



Screen Adaptations of Daphne du Maurier's Fiction Visualizing Gothic Terror

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Explores how film and television adaptations of Daphne du Maurier's fiction reinterpret her Gothic thrillers through themes of gender, identity, class, and violence, revealing their enduring relevance and cinematic appeal.

Focusing on feature films adapted from Gothic suspense thrillers by British popular writer Daphne du Maurier (1907–1989), this book explores both celebrated classics, including Alfred Hitchcock's *Jamaica Inn*, *Rebecca* and "The Birds," Nicolas Roeg's *Don't Look Now*, Henry Koster's *My Cousin Rachel*, and modern screen versions by contemporary directors such as *My Cousin Rachel* (2017), *The Scapegoat* (2012), and the 2020 version of *Rebecca* by Ben Wheatley.

Key selling points

This is the first book that covers all the major film (and some television) adaptations of Daphne du Maurier's well-known novels and short stories. The misconception of du Maurier as primarily a romance novelist is undercut by the book's inclusion of films such as *Don't Look Now*, *My Cousin Rachel*, and *The Scapegoat*, not to mention her historical adventure stories, *Jamaica Inn* and *Frenchman's Creek*.

Critical scholarship has mainly focused on the adaptations by Alfred Hitchcock, and specifically the most famous one of du Maurier's best-selling novel *Rebecca*. This study expands the scope considerably by including more recent adaptations of her work.

The book employs recent critical approaches to adaptation, including hauntology, gender, and queer theory, to explore how film can highlight the multivalent meanings of a literary text.

The book fills a gap on the growing corpus of mid-century women domestic noir writers such as Patricia Highsmith.

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

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