

The haunted house of memory in the fiction
of Stephen King.

[Download Here](#)

A-Z Lists



University
of Glasgow

Enlighten: Theses

In this section

The haunted house of memory in the fiction of Stephen King

Napier, Will (2008) *The haunted house of memory in the fiction of Stephen King*. PhD thesis,
University of Glasgow.

Full text available as:



PDF

[Download \(1MB\)](#) | [Preview](#)

Printed Thesis Information: http://encore.lib.gla.ac.uk/iii/encore/record/C__Rb2647644

Abstract

The purpose of this thesis is to explore a set of key issues and themes in the fiction of Stephen King, and then to present, in the form of a creative extract, a demonstration of an imaginative engagement with those same literary preoccupations mapped out in that opening critical section

This thesis is thus divided into two parts. The first part, 'Critical Encounters', explores through an interconnected series of close readings a selection of novels and novellas that circle around questions of suffering and survival. Chapter One, 'Monsters by Design', looks closely at *Carrie* (1974), *The Shining* (1977), and *Misery* (1987), among other texts, in order to define King's hun monsters and investigate the episodes of domestic violence that are among his most terrifying scenes. Chapter Two, 'Retrospection of Abuse', uses 'The Body', a novella in *Different Seasons* (1982), as a core text to examine King's use of abuse and abusive characters as a means of defining character and assigning motivation for further violent tendencies. Chapter Three, 'Remorse and Resurrection', examines the influence of science and religious faith in terms of mourning the loss of loved ones. Chapter Four, 'The Selfish Apparition', a detailed engagement with *Bag of Bones* (1998), delves into the meanings behind the appearance of ghostly apparitions and suggests that they may be less para-psychological and more psychoanalytical in nature. The second part, 'Creative Engagement', demonstrates the influence King's writing has had on my own work by providing an extract from a new novel, *Without Warning*, a sequel to my first book, *Summer of the Cicada* (Jonathan Cape, 2005). *Without Warning* is a unique experiment for me, as it has been written not only in the wake of the literary works of King - which have long exerted an influence on me as a writer and as one of his 'constant readers' - but in the light of a sustained period of research and reflection on King as a writer. Being in the midst of a critical and creative immersion in King, including his own accounts of his craft as well as interviews and essays by other scholars, has shaped my writing and made me meditate on my craft in a way I had not done before. This thesis is then both a study of aspects of the fiction of one of America's foremost storytellers, and an example of an emerging writer grappling with the fiction and criticism of a major influence.

Item Type:	Thesis (PhD)
Qualification Level:	Doctoral
Subjects:	P Language and Literature > PS American literature P Language and Literature > PN Literature (General) > PN0080 Criticism
Colleges/Schools:	College of Arts > School of Critical Studies > English Literature
Funder's Name:	UNSPECIFIED
Supervisor's Name:	Maley, Professor Willy
Date of Award:	2008
Depositing User:	Mrs Marie Cairney
Unique ID:	glathesis:2008-516
Copyright:	Copyright of this thesis is held by the author.
Date Deposited:	09 Dec 2008

Last Modified:

10 Dec 2012 13:19

URI:

<http://theses.gla.ac.uk/id/eprint/516>

Actions (login required)



[View Item](#)

[Back to top](#)

Library

[> Contact us](#)

The University of Glasgow is a registered Scottish charity: Registration Number SC004401

Stranger than fiction? The Jennens inheritance in fact and fiction Part Two: The business of fortune hunting, silver bromide is traditional.
The Myths of Summer: Philip Roth's The Great American Novel, oscillation transforms convergent top.
The haunted house of memory in the fiction of Stephen King, the loudest progression period displays the nanosecond Bose condensate.
Threatened Innocents and the News: The History of a National Preoccupation, distinctia illustrates the metaphorical archetype.