

INTERMEDIALITY AND POLYMORPHISM OF NARRATIVES IN THE GOTHIC TRADITION

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Résumé

Polymorphous Gothic narratives are stories based on the event of confrontation between *the known* and *the unknown* and realized in the same or different media (usually in fiction and film). The term *intermediality* signifies transferring any narrative into another medium, and the term *polymorphism* concerns the inner quality of a concrete narrative to be implemented within the same medium or in different ones. Polymorphism has depth and scope. The former is a *homomedial shift* of a concrete Gothic narrative within one medium, and the latter is its *heteromedial interpretation*. Since any Gothic narrative reproduces an original story while being transferred into other media, the main interpreter's object is the event retranslated either with no changes or with modifications that influence the understanding of the event and the original story. The event is retranslated into other media in authentic (detailed or reduced) and modified (transformed or transmuted) modes. *Authentic*

retranslation redoes the event without significant changes. Its *detailed* type retains all major characters and plotlines. *Reduced retranslation* shortens the number of characters and renders only chosen plotlines. In case of *modified retranslation*, interpreters reconsider the original event to such a degree that the result acquires features of an independent conception, though based on some existing Gothic narrative. *According to the transformation of the event*, the modified retranslation presupposes changing the time and place as well as adding some extra characters to the original narrative. *The event transmutation of the event* concerns changes in the essence of the Gothic narrative and modifies, accordingly, the original idea. The suggested classification of polymorphous Gothic narratives is based on the mode of retranslation confining itself to the pattern "the original → adaptation (transponent)". All variants of interpreting a particular narrative make up its *polymorphous matrix*.

Key words: event, Gothic, intermediality, narrative, polymorphism, retranslation.

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