Contents

1	**Introduction: Rethinking the Victorian Ghost Story**	1
	Rethinking Victorian Agnosticism	2
	Rethinking Victorian Society	4
	Reviving Theological Ghosts	6
	A Journey through the Stories of Machen, MRJ, Le Fanu and Henry James	7
2	**Haunted by the Ghost of God—Reading Theologically**	13
	God as Ghostly: The Relegation and Return of Meta-Narrative	14
	Being as Ghostly: The Christian Meta-Narrative of the Ghost Story	26
3	**'Strangely mistaking death for life': Arthur Machen**	39
	Anglo-Catholicism and Arthur Machen's Sense of Mystery	41
	Machen's Thomist Anthropology	46
	'The White People'	47
	Man without Christ in 'The Great God Pan'	55
	Aesthetic Nihilism in The Three Impostors	59
	Conclusion	70
4	**'What is this that I have done?': M. R. James**	79
	M. R. James, Anglican Dogma and the Moral Authority of Text	80
	MRJ's Theological Anthropology	84

Imfeld, Zoë Lehmann
The Victorian ghost story and theology

digitalisiert durch:
IDS Basel Bern

'Canon Alberic's Scrapbook' and 'Count Magnus' 86
'Mr Humphreys and His Inheritance' 94
Conclusion 100

5 'These devils have made quite a saint of you': Sheridan Le Fanu 107
Le Fanu and the Irish Protestant Establishment 109
Le Fanu's Augustinian Journey—Doubling and Transformation 110
Mimetic Crisis as Gothic Horror in 'Spalatro' and 'Borrhomeo the Astrologer' 115
From Horror to Terror: Incomplete Resurrection in 'The Haunted Baronet' 120
Terror Brought to Actuality in 'The Mysterious Lodger' and 'The Familiar' 126
Conclusion 133

6 'He's there from the moment he knows somebody else is': Haunted by Paralysis in the Stories of Henry James 141
Henry James' Non-Theology 142
Henry James and Teleology 143
Becoming and Stasis in 'The Beast in the Jungle' 144
Aesthetic Creation in 'The Altar of the Dead' 148
Conclusion 155

7 Conclusion: 'This supernatural soliciting cannot be ill, cannot be good' 159
Return to the Gap 161
Reader Doubling 164
Response as Participation 166

Bibliography 169

Index 183