Monstrous Beasts, by Dugald A. Steer (reference)

*Incorrigible Children of Ashton Place* (+ sequels), by Maryrose Wood. (Humorous)

GOTHIC GHOSTS

Classics:

*The Turn of the Screw*, by Henry James

*The Haunting of Hill House*, by Shirley Jackson

*The Shining*, by Stephen King

*The Woman in Black*, by Susan Hill

*Beloved*, by Toni Morrison\*\*!

YA options:

*The Looking Glass*, Jessica Arnold

*Anna Dressed in Blood*, Kendare Blake

*Compulsion*, by Martina Boone\*\*

*Texas Gothic*, by Rosemary Clement-Moore\*\*

*Splendor Falls*, by Rosemary Clement-Moore\*\*

*The House of Dead Maids*, by Claire B. Dunkle

*The Revenant*, by Sonia Gensler\*\*

*The Dark Between*, by Sonia Gensler

*The Awakening* (1st in Ghost Huntress series), by Marley Gibson\*\*

*Haunting Violet*, Alexandra Harvey

*Hereafter* (+sequels) by Tara Hudson\*\*

*The Everafter*, by Amy Huntley

*Beating Heart*, A.M. Jenkins

*The Name of the Star*, by Maureen Johnson

*Ruined*, by Paula Morris\*\*

*Jade Green*, by Phyliss Reynolds Naylor\*\*

*Fairy Tales for Wilde Girls*, by Allyse Near

*In the Shadow of Blackbirds*, by Cat Winters

MG options:

*The Night Gardener*, by Jonathan Auxier

*Seer of Shadows*, by Avi

*Cold in Summer*, by Tracy Barrett\*\*

*Spirit’s Key*, by Edith Cohn

*The Graveyard Book*, by Neil Gaiman

*Ghostlight*, by Sonia Gensler\*\*

The Crossroads, by Chris Grabenstein

*Wait Till Helen Comes*, by Mary Downing Hahn (and all her ghost books!)

*The Year of Shadows*, by Claire Legrand

*Breathe*, Cliff McNish

*Shadowed Summer*, by Saundra Mitchell\*\*

*A Drowned Maiden’s Hair*, by Laura Amy Schlitz

*The Hunt for the Seventh*, Christine Morton-Shaw

*Christina’s Ghost*, by Betty Ren Wright

GOTHIC for the little ones **(picture books and early readers)**

*Leo, A Ghost Story*, by Mac Barnett

*A Dark, Dark Tale*, by Ruth Brown

*Ghost’s Hour, Spooks Hour*, by Eve Bunting

*There Was an Old Monster*, by Rebecca Emberley

*The Teeny, Tiny Woman* (Step Into Reading), by Jane O’Connor

*Jitterbug Jam*, by Barbara Jean Hicks

*Little Goblins Ten*, by Pamela Jane

*The Ghost of Nicholas Greebe*, by Tony Johnston

*All Hallow’s ABC*, by Jenni Kaye

*Ghosts in the House!* By Kazuno Kohara

*The Dark at the Top of the Stairs*, by Sam McBratney

*Precious and the Boo Hag*, by Patricia C. McKissack

*I’m Coming to Get You!* by Tony Ross

*The Boy and the Ghost*, by Robert D. San Souci

*Abiyoyo*, by Pete Seeger

*Monster Goose*, by Judy Sierra

*The Witch’s Child*, by Arthur Yorinks

(list adapted from Oakland Public Library and The Monster Librarian)

My addition: *The Monster at the End of this Book*, by Jon Stone.