



LITERARY WALKING TOURS OF

# Gothic Dublin

BY BRIAN J. SHOWERS

ILLUSTRATED BY DUANE SPURLOCK

FOREWORD BY PAT LIDDY

Dublin has spawned three important writers in the nineteenth century gothic tradition: Charles Maturin (1782-1824), Joseph Sheridan Le Fanu (1814-1873) and Bram Stoker (1847-1912). These writers contributed memorable and influential stories that were inspired by and often set in their native Dublin. Their fictions, which delve into universal and supernatural themes such as ghosts, vampires and the devil, persist in popularity to this day.

The footprints of these writers and inspirations for their stories can be traced through Dublin's dark alleys, distilled from its public houses and unearthed in its churchyards. These writers, whose lives crossed paths with other notable nineteenth century personalities, were often intertwined with the history of the city itself.

This guidebook reconstructs the lives of Maturin, Le Fanu and Stoker as walking tours with the help of maps, photographs and excerpts from their works.

Ideal for tourists who have come to explore Ireland's 1200 year old capital, native Dubliners who want to learn more about their city's spectral past, and those who just want a mind's eye tour of haunted Dublin.

*'A superb guide to the Dublin of Maturin, Le Fanu and Stoker—the city's off-neglected Gothic native sons. With a wealth of detail on sites, combined with directions and maps, this book is an indispensable companion for anyone interested in the rich literary heritage of the city.'*

Elizabeth Miller, author of *Dracula: Sense & Nonsense*

*'If you are in Dublin and are interested in fantastic fiction, Showers' guide can provide you with the high points of your visit. And if you are not going to Dublin, this book is the next best thing to a visit—perceptive, well researched, nicely written, filled with fascinating data, and well illustrated. I wish that I had it when I visited Dublin a generation ago!'*

Everett F. Bleiler

*'A thoroughly fascinating and evocative guide. Ideal for creep-o-holics, gloom addicts and literary strollers with cloven hooves.'*

*On every page unexpected facts jump out at you and go Boo!'*

Stephen Volk, screenwriter of *Ghostwatch*, *Afterlife* & *Gothic*

Brian J. Showers is originally from Madison, Wisconsin. He has a degree in English Literature from the University of Wisconsin, and is a frequent contributor to the Ghost Story Society journal, *All Hallows*. He currently resides somewhere in the ghost-haunted wilderness of Dublin, where he is writing his own collection of spooky stories.

*Literary Walking Tours of Gothic Dublin*

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