

Gothic Novel

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Gothic Novel is a literary genre characterized by elements of mystery, horror, and the supernatural, often set in dark and fearful settings such as castles, mansions, or remote landscapes. One of the most iconic examples of a Gothic Novel is Charlotte Brontë's (1816-1855) "*Jane Eyre*," published in 1847.

In "*[Jane Eyre](#)*," the Gothic elements are evident at the Novel's beginning. Jane's aunt, Mrs. Reed, locks her inside the Red Room. The Red Room has a frightening atmosphere where her Uncle Reed died. In addition to its connection with death and garish red decor, the room is cold and silent, heightening Jane's terror. Jane's fear climaxes when she imagines Uncle Reed's ghost in the room.

Again, Gothic elements unfold in gloomy and imposing Thornfield Hall, where Jane takes up the governess position. The mansion is a classic Gothic setting with hidden secrets, mysterious noises, and a brooding master, Mr. Rochester. Rochester's mentally ill wife, Bertha Mason, who is hidden away in the attic, further heightens the foreboding atmosphere. The supernatural elements also come into play through Jane's vivid dreams and eerie **premonitions (a strong feeling that something terrible is about to happen)**. These elements add a layer of ambiguity and suspense to the story.