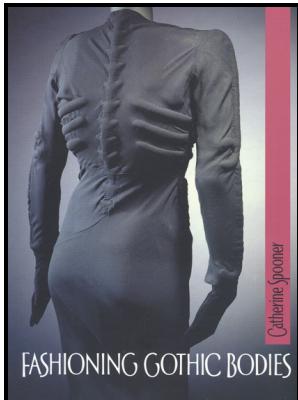


# Nightmare on Main Street - angels, sadomasochism, and the culture of Gothic

**Harvard University Press - Nightmare on Main Street: Angels, Sadomasochism, and the Culture of Gothic / Edition 1 by Mark Edmundson**

Description: -



- Europe -- Church history
- Heresies, Christian -- Europe -- History
- Heresies, Christian -- History -- Early church, ca. 30-600
- Heresies, Christian -- History -- Middle Ages, 600-1500
- Angels in literature
- Sadomasochism in literature
- Horror films -- United States -- History and criticism
- Popular culture -- United States -- History -- 20th century
- Gothic revival (Literature) -- United States -- History -- 20th century
- Horror tales, American -- History and criticism
- Nightmare on Main Street - angels, sadomasochism, and the culture of Gothic
- Nightmare on Main Street - angels, sadomasochism, and the culture of Gothic

Notes: Includes bibliographical references (p. [181]-186) and index.  
This edition was published in 1997



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**Nightmare on Main Street: Angels, Sadomasochism, and the Culture of Gothic by Mark Edmundson**

The past is finally passed. An unchecked fixation on the Gothic, Edmundson argues, would result in a culture of sadomasochism .

**Nightmare on Main Street**

Therein lies the problem with Nightmare on Main Street.

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New York Times - Edward Rothstein I never would have thought that Forrest Gump, Sigmund Freud and O. An assessment of American culture on the eve of the millennium .

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The Gothic thrives, Edmundson argues, in a world in which 'those in authoritythe supposed exemplars of the goodare under suspicion,' a world in which cynicism 'the conviction that the worst truth that you can come up with about any person or event is the most consequential truth' is a given. Those are all pushed aside in favor of the broadest possible characterization. Americathe patients infected with a psychological virus that fosters a death-worshipping attitude toward existence.

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If you made a Venn diagram, and on one side you had the Oprah Winfrey Show and on the other you had Gothic novels, the overlapping part would be comically small. Their haunting addictions and demonic figures keep reappearing in rock videos, computer games, television talk shows and horror films. The disgusting is contained, controlled, overcome.

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. The book depicts a culture suffused with the Gothic, not....

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