



### Nuclear Gothic

Textual and Cultural Fusions By Helena K Bacon

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**Investigates the previously unexplored congruities that lie between gothic forms and modes and nuclear cultures and techno-sciences.**

There has been a cohesive cultural response from Japan to the atomic bomb and its radiological consequences: cultural icon Godzilla, awakened by radiation, has been imagined repeatedly as a manifestation of the monstrous power of nuclear weapons and their after-effects. Though studies by Joseph Siracusa, Paul Brians, Joyce A. Evans and David Dowling address various representations of atomic power in literature and film, critical engagement regarding nuclear cultures has still primarily been political, ecological or scientific in focus, with limited work available on fictional and imagined nuclear texts and narratives. By reading Western, and particularly American, conceptualisations of atomic power (whether actual or imagined) as gothic, and by situating them in relation to their Japanese counterparts, *Nuclear Gothic* aims to rectify this critical dispersion and cultural gap; it also seeks to provide an interdisciplinary study of nuclear narratives as viewed through a specific critical lens, surveying atomic processes, nuclear fictions and specific historical and cultural moments as instances and products of the gothic mode.

### Readership

The text will be of interest to scholars and students interested in the intersection between the gothic and science, and nuclear techno-sciences and nuclear texts in particular. It will also appeal to a general readership engaged with the gothic, the monstrous, nuclear cultures and American history.

### Contents

Introduction – Gothic Nuclear/Nuclear Gothic; Chapter One – We call him Godzilla: Japan's Nuclear Fictions; Chapter Two – Nuclear Terror: Uranium as Gothic Monster; Chapter Three – Radiological Horror: Mutant Memories in Horror Cinema; Chapter Four: Irradiated Landscapes; Part One; Part Two.

### About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Helena Bacon has taught at multiple universities throughout the United Kingdom and has published across fields including the gothic, literature and science, film and television, and eco-fiction.

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