



Chernobyl Trauma and Gothic

Testimony, Cultural Memory and Global Literary Perspectives

By *Stuart Lindsay*

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A textually rich, historically informed and theoretically sophisticated account of the Chernobyl crisis, its cultural antecedents and its aftermath in global culture.

This scholarly monograph examines the concept of Chernobyl trauma by situating it at the interface of clinical diagnoses of survivors' Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, their expressions of this trauma in published testimonials translated into English, and through English-language literary explorations of contemporary Soviet trauma. It establishes a new perspective on the intergenerational and international reception of the nuclear disaster, one shaped by Soviet cultural memory as well as Science Fiction and the literary aesthetics of the Gothic. The monograph analyses first-generation Chernobyl survivors' imaginative reconstruction of events through testimony in the face of the Soviet Party's attempts to sublimate the narrative of the disaster into an official account. It also discusses the ways in which a second generation represents inherited, traumatic memory through a literary diaspora of Chernobyl and Soviet-Kazakh Semipalatinsk nuclear trauma, and how English-speaking writers not personally involved in the disaster engage in its memorialisation through discourses of horror and collective mourning.

Readership

Primary market: University libraries in the United Kingdom, the rest of Europe, North America and Australia.

Primary readership: academics and researchers, postgraduate students in master's and doctoral programmes, and upper-level undergraduate students.

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Stuart L. Lindsay is a PhD graduate and English literature lecturer at the University of Stirling. His research and publications focus on Memory and Trauma studies and Gothic studies in graphic novels, gaming, Internet sub-culture and critical nostalgia.

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