The Dark Romantics or The Gothic Romantics:
A Subcategory of American Romanticism

Comparing Literature Ages
Remember....
- Each successive age is a reaction to the previous one.
- Each previous age fails to see the achievement of the successive age.

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Beliefs of the Dark Romantics
1. Dark Romantics are much less confident about the notion that ____________________________________________

2. Presents individuals as prone to ____________________________________________, not as inherently possessing divinity and wisdom.

3. Frequently show individuals ________________ in their attempts to make ________________ ________________.

4. Romantics and Dark Romantics both believe that nature is a deeply spiritual force; however, Dark Romanticism views ____________________________________________.

5. When nature does reveal truth to man, its revelations are ____________________________________________ ________________.

Characteristics of Dark Romanticism Literature

1. ____________________________________________
   - The setting is greatly influential in Gothic stories. It not only evokes the ________________ ________________ but also portrays the ________________ of its world.
   - The decaying, ruined scenery implies that at one time there ________________ ________________. At one time the abbey, castle, mansion, or landscape was something treasured and appreciated.
   - Now, all that lasts is the ________________ of a once thriving dwelling.
2. Works are permeated by a ____________________________, a fear enhanced by the ____________________________.
   Often the plot itself is built around a ____________________________, such as unknown parentage, a disappearance, or some other inexplicable event.

3. A character may have a disturbing dream, vision, or some phenomenon may be seen as a _________ _____________________________.
   For example, if the statue of the lord of the manor falls over, it may portend his death.
   ____________________________: a sign or warning that something, esp. something momentous or calamitous, is likely to happen.

4. ____________________________, such as ghosts or giants walking, or inanimate objects (such as a suit of armor or painting) coming to life
   In some works, the events are ultimately given a ____________________________, while in others, the events are ____________________________.

5. The narration may be ____________________________, and the characters are often overcome by anger, sorrow, surprise, and especially terror.
   Characters suffer from raw nerves and a _____________________________.
   Crying and emotional speeches are frequent.
   Breathlessness and panic are common.

Abbreviated Dark Romanticism Characteristics
- ______________ is in bleak or remote places
- ______________ involves morbid or violent incidents
- ______________ are in psychological and/or physical torment
- A ______________ or otherworldly ______________ is often present
- Very ______________
- Individuals are prone to ______________ and ______________
- ______________ is dark, sinister, and mysterious; man is ______________

Dark Romantic Heroes
- Conflicted
- Loner
- Misunderstood by society
- Spiritual
- Talented or gifted in some way
- Inspired by creativity and imagination rather than society norms

Elements of Dark Romanticism
- Drafty, old, family houses/castles
- Mystery and suspense, finding dark secrets
- Supernatural: ghosts, curses, monsters, etc.
- Grisly death and gruesome murder
- Omens, curses, dreams, legends
- Extreme emotions of grief, passion, love
- Instances of madness and insanity
- References wild, dangerous nature
- Mood: creepy, doom and gloom, terror