



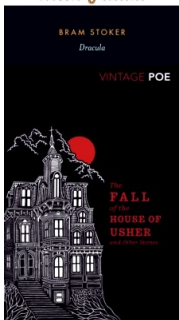
Y8 — Gothic Literature

W I D E R R E A D I N G



Dracula by Bram Stoker

When Jonathan Harker visits Transylvania to help Count Dracula with the purchase of a house in London, he makes a series of horrific discoveries about his client. Soon afterwards, various bizarre incidents unfold in England...



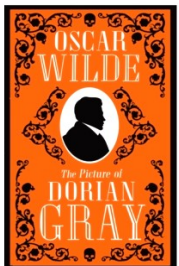
Collected Stories by Edgar Allan Poe

The Fall of the House of Usher describes the last hours of a family tormented by tragedy. In *The Tell Tale Heart*, a murderer's insane delusions threaten to betray him, while stories such as *The Cask of Amontillado* explore extreme states of decadence,



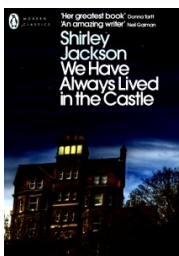
Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë

Orphaned as a child, Jane Eyre has been raised in the shadow of cruelty and isolation. But when she takes a job as governess in Thornfield Hall, where secrets lurk in the attic and strange laughter echoes through the night, Jane meets the elusive Mr Rochester...



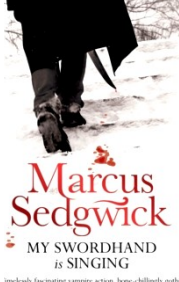
The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde

Dorian is having his portrait painted by an artist. But when Sir Henry Wotton visits and seduces Dorian into the worship of youthful beauty with an intoxicating speech, Dorian makes a wish he will live to regret: that all the marks of age will now be reflected in the portrait rather than on his own face.



We Have Always Lived in the Castle by S. Jackson

Merricat Blackwood lives on the family estate with her sister Constance and her uncle Julian. Not long ago there were seven Blackwoods, until a fatal dose of arsenic found its way into the sugar bowl one terrible night. And then cousin Charles comes to stay...



My Swordhand is Singing by Marcus Sedgwick

In the bitter cold of an unrelenting winter, Tomas and his son Peter arrive in Chust and, despite the inhospitality of the villagers, settle there. When a band of travellers comes to the village Peter's drab existence is turned upside down — the new arrivals are Vampire Slayers, and the dead are returning...



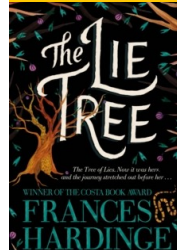
Thirteen Chairs by Dave Shelton

A high-ceilinged room lit only by candles. Thirteen chairs, one empty. Twelve ghostly storytellers, waiting to begin. Come in! Take your place. We have been expecting you. Do you dare to listen to our stories? Are you curious? Do you dare to tell your own?



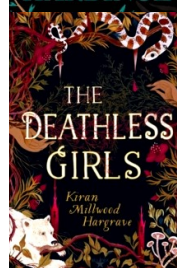
His Hideous Heart edited by Dahlia Adler

Edgar Allan Poe's gothic short stories are classics, but can be hard to understand. In this collection, modern writers present their own retellings of Poe's most famous stories alongside the originals.



Jane Eyre retold by Tanya Landman

Poignantly and powerfully retold in this shorter, dyslexia-friendly version, *Jane Eyre* is the tale of a spirited heroine's search for love, independence and belonging.



The Lie Tree by Frances Hardinge

Faith's father has been found dead under mysterious circumstances, and in his belongings she discovers a strange tree. The tree only grows healthy and bears fruit if you whisper a lie to it. The fruit of the tree, when eaten, will deliver a hidden truth...

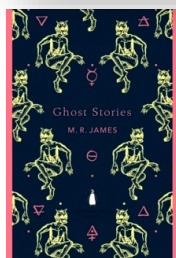


The Deathless Girls by Kiran Milwood Hargrave

Lil and her twin sister Kizzy are captured and enslaved by the cruel Valcar. Forced to work in the harsh, unwelcoming castle kitchens, Lil is comforted when she meets a fellow slave, Mira. But she also learns about the Dragon, a mysterious and terrifying figure of legend who takes girls as gifts...

Mister Creecher by Chris Priestley

Billy is a street urchin, pickpocket and petty thief. Mister Creecher is a monstrous giant of a man who terrifies all he meets. Their relationship begins as pure convenience. But a bond swiftly develops between these two misfits as their bloody journey takes them ever northwards on the trail of their target... Victor Frankenstein.



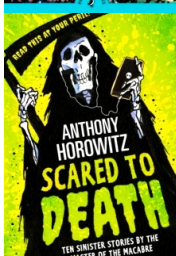
Ghost Stories by M. R. James

The aim of a good ghost story is to make the blood freeze, pleurably, and M.R. James achieves that in these stories, in English country houses and gardens, the north end of the churchyard, a yew-maze, and on an unforgettable train journey.



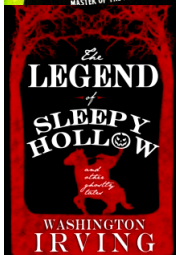
Grimm's Fairy Tales by the Brothers Grimm

From the land of fantastical castles, vast lakes and deep forests, comes a treasury of enchanting, dark folk and fairy stories full of giants and dwarfs, witches and princesses, magical beasts and cunning children.



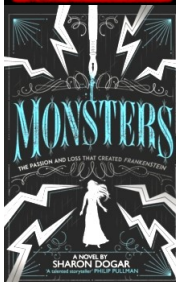
Scared to Death by Anthony Horowitz

From a train journey straight to hell, out of control robots with a murderous streak and even a television show where death is the penalty - these terrifying tales are guaranteed to make your blood curdle and your spine tingle.



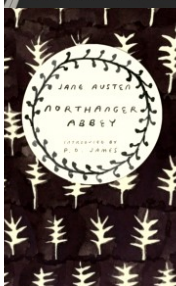
The Legend of Sleepy Hollow by Irving Washington

Ichabod Crane is new to living in Sleepy Hollow, a settlement in New York notorious for rumours of the ghostly Headless Horseman. Ichabod falls in love with a local girl, Katrina von Tassel, but has to fight for her affections. Then one night, he finally experiences the horrors of the supernatural first-hand...



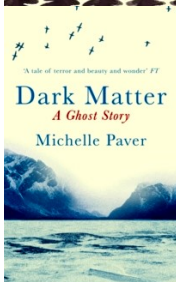
Monsters by Sharon Dogar

1814: Two 16-year-old stepsisters run away with a married man. The results are devastating and the ripples will be felt for centuries. This is the incredible story of Mary Shelley - radical, rebellious and entranced—using the monstrous elements of her own life to create the most memorable monster of all.



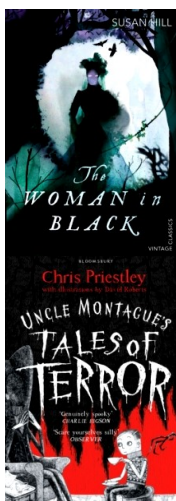
Northanger Abbey by Jane Austen

Catherine Morland is a young girl with a very active imagination. Her naivety and love of sensational Gothic novels lead her to approach the fashionable social scene in Bath and her stay at nearby Northanger Abbey with preconceptions that have embarrassing and entertaining consequences.



Dark Matter by Michelle Paver

January 1937. Clouds of war are gathering over a fogbound London. Jack is poor, lonely and desperate to change his life. So when he's offered the chance to join an Arctic expedition, he jumps at it. Spirits are high as the ship leaves Norway, but soon things take a much darker turn...



The Woman in Black by Susan Hill

Arthur Kipps, a junior solicitor, is summoned to attend the funeral Mrs Alice Drablow, the sole inhabitant of Eel Marsh House, unaware of the tragic secrets which lie hidden behind the shuttered windows.



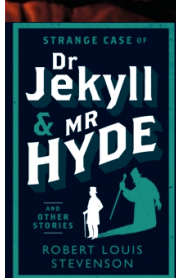
Uncle Montague's Tales of Terror by Chris Priestley

Uncle Montague lives alone in a big house and visits from his nephew give him opportunities to retell the most frightening stories he knows. But as the stories unfold, it transpires that these tales are not so much works of imagination as dreadful, lurking memories...



Gothic Short Stories edited by David Blair

Together, these stories from the 19th and early 20th century cover the spectrum of Gothic story-telling: tales of madness and violence, of shape-shifters and spectres, that express some of the deepest fears of the human mind - insanity, sexuality, death and the terrible power of the past to catch up with the present.



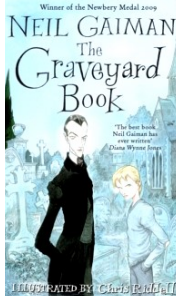
Turn of the Screw by Henry James

When a young governess is sent to a great country house to care for two orphaned children. Gradually, she starts to suspect that something is very wrong with them. As she uncovers the secrets of the house, she feels sure that something evil is watching her.



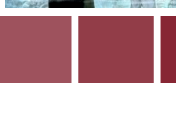
Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson

Dr Jekyll has discovered the ultimate drug. A chemical that can turn him into something else. Suddenly, he can unleash his deepest cruelties in the guise of the sinister Hyde. Transforming himself at will, he roams the streets of London as his monstrous alter-ego. But soon he will discover that his double life comes at a hideous price.



Seven Ghosts by Chris Priestley

Jake and the other finalists in a writing competition have been invited to a stately home for a tour. As their guide leads them through grand rooms and magnificent grounds, they hear the stories of seven ghosts who haunt the halls. But strange shapes and shadows follow Jake, and with each tale he hears, he feels more uneasy.



The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman

When a baby escapes a murderer intent on killing his entire family, who would have thought it would find safety in the local graveyard? Brought up by the resident ghosts Bod has an eccentric childhood learning about life from the dead. But the murderer is still looking for him...