

Chapter 1 : Castle of Ollada Reviews

An immediate success when first published in , The Castle of Ollada was the first novel by celebrated Gothic writer Francis Lathom, who wrote it at age

The Castle of Ollada. William Lane at the Minerva-Press, ; 2nd ed. He wrote it at age twenty. Set in Spain, the story opens with Hugo, a tenant of the baron Garcia of Ollada, walking in the woods with Father Anselm. Hugo tells Anselm of a strange sighting-Hugo has seen a strange light and a shadowy figure in one of the windows of the castle, which is uninhabited. He also told Altador to go, upon his death, to the castle. Overcome with pain, the baron could tell him no more. Since his recovery, the baron had simply dismissed his words. Altador resolves to solve the mystery and explore the castle. The baron Garcia has one daughter, Matilda. His cousin, Hypolita, lives with them and helps raise Matilda. Hypolita notices that Altador has strong feelings for Matilda. Anselm, goes to the castle to solve its mystery. While they are waiting to explore the castle, Fr. He reveals that they had given birth to a son before Altador, who was also named Ferdinand and, entrusted in the care of a nurse, died at age 5. After telling this story, Fr. Anselm accompanies Altador and Perez to the castle. They hear strange noises, shrieks and voices, and Perez and Fr. Altador is forced to go back home alone. When he returns, Hypolita tells him that duke Gaspero of Gonzalez, who is of a rival family, desires to marry Matilda and put the rivalry to rest. Hypolita tells Altador that during a walk in the woods with Matilda, they saw two peasants, one of whom Matilda became enamored with, and vice versa. Matilda was distraught when her father informed her that the duke wished to marry her. Garcia was overcome with pity for his daughter, and wrote back to Gaspero apologetically that Matilda did not wish to marry him, but that they remained on friendly terms. Gaspero was disappointed, but later, when Garcia was critically injured, Gaspero was at his side. They were rescued, however, by a group of mysterious peasants, one of whom is the youth with which Matilda was infatuated. The baron, angry, plans to send Matilda away. In the middle of the night, Villetta awakens, claiming to have heard a noise. She rouses Matilda and the other servants, who claim to again have seen the ghost. They report the sightings to the baron. Garcia, wishing to prove that the castle is not haunted, arranges to take a group of the servants there to explore. The next day, as they are preparing to go to the castle, Hypolita tells Altador that Matilda has become ill, because Garcia has insisted that she marry Gaspero. In and out of consciousness, Matilda laments her fate to be married to the cruel duke, when she really loves the mysterious young peasant. Matilda also tells Hypolita that the baron suspects that Matilda is refusing to marry the duke out of love for Altador, so he resolves to send Altador away. Altador reluctantly agrees, promising first to accompany Garcia to the castle. The group ventures to the castle, but finds nothing out of the ordinary. When Jerome, a servant, expresses skepticism, saying that if the castle is haunted, they surely would not see any spirits during the day, Garcia challenges Jerome or anyone who likes, to stay a night in the castle to prove that it is not haunted. Not surprisingly, no one takes him up on this offer. That night Matilda, during a midnight walk in the woods, encounters the mysterious young peasant. He asks her to return to the same spot the following night, when he will give her a sanctuary from the duke. When Matilda returns the next evening, however, the peasant is not there. As volume one comes to a close, it is Altador, not the peasant, who meets Matilda in the woods. Volume two begins with Altador professing his love to Matilda, who gently informs him that her heart is already taken. He suspects foul play, and is furious with Altador, though Matilda swears his innocence when she comes to. The baron vows to send Altador away immediately. Gaspero, in celebration, arranges a tournament. At the tournament, he defeats every opponent. He receives a letter from a mysterious knight, challenging him to fight. The following day, this mysterious knight defeats Gaspero; Matilda begins to suspect he is the peasant she loves. There he tells Hugo he is going to the castle to solve the mystery once and for all. He proceeds to the castle, and is only there a short time before he hears clanking chains. He encounters the terrifying spectre, dripping with blood and groaning, who gestures to Altador that he must leave. He continues to explore the castle, and in one room he falls through a trap door in the floor. The story shifts back to Matilda, who is talking with Villetta after the tournament. Just as she tells Villetta she does not believe in ghosts, she mysteriously hears her name being called, though they are alone in

the room. The overdramatic Villetta fears it is a ghost, but then they realize that someone outside is calling her name. Matilda opens the window, and it is the mysterious peasant, who gives her a letter and quickly departs. The letter cautions her against the treachery of Gaspero, and the peasant, named Henrico, again offers her sanctuary from the duke. Swearing the prating Villetta to secrecy, Matilda, collecting only a few belongings, goes with Villetta to meet Henrico at the designated location. Since it is dark, the men cannot see who they are, and they ride away after Matilda lies to them. Not long after, Matilda and Villetta meet Henrico. Henrico reveals that tonight was the night Garcia planned to hand Matilda over to Gaspero. This is indeed what happens. The duke, upon seeing Henrico, is filled with terror and faints. Henrico informs Estifania that he wishes to kill Manfred, saying "His death is necessary to my peace of mind" Estifania tells Henrico where Manfred is, and gives him the sword she took from Manfred. Henrico bursts in upon the weaponless Manfred, who curses Estifania. Instead of killing him, Henrico simply locks him up. The duke again seems terrified, and Henrico ties him up. When they are safe, Henrico reveals his past to Matilda. He was raised by Alphonso, who lived as a member of a secret society in a cavern. Eventually Alphonso took over leadership of the men, and Henrico was inducted into the secret society which, among other things, forges weapons in their cavern. They had taken captive Perez and Fr. One night while Henrico was posing as the spectre, both the baron and the duke visited the castle. The baron, afraid the duke will reveal what he knows about why the baron visited the castle late at night, attempts to befriend the duke yet again. When the duke was alone, Henrico furiously and still in disguise confronted the duke and ordered him not to marry Matilda. After the duke left, Henrico also saw Garcia visit a secret room in the castle. Henrico tells Matilda that the next day, he heard about the tournament and decided to challenge the duke. It was indeed Henrico who had posed as the mysterious knight. After this explanation, Henrico guides Matilda to the secret cavern, where she rests. Alphonso informs Henrico that a youth who had been in the castle had fallen through the trap door, the secret entrance from the castle to the cavern. Altador is leading the men, and Henrico and Alphonso give themselves up to be bound and taken to the baron. The duke, who is by this time a raving madman, tells the baron that Matilda is a lustful traitor. He accuses Garcia himself of being a traitor, and stabs him. However, before fainting, the baron stabs and kills the duke. On his deathbed, Garcia begs forgiveness from Matilda. He also informs Matilda that Henrico is her brother, and begs forgiveness from Altador for banishing him. Francisco reveals that this child, whom the baron believed to have perished, is actually Altador. The next morning, the baron Garcia dies. Since she refused, Garcia kept her locked in the castle, where she eventually bore him a son. Garcia left the son in the woods, and Alphonso presumably rescued him, assuming now that this child is Henrico. In order to straighten things out and free the still-captive Fatima, Altador and a group head to the castle. Once there, they find Fatima hidden in the secret room, and realize that this is the reason why the duke blackmailed Garcia; this is why Garcia visited the castle late at night. They find Fatima and reunite her with Henrico, whom they believe to be her son. Fatima quickly realizes that he is not her son, because Garcia took the child from her when he was only three days old, yet the child Alphonso found in the woods was fifteen months old. Francisco realizes then that Henrico is the son of Ferdinand and Fatima. Fatima goes then to a convent to live peacefully. Henrico rushes to inform Matilda of all that he knows. Henrico and Matilda are married, because it has been revealed that they are indeed not siblings but cousins. Henrico is declared the new baron of Ollada, and from there on out, everyone lives happily and contentedly the rest of their days.

Chapter 2 : The Castle of Ollada by Francis Lathom

This really wasn't too bad. Sure, there are a lot of borrowed ideas within the story, but it proved to be an adequately entertaining read. Matilda, the lead female role, is an interesting character and proves herself to be stronger than you might expect from a novel of this era.

Chapter 3 : The Castle of Ollada () - Valancourt Books

The Castle of Ollada () Francis Lathom, Edited by James D. Jenkins In The Castle of Ollada, young Altador seeks to

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solve the mystery of the ancient Castle of Ollada and win the love of the beautiful Matilda.

Chapter 4 : Francis Lathom (Author of The Midnight Bell)

The castle of Ollada. [Francis Lathom; James D Jenkins] -- "In The Castle of Ollada, young Altador seeks to solve the mystery of the ancient Castle of Ollada and win the love of the beautiful Matilda.

Chapter 5 : Francis Lathom Book List - FictionDB

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Chapter 6 : Castle of Ollada Synopsis

An immediate success when first published in , "The Castle of Ollada" was the first novel by celebrated Gothic writer Francis Lathom, who wrote it at age Inspired by Horace Walpole's "The Castle of Otranto" and the novels of Ann Radcliffe, "The Castle of Ollada" will captivate modern readers with its gloomy atmosphere and dark Gothic.

Chapter 7 : Ollada | Revolvry

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Chapter 8 : - The Castle of Ollada by Francis Lathom

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Chapter 9 : Francis Lathom | Open Library

The collection is sourced from the remarkable library of Victor Amadeus, whose Castle Corvey collection was one of the most spectacular discoveries of the late s.