

Ann Radcliffe.

She introduced in English literature Gothic Fiction. She was born in London in 1764. Even if her novels are set in Italy or France, she had never been to these two countries. After some travels, she led on an uneventful life. But she wrote novels full of mysteries, suspense and horror. She died in 1823.

Gothic Fiction

Ann wrote many Gothic novels which were very popular at her time. She was successful and made a lot of money.

Creating a mysterious atmosphere, describing the feelings of horror of the good characters scared by the evil ones were her specialties. The horrible weather, the presence of supernatural elements (not explained in a satisfactory way) arouse in the reader the same feelings felt by the characters.

The protagonist of a Gothic novel is usually
a heroine pursued by a villain. The
story is set in a haunted castle.