

AP Lit: Monday 4/20

- ⦿ Agenda:
- ⦿ Zoom Meetings
 - How to make up a missed meeting/ official time (*finally*)
- ⦿ AP Classroom- Timed Prose Essay
- ⦿ Haunting of Hill House
 - Background/ Characterization/ Key Themes
 - You will be writing an essay comparing motifs, characterizations, and themes from Jackson and Poe's works, so note these things while you read!

Haunting of Hill House Background

- ⦿ Genre: Psychological Ghost Story
 - Not the traditional grotesque style of Poe
- ⦿ Author: Shirley Jackson (1916-1965)
- ⦿ Published: 1959
- ⦿ Tone of Works: Impending sense of doom framed by ordinary settings and characters
- ⦿ Considered to be a major influential writer on Stephen King

Psychological Ghost Story

- ⦿ Dissolving boundary between the mind and the exterior world
- ⦿ About the puzzle of identity AND about its madness
- ⦿ Basically, this is an extension of the Brooding Romantics (gothic's) that we studied last year

Author's Style/ Background

- ⦿ Jackson "often wrote about solitary, mousy young women"
- ⦿ While she wrote about "spooky isolation" she was actually from a large family
- ⦿ Mommy issues
 - Considered to be plain, eccentric, ungainly
 - Most of her characters conflict with their mother/ feel isolated because of it

Main Characters

- ◎ 1. Eleanor Vance
 - Vulnerable, lonely, plagued by burdens of not being wanted
- ◎ 2. Dr. Montague
 - Requests participants for his “experiment” at Hill House
- ◎ 3. Theodora
 - Opposite of Eleanor
- ◎ 4. Luke Sanderson
 - Related to the owner of Hill House

Key Themes

- ◎ The Supernatural vs. The Psychological
- ◎ ****The Search for Home and Belonging****
- ◎ Freedom and Confinement
- ◎ Isolation
- ◎ Fear
- ◎ Women and Femininity
- ◎ Family