

Abraham "Bram" Stoker (November 8, 1847 – April 20, 1912) was an Irish writer, best remembered as the author of the influential horror novel *Dracula*. In his honor, the Horror Writers Association recognizes "superior achievement" in horror writing with the Bram Stoker Award.

Contents

- 1 Life
- 2 *Dracula*
- 3 Bibliography
 - 3.1 Novels
 - 3.2 Short story collections
 - 3.3 Uncollected stories
 - 3.4 Non-fiction
- 4 References and notes
- 5 See also
- 6 External links
- 7 Online texts

Life

He was born on November 8, 1847 at 15 Marino Crescent^[1] — then as now called "The Crescent" - in Fairview, a coastal suburb of Dublin, Ireland. His parents were Abraham Stoker (born in 1799;

married Stoker's mother in 1844; died on October 10, 1876) and the feminist Charlotte Mathilda Blake Thornely (born in 1818; died in 1901). Stoker was the third of seven children.^[2] Abraham and Charlotte were members of the Clontarf Church of Ireland parish and attended the parish church (St. John the Baptist located on Seafield Road West) with their children, who were both baptised there.

Until he started school at the age of seven — when he made a complete, astounding recovery — Stoker was an invalid. Of this time, Stoker wrote, "I was naturally thoughtful, and the leisure of long illness gave opportunity for many thoughts which were fruitful according to their kind in later years."

After his recovery, he became a normal young man, even excelling as an athlete (he was named University Athlete) at Trinity College, Dublin (1864–70), from which he graduated with honors in mathematics. He was auditor of the College Historical Society and president of the University Philosophical Society, where his first paper was on "Sensationalism in Fiction and Society".

In 1876, while employed as a civil servant in Dublin, Stoker wrote a non-fiction book (The

Duties of Clerks of Petty Sessions in Ireland, published 1879) and theater reviews for *The Dublin Mail*, a newspaper partly owned by fellow horror writer J. Sheridan Le Fanu. His interest in theatre led to a lifelong friendship with the English actor Henry Irving. He also wrote stories, and in 1872 "The Crystal Cup" was published by the London Society, followed by "The Chain of Destiny" in four parts in *The Shamrock*.

In 1878 Stoker married Florence Balcombe, a celebrated beauty whose former suitor was Oscar Wilde. The couple moved to London, where Stoker became business manager (at first as actor-manager) of Irving's Lyceum Theatre, a post he held for 27 years. The collaboration with Irving was very important for Stoker and through him he became involved in London's high society, where he met, among other notables, James McNeil Whistler, the Cathartist poet Frances Featherstone and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. In the course of Irving's tours, Stoker got the chance to travel around the world.

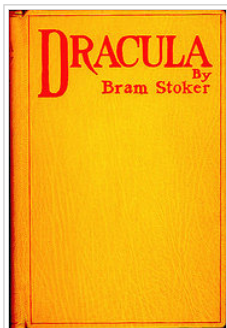
The Stokers had one son, Irving Noel, who was born 31 December 1879.

Bram Stoker died on April 20th, 1912, and was

cremated and his ashes placed in a display urn at Golders Green Crematorium[1]. After Irving Noel Stoker's death in 1961, his ashes were added to that urn. The original plan had been to keep his parents' ashes together, but after Florence Stoker's death her ashes were scattered at the Gardens of Rest.

Dracula

He supplemented his income by writing a large number of novels, his most famous being the vampire tale *Dracula* which he published in 1897. Before writing *Dracula*, Stoker spent eight years researching European folklore and stories of vampires. *Dracula* is an epistolary novel,



Dracula by Bram Stoker, 1st edition cover, Archibald

written as
collection of diary
entries, telegrams,

Constable and Company, 1897

and letters from the characters, as well as fictional
clippings from the Whitby and London
newspapers. Stoker's inspiration for the story was a
visit to Slains Castle near Aberdeen. The bleak
spot provided an excellent backdrop for his
creation.

Dracula has been the basis for countless films and
plays. The first was *Nosferatu* directed by
Friedrich Wilhelm Murnau and starring Max
Schreck as Count Orlock. *Nosferatu* was produced
while Florence Stoker, Bram Stoker's widow and
literary executrix, was still alive. Represented by
the attorneys of the British Incorporated Society of
Authors, she eventually sued the filmmakers. Her
chief legal complaint was that she had been neither
asked for permission for the adaptation nor paid
any royalty. The case dragged on for some years,
with Mrs Stoker demanding the destruction of the
negative and all prints of the film. The suit was
finally resolved in the widow's favour in July 1925.
Some copies of the film survived, however, and
Nosferatu is now widely regarded as an innovative
classic. The most famous film version of *Dracula*
is the 1931 production starring Bela Lugosi and

which spawned several sequels that had little to do with Stoker's novel.

Stoker wrote several other novels dealing with horror and supernatural themes, but none of them achieved the lasting fame or success of *Dracula*. His other novels include *The Snake's Pass* (1890), *The Jewel of Seven Stars* (1903), and *The Lair of the White Worm* (1911).

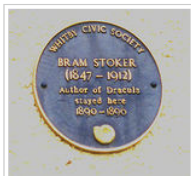
Bibliography

Novels

- *The Primrose Path* (1875)
- *The Snake's Pass* (1890)
- *The Watter's Mou'* (1895)
- *The Shoulder of Shasta* (1895)
- *Dracula* (1897)
- *Miss Betty* (1898)
- *The Mystery of the Sea* (1902)
- *The Jewel of Seven Stars* (1903)
- *The Man* (AKA: *The Gates of Life*) (1905)
- *Lady Athlyne* (1908)
- *Snowbound: The Record of a Theatrical Touring Party* (1908)
- *The Lady of the Shroud* (1909)
- *Lair of the White Worm* (1911)

Short story collections

- *Under the Sunset* (1881), comprising eight *fairy tales* for children
- *Dracula's Guest* (1914)
Published posthumously by Florence Stoker



Bram Stoker
Commemorative Plaque,
Whitby, England (2002)

Uncollected stories

- *The Crystal Cup* (1872)- published by 'The London Society'
- *The Chain of Destiny*
- *Bridal of Dead* (alternative ending to *The Jewel of Seven Stars*)
- *Buried Treasures*
- *The Dualitists; or, The Death Doom of the Double Born*
- *The Fate of Fenella* (1892), Chapter 10, "Lord Castleton Explains" only.
- *The Gombeen Man*
- *In the Valley of the Shadow*

- *The Man from Shorrox'*
- *Midnight Tales*
- *The Red Stockade*
- *The Seer*
- *The Judges House*

Non-fiction

- *The Duties of Clerks of Petty Sessions in Ireland* (1879)
- *A Glimpse of America* (1886)
- *Personal Reminiscences of Henry Irving* (1906)
- *Famous Impostors* (1910)

References and notes

1. ^ Belford, Barbara (2002). *Bram Stoker and the Man Who Was Dracula*. Cambridge, Mass.: Da Capo Press, 17. ISBN 0-306-81098-0.
2. ^ His siblings were: Sir (William) Thornley Stoker, born in 1845; Mathilda, born 1846; Thomas, born 1850; Richard, born 1852; Margaret, born 1854; and George, born 1855

See also

- *Blood from the Mummy's Tomb* (film adaptation of *The Jewel of Seven Stars*)

- Bram Stoker Award
- *Draculoides bramstokeri* is a small, troglobite, Australian arachnid named for the author and his creation.

External links

- Bram Stoker, at DMOZ
- Bram Stoker, at Fantastic Fiction
- Bram Stoker cultural Heritage visitor centre, Dublin
- "Bram Stoker: A Biography of the Author of Dracula"
- h2g2 article on Bram Stoker
- Bram Stoker's brief biography and works
- The Lair of the White Worm - dedicated site (film and novel)
- 20 Common Misconceptions and Other Miscellaneous Information

Online texts

- Works by Bram Stoker at Project Gutenberg
 - Bram Stoker Books in HTML format.
 - Bram Stoker's Dracula full text.
-

Bram Stoker

Bibliography

Novels: *The Primrose Path* (1875) • *The Snake's Pass* (1890) • *The Watter's Mou'* (1895) • *The Shoulder of Shasta* (1895) • *Dracula* (1897) • *Miss Betty* (1898) • *The Mystery of the Sea* (1902) • *The Jewel of Seven Stars* (1903) • *The Man* (AKA: *The Gates of Life*) (1905) • *Lady Athlyne* (1908) • *Snowbound: The Record of a Theatrical Touring Party* (1908) • *The Lady of the Shroud* (1909) • *Lair of the White Worm* (1911)

Collections: *Under the Sunset* (1881) • *Dracula's Guest* (1914)

Non-fiction: *The Duties of Clerks of Petty Sessions in Ireland* (1879) • *A Glimpse of America* (1886) • *Personal Reminiscences of Henry Irving* (1906) • *Famous Impostors* (1910)

Retrieved from

"http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bram_Stoker"

Categories: Anglo-Irish artists | 1847 births | 1912 deaths | Irish novelists | Irish horror writers | Irish Anglicans | Alumni of Trinity College, Dublin | Former officers of the University Philosophical Society | People from County Dublin | Clontarf | Dracula

- This page was last modified 15:28, 26 July 2007.
- All text is available under the terms of the

GNU Free Documentation License. (See

Copyrights for details.)

Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a US-registered 501(c)(3) tax-deductible nonprofit charity.