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## Why is Jane Austen's Northanger Abbey often referred to as a parody of the Gothic novel?

By Melanie Strieder

GRIN Verlag Okt 2011, 2011. sonst. Bücher. Book Condition: Neu. 209x147x1 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - Essay from the year 2003 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 2,0, University of Duisburg-Essen, 4 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: Why is Jane Austen s Northanger Abbey often referred to as a parody of the Gothic novel \_ Jane Austen (1775-1817) is often regarded as the greatest English female novelist. Her novels are praised for their underlieing social comedy and thorough description of human relationships. She lived and worked during a time predominated by novels of sentiment, sensation and sensibility. However she stayed aloof from this literary style and especially her novel Northanger Abbey is often regarded to as a parody of the Gothic novel. Main authors of these so called Gothic romances are for example Ann Radcliffe, Horace Walpole and M.G. Lewis. The Gothic novel has its origins in the Middle Ages and deals with mysterious, frightening, fantastic, supernatural, sexual and sublime things. The stories seem rather ridiculous to us today. The reader always finds similar characters and plots in those novels: the tyrannical father, the importunate...



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