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There are ^{two} forms of entrapment found in gothic literature, that of physical entrapment, and mental entrapment, both of which are significant in different ways. Mental entrapment can be best seen in Marlowe's 'Dr Faustus' and Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' whilst physical entrapment is most significant in Carter's, 'The Bloody Chamber'. Faustus' and Macbeth's entrapment shows us that the consequences of aiming to high are inevitable whilst the physical entrapment in Carter's text is symbolic of social entrapment in the real world and through her characters breaking free, Carter challenges it. Strong argument established.

Marlowe's protagonist Dr Faustus is trapped in the pact he signs with the Devil. Although he is free to move in ~~the~~ the ~~world~~ - ~~some~~ years he has bargained for, his ~~mind~~ soul is trapped in the hands of Lucifer with ~~no~~ ~~only~~ ~~chance~~ ~~possible~~ chance of escape being no chance of escape. Some argue that he is not ~~truly~~ trapped as repentance offers Faustus a way out. However this is not true as Faustus cannot repent for the very same reason that he signed the pact, his excessive pride, his hubris. This entrapment can be seen in Marlowe's use of language in Faustus's final soliloquy. He uses monosyllables to reflect the ~~an~~ inevitable countdown to Faustus's damnation. ~~He~~ Marlowe writes, 'Ugly a hell, gape not. Come not, Lucifer!' Here Marlowe ~~uses~~ ~~as~~ ~~an~~ ~~example~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~use~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~asyndeton~~ ~~with~~ ~~no~~ ~~use~~ ~~of~~ ~~conjunctions~~ ~~present~~ ~~throughout~~ ~~the~~ ~~soliloquy~~ and Caesura with a full stop in the middle of the line. These literary techniques reveal the panic and desperation in Faustus, especially when compared with his first soliloquy written in iambic pentameter with consistent line lengths and end-stops, which in turn reveals how trapped he is feeling.

criticism

Detailed analysis of writer's methods



~~The significance of this form of~~

* Choses not to write in blank verse and

The significance of this form of entrapment is to show that ~~for~~ the consequences of attempting to transcend the boundary between ~~the~~ mortals and the divine are inescapable / valid interpretation

2) Similarly in Macbeth we see an example of Mental entrapment. Macbeth is trapped in a cycle of blood from which there is no escape. Shakespeare writes, 'I am so far stepp'd in blood that to turn back would be as tedious as to go on'. This image is one of the protagonist trapped in a pool of blood with the same result waiting for him whichever way he should go. Once again, like in Dr Faustus, this entrapment shows the consequences of aspiring too high, as Macbeth does, as being inevitable.

3) Carter's text, 'The Bloody Chamber' has examples of physical entrapment. Carter's very first story features an isolated castle a, 'sad sea-siren as a place' and, an 'ambitious place'. The sibilance of repeated 's' sounds emphasises the presence of the sea creating a sound similar to that of crashing waves emphasising its isolation. It is in this isolated castle that our young female narrator finds herself trapped, ~~so~~ ~~just~~ as she feels trapped in the bonds of marriage. Upon discovering the Marquis Chamber of horrors, the sea cuts off the castle from the main land. This physical entrapment represents not only ~~but~~ the inescapable bond of marriage but the entrapment of women in society as a whole. In breaking free of both the castle and bonds to Marquis, ~~the~~ character



Cerber challenges the position of women in society as trapped in place in a male dominated world.

Physical entrapment can be seen once more in 'The Tiger's Bride' where the protagonist is forced to stay in the house of the beast. This again reflects the social entrapment of women. In choosing to become a Tiger and escape the limitations imposed on her female character Cerber is once again challenging these constraints.

~~To conclude, entrapment is heavily used in the Gothic genre.~~

As well as conveying important social messages, entrapment is also used in the gothic to excite and increase suspense. In many productions of 'Dr Faustus' Faustus is physically held down by devils as his final minutes on earth pass in order to increase suspense in the audience. *

To conclude, entrapment is used in the gothic not only to add to the excitement of stories, a key part of the genre, but to convey important social messages. The inescapable mental predicaments of Faust and Macbeth serve as a warning as to the inevitability of the downfall for those who fly too high. Whilst Cerber challenges the entrapment found in society through depictions of characters breaking free.

* For a modern audience not believing in devils this could be seen a symbolic of his mental entrapment also.

Band 5

28 (29) A confident, well expressed argument with some (29) detailed analysis of writer's methods in text 1 and 3. Very brief coverage of 'Macbeth' however. Yes



