

Gothic in Nosferatu

1. Mystery and suspense abounds in Nosferatu. How does the eye of the camera (what it forces you to see) help to create mystery? Does the lighting increase suspense?
2. What ancient / exotic spaces and places are found in the movie? Is there any use of the domestic space (homes, houses) to create a sense of violation, of a boundary being crossed?
3. Do any character(s) experience omens, portents, dream visions? Who? What role do they play in the movie?
4. Which scenes seem to be filled most with high emotion, sentimentalism, but also with pronounced anger, surprise, and especially terror?
 - a. Supernatural events (e.g. a giant, a sighing portrait, ghosts or their apparent presence, a skeleton)?
 - b. Use of the metonymy (part for the whole) of gloom and horror (wind, rain, doors grating on rusty hinges, howls in the distance, distant sighs, footsteps approaching, lights in abandoned rooms, gusts of wind blowing out lights or blowing suddenly, characters trapped in rooms or imprisoned)?
5. Does the music (Type O Negative) work to intensify or to defuse the impact of this (once) silent film?
6. Does the film use the vocabulary of the gothic (words indicating fear, mystery, etc.: apparition, devil, ghost, haunted, terror, fright)? Give a few examples.
7. Sex and Death: Fainting, frightened, screaming, near-naked women. Women threatened by powerful, impetuous male.
 - a. Who is *l'homme fatale*: deadly man?
8. Are there any deadly women (*femme fatales*)? Who, if any?