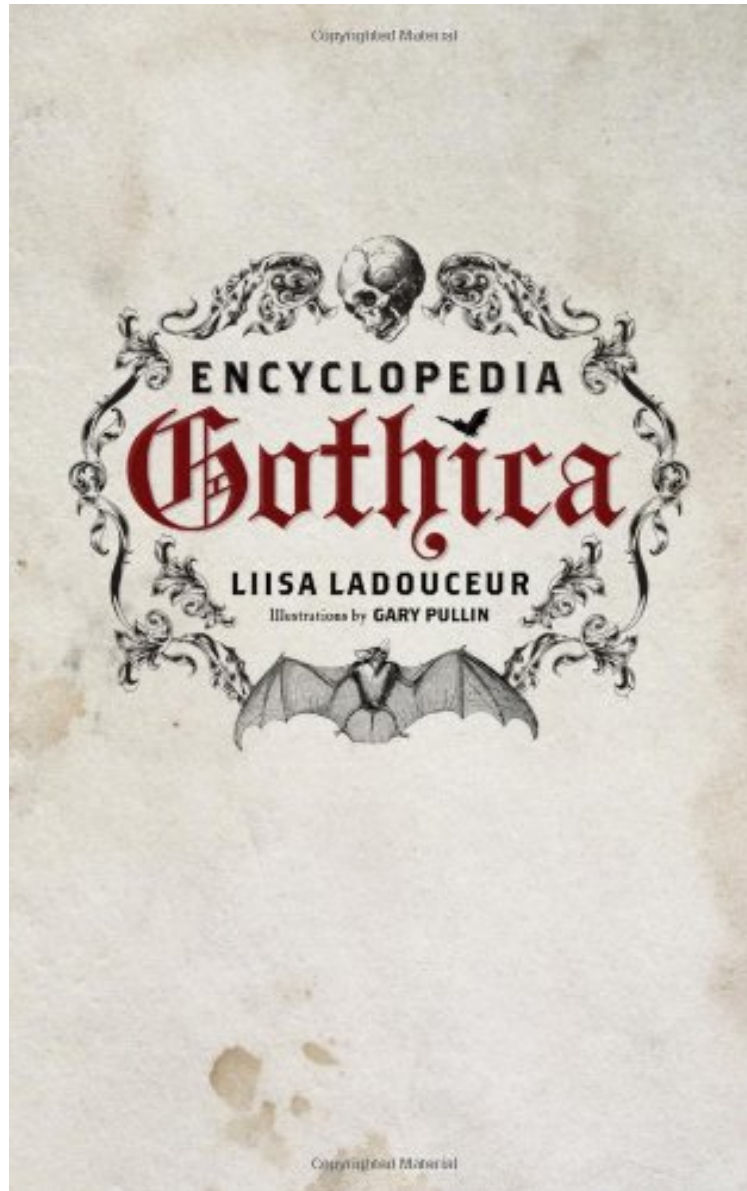


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## Encyclopedia Gothica: A Novel

*Liisa Ladouceur*

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**Liisa Ladouceur : Encyclopedia Gothica: A Novel** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Encyclopedia Gothica: A Novel:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Basic and Useful By P. G. Wickberg I lay no claim to be a Goth, even an Elder Goth, but I do admit to being Goth-curious (don't know what those mean? That's why you need this book!) For those looking for a way to learn more about them without having to put on fishnet, striped tights or eyeliner, Liisa

(that's how the book spells it, no matter what says...) Ladouceur gives almost 300 pages of definitions of all things Goth (not Gothic - an important difference, although she does mention the Visigoths and their Ostrogoth cousins in passing). The scope is world-wide, although outside the U.S. she devotes little space to anything besides the UK, Germany and Japan - isn't there a Goth scene in Russia by now? She also does so with a outrageous humor that is totally at odds with the usual media image as Goths as cheerless souls who hang around in dark corners obsessing about the sadness of life. There is even a subset called Perky Goths, Liisa informs us, who wear pink and are relentlessly cheerful (the black-clad corner lurkers, she says, are a subset known as Mopey Goths). There are also Trad Goths (who don't believe anything Gothic post-dates 1990), Cyber Goths (who are obsessed with technology, natch) and Faerie Goths (usually found chilling out at Renaissance Fairs), and so on. The book also gives a pretty good fast summary of the "progressive music" scene from the beginnings of punk to more-or-less the present, although obviously she concentrates on the groups of most interest to Goths. The book's one drawback is that it was complete up to 2011, when it was published - nothing changes faster than popular culture, and by 2014 it is in need of an update!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I received this book and I was a bit disappointed. Why? Well, this book is actually a lot smaller than what I was expecting. When one imagines an "encyclopedia" one usually imagines a BIG book of information. I have not read this book yet hopefully the author can reach out to me by her writing craftsmanship to hopefully make up for the pages and quite possibly information that this book is lacking.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Tool for Baby Bats! By Donna Sheehy A great reference for any Gothic shelf. Will be a great tool for explaining to the younger Goths.

Encyclopedia Gothica is a guide through that shadowiest of subcultures: modern Goths. It collects and defines more than 600 words and phrases used by these children of the night so that you too can engage in conversations about deathhawks and rivetheads and who is more ubergoth: Bela Lugosi or Robert Smith. Compiled by acclaimed Goth journalist and poet Liisa Ladouceur, it gives readers insight into the unique vernacular of this fascinating community, describing in detail and with black humour the fashion, music, and lifestyle as well as sharing insider slang such as Baby Bat, Corp Goth and the Gothic Two-Step, and the first ever Goth Band Family Tree. From absinthe to zombies, it's the Encyclopedia Gothica!

"A wickedly funny portrait of this community in black! If you're the sort who gives out gifts on Hallow's Eve, Encyclopedia Gothica is ideal for babybats and elder goths who'll appreciate the wealth of reminders of the experiences that make up goth life." NOW Magazine (October 2011)