

mystical. It seems that the witches plant the idea of becoming King into Macbeth, thus looking at how the supernatural can drive our ambition and create monsters out of men. Is it dark magic, or ordinary manipulation? The answer is never clear. More obvious examples of the supernatural being entwined with the ordinary come with the appearance of Banquo's ghost. It revolves around perception; the rest of the feasting party simply see an empty chair, but Macbeth's guilt causes him to see the ghost of Banquo. Lady Macbeth insists "When all's done, You look but on a stool" however Macbeth believes in earnest that he is directly addressing Banquo and exclaims "never shake Thy gory locks at me." This shows the division between whether something is truly supernatural, or simply an illusion of the mind; or perhaps whether there are links between the two.

The intertwining of the supernatural and the ordinary is an important role of gothic literature because it makes unbelievable situations become terrifyingly possible. Carter, Bronte and Shakespeare all experiment with the different ways that ghostly apparitions and superstitions can become a controlling aspect of our day-to-day lives. The idea of fear invading comfort is a fundamental part of shocking the reader, and questions whether the supernatural could simply be a part of our imagination.

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