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0521641039 - Modernism, Romance and the Fin de Siècle: Popular Fiction and British Culture

Nicholas Daly

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MODERNISM, ROMANCE
AND THE *FIN DE SIÈCLE*

*Popular Fiction and
British Culture*

In this book Nicholas Daly explores the popular fiction of the 'romance revival' of the late Victorian and Edwardian years, focusing on the work of such authors as Bram Stoker, H. Rider Haggard and Arthur Conan Doyle. Rather than treating these stories as Victorian Gothic, Daly locates them as part of a 'popular modernism'. Drawing on recent work in cultural studies, this book shows how the vampires, mummies and treasures hunts of these adventure narratives provided a form of narrative theory of cultural change, at a time when Britain was trying to accommodate the 'new imperialism', the rise of professionalism and the expansion of consumerist culture. Daly argues that the presence of a genre such as romance within modernism should force a questioning of the usual distinction between high and popular culture.

NICHOLAS DALY lectures in the Department of English, Trinity College, Dublin. He has published essays on popular fiction in such journals as *Novel*, *Literature and History*, *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* and *ELH*.

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PUBLISHED BY THE PRESS SYNDICATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, United Kingdom

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK <http://www.cup.cam.ac.uk>
40 West 20th Street, New York NY 10011-4211, USA <http://www.cup.org>
10 Stamford Road, Oakleigh, Melbourne 3166, Australia

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First published 1999

Printed in the United Kingdom at the University Press, Cambridge

Typeset in Baskerville 11/12.5pt [VN]

*A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library**Library of Congress cataloguing in publication data*

Daly, Nicholas.
Modernism, romance, and the fin de siècle: popular fiction and
British culture / Nicholas Daly.

p. cm.

Includes index.

ISBN 0 521 64103 9 (hardback)

1. English fiction – 19th century – History and criticism.
2. Popular literature – Great Britain – History and criticism.
3. English fiction – 20th century – History and criticism.
4. Literature and anthropology – Great Britain – History.
5. Adventure stories, English – History and criticism.
6. Gothic revival (Literature) – Great Britain.
7. Modernism (Literature) – Great Britain.

8. Culture in literature. I. Title.
PR878.P68D35 1999
823'.809112 – dc21 98-55153 CIP

ISBN 0 521 64103 9 hardback

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To the Dalys
and
Nicole Goldstein

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Acknowledgements

In writing even such a slim volume as this I appear to have incurred too many debts to detail here. Among my principal creditors are those who supervised the doctoral dissertation on which this book is based: Nancy Armstrong, Neil Lazarus, Perry Curtis and Bill Keach. Less official support was lent in the same period by the Victorian Readers Group at Brown University, and by Jen Fleissner, Carolin and Hildegund Hahnemann, Eric Slade, Garrett Sullivan, Len Tennenhouse, Cynthia Tolentino and Kristen Whissel. More recently, Claire Connolly, Ian Duncan, David Glover, Talia Schaffer and my colleagues at Trinity, especially Aileen Douglas, Nicholas Grene, Darryl Jones, Stuart Murray, and John Nash deserve thanks. I would like to thank Ray Ryan at Cambridge University Press for his help, and the press's anonymous readers for many helpful suggestions. Anne Fogarty, Pat Coughlan and Roger Henkle, who all made popular Victorian fiction seem like something worth studying, deserve a special mention, as do John Marx and Bob Scholes for some last-minute assistance. And for their unstinting support I would like to thank my family and Nicole Goldstein.

I am grateful to the Arts and Social Sciences Benefactions Fund at Trinity for enabling me to do additional research at the British Library.

An earlier version of chapter 1 appeared as 'Incorporated Bodies: *Dracula* and the Rise of Professionalism', *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* 39.2 (Summer 1997) 181–203. A shorter version of chapter 2 first appeared as 'Irish Roots: the Romance of History in Bram Stoker's *The Snake's Pass*', *Literature and History*, 3rd series 4.2 (Autumn 1995) 42–70. Chapter 3 first appeared as 'That Obscure Object of Desire: Victorian Commodity Culture and Fictions of the Mummy', *Novel: A Forum on Fiction* 28.1 (1994) 24–51. Copyright NOVEL Corp. © 1994. I thank the editors of these journals for their permission to reprint this material.