

# American Gothic Unit

Traditional and Southern Gothic  
Literature styles



Traditional Gothic Characteristics:



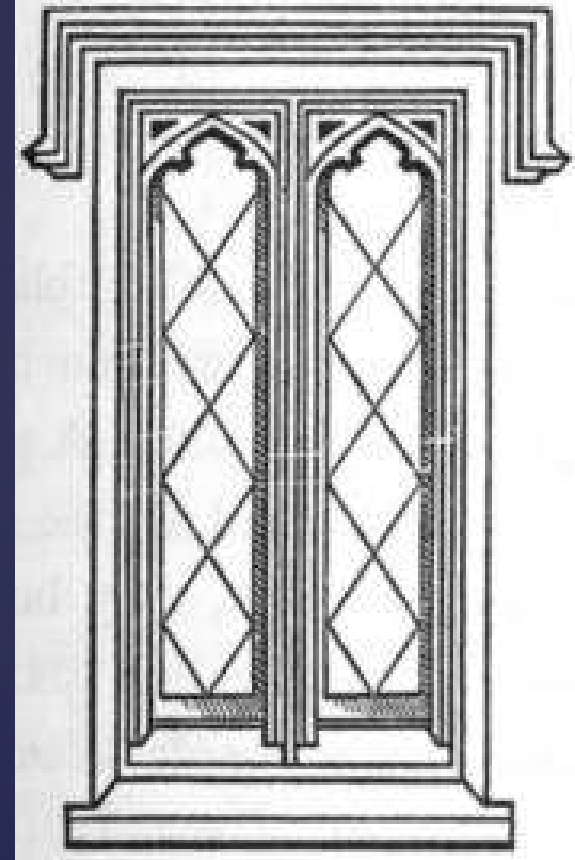
Gothic  
literature of  
the time was  
inspired by  
Gothic  
Architecture



A gargoyle is a full-relief stone carving with an actual pipe running through it, so that rainwater will flow through it and out of a water-spout in its mouth.

Windows with **diamond panes** were popular.

One or two **bay windows** were often used on the main floor, either on the **front** or **side**.









Ambrosius

Ambrosius

Ambrosius

ab hominibus  
neque per homines  
sed per ipsum  
christum et dominum  
patrem qui  
suscipuit  
eum a mortuis  
et qui mecum  
sunt omnes  
fratres ecclesie  
galathie gratia  
vobis et pax  
a deo patre  
et domino ihesu  
christo qui deo  
semetipsum  
pro peccatis  
nostri suscepit  
in semetipso

quoniam secundum  
voluntatem  
dei et patris  
nostri cum  
gloria in seculis  
seculorum amen

et ex omni parte  
rem qui hoc  
retur dicitur  
suscipuit eum  
construitur  
alios per orationem  
quam non hominibus  
natura huius  
actum et medi  
thi que dicitur  
in eum sunt  
vestis unaris  
de et non patris  
facile intelligi  
prehenditur h  
is galathie h  
peccatis et per  
deum et est  
ihesu christo qui  
inuitosque  
ge ad salutem  
nec legem su  
et per a quo  
se est qui deo  
est alius qui po  
bitur iuda seme  
na hostia off  
quod est in aum  
habere h  
ut accepit qua  
tios qui rei  
condonantur  
et malorum qui  
sunt miser  
a quibus nos  
etiam et fuerunt  
capit nos cum  
quod est ad nos  
sunt salm dicit  
iste creatus a  
mala et hoc  
iacob pessimum  
ponit paulos



# Common Gothic Motifs:





The rise of **experimental science** during this period offered an empirical **model** for how one could arrive at **truth**.



# Motifs continued

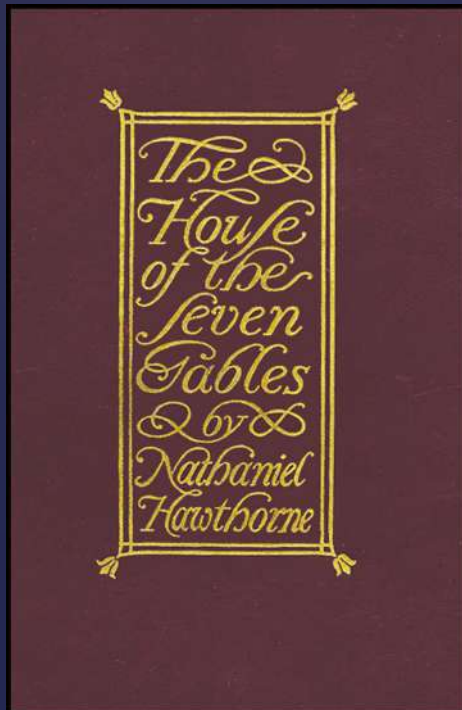


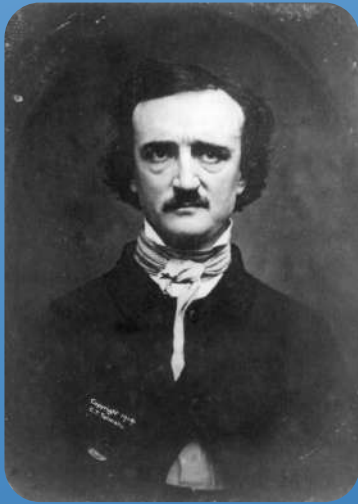


Frankenstein



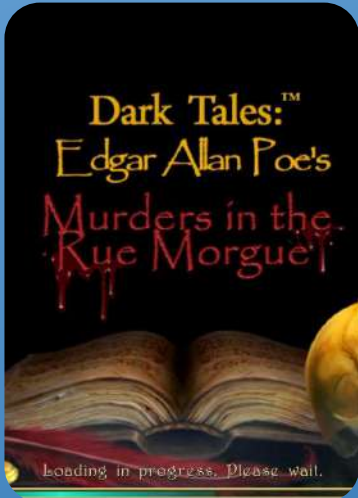
# Traditional Gothic Authors





## Edgar Allan Poe

- Best known for his poems and short fiction, Edgar Allan Poe, born in Boston, *Jan. 19, 1809*, died *Oct. 7, 1849* in Baltimore
- He deserves more credit than any other writer for the transformation of the short story from anecdote to art.



## Murders in the Rue Morgue

- He virtually created the detective story and perfected the psychological thriller.





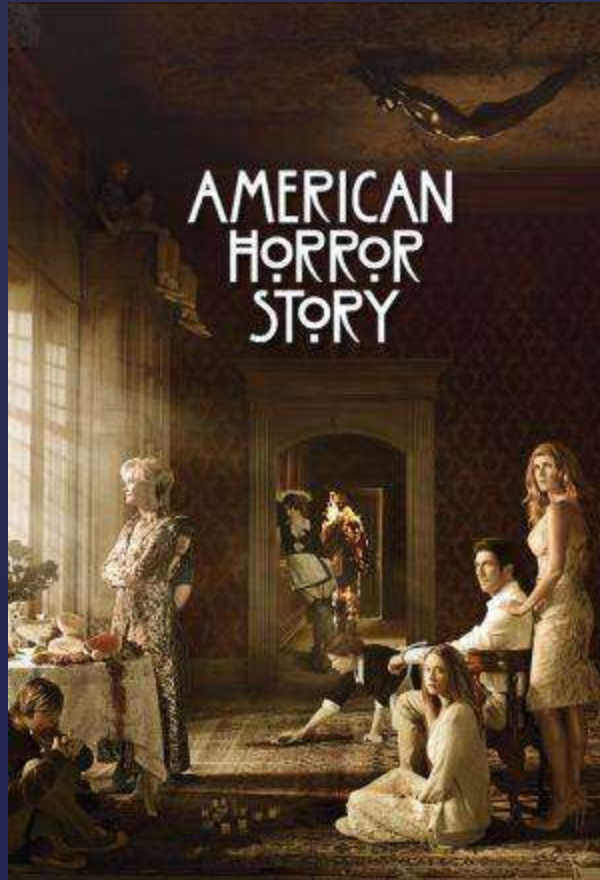
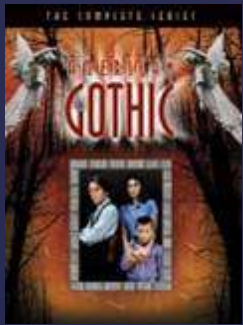
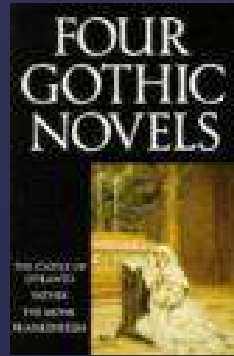








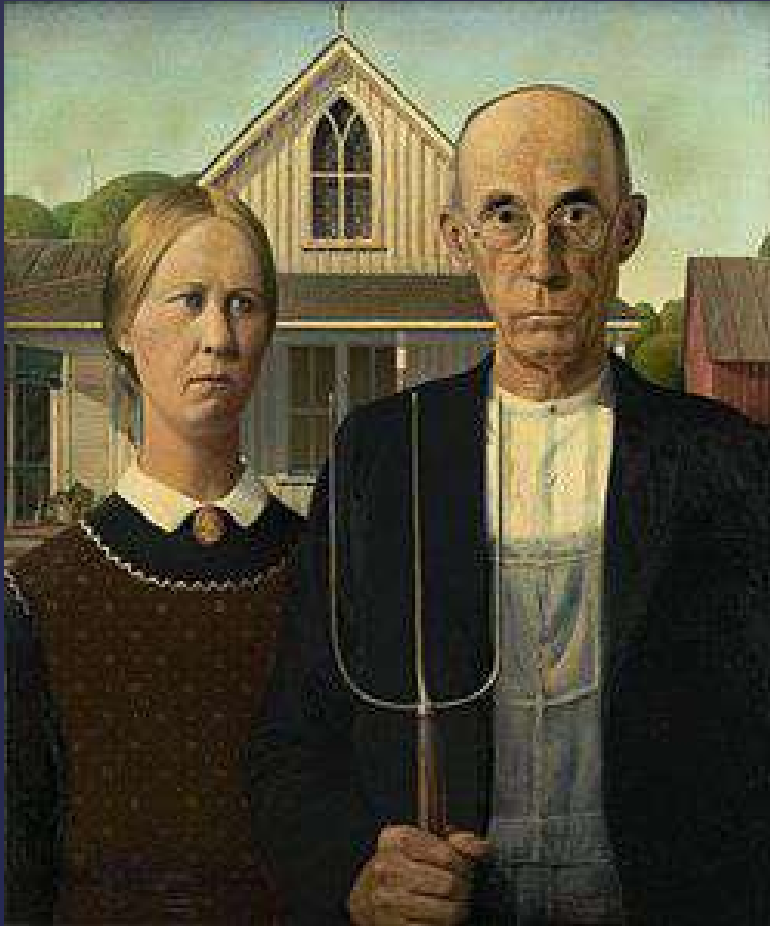
Modern Movies,  
TV and Books  
influenced by  
Gothic tradition.





# Southern Gothic & Modern Gothic





## American Gothic

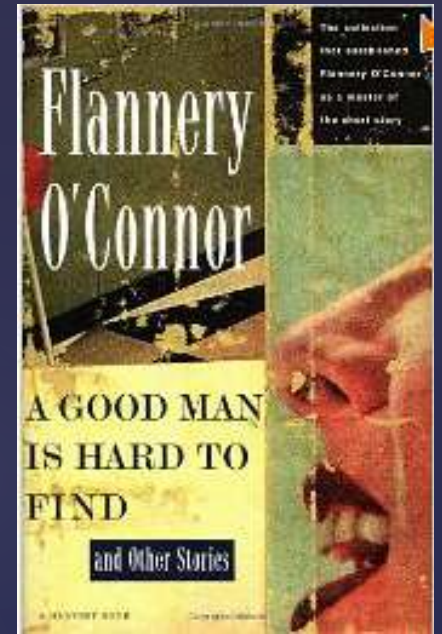
Take a look at the real house that inspired Grant Wood to paint his Gothic and iconic work of art. Take a look at the gothic arch of the window and the pinched anxious expressions of the two people in the painting.







This fascination with the outsider is in many ways used to show readers not only the individuality of the southern culture, but also to connect each reader to their own unique "freakish" nature.



# The Outsider





# Imprisonment

The idea of being locked up is often both literal and figurative in Southern Gothic works.

While many southern gothic tales include an incident where a character is sent to jail or locked up, there are also several gothic characters that live in *fate's* prison without hope of parole.



⑩ Southern gothic writers covered a period in the South's history when violence was particularly prevalent.

⑩ After the bloodshed of the Civil War, and the period of reconstruction that followed, racial tension and fear ran high in many small southern towns.

⑩ This plays its part in many of the stories of this genre.

# Violence





⑩ It wouldn't be southern gothic if you didn't feel like you'd been thrust in the center of a dusty, peach-scented, lonely downtown where porch-bound widows rock gently on creaky rockers, rusty pick-up trucks drive by filled with grimy farmhands, the general store is run by the town drunk, and flies and mosquitoes circle glasses of ice-filled lemonade.

⑩ The sense of place is strong—awash in calm, heat, lost dreams and wayward souls.

## Sense of Place













**William  
Gilmore  
Simms**



The End



⌘ <http://www.oprah.com/oprahsbookclub/Southern-Gothic-Distinguishing-Features/3>

⌘ [www.dunkirkcsd.org/1138207210582570/lib/.../southern\\_gothic.doc](http://www.dunkirkcsd.org/1138207210582570/lib/.../southern_gothic.doc)

⌘ [http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/literature/laureates/1949/faulkner-bio.html](http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/literature/laureates/1949/faulkner-bio.html)

## Works Cited