

Apr 24th, 2:20 PM - 2:35 PM

## Maudite Bete Noir

Glynnis J. Morrison  
*Dominican University of California*

**Survey: Let us know how this paper benefits you.**

---

Morrison, Glynnis J., "Maudite Bete Noir" (2015). *Scholarly and Creative Works Conference 2020*. 12.

<https://scholar.dominican.edu/scw/scw2015/Guz307/12>

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Scholarship at Dominican Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in Scholarly and Creative Works Conference 2020 by an authorized administrator of Dominican Scholar. For more information, please contact [michael.pujals@dominican.edu](mailto:michael.pujals@dominican.edu).

Glynnis Morrison, BA Graphic Design

Senior Thesis Abstract, 2015

My thesis is a series of digital illustrations for my fantasy novel called *Maudite Bête Noir*. I developed this story for nine years, drawing influence from the famous fairytale *Beauty and the Beast* by Jeanna-Marie Leprince de Beaumont. Unlike the traditional tale, this story is intended to reach a contemporary audience. It is also told from both the female protagonist's point of view and that of the cursed prince.

Prince Adian's dualistic curse is a result of his selfish actions in the past. The only recourse to break the hex is the prince's rebirth. Yet, in order for him to be reborn as a better person, he must learn to forgive himself and accept his past mistakes. The beauty, Jolie, guides him through his personal quest. As the story unfolds, they confront cultural difficulties and outside entities trying to break them. In order for their relationship to grow, they realize important values such as understanding and rebirth.

The illustrations in my thesis exhibition are executed with mixed media and digital processes. I chose to combine these two mediums because their visual properties seem to heighten the narrative. The pictures depict specific situations from the novel in which the characters encounter emotionally charged challenges, such as a woman in the dark woods, a man shrouded by fog as he faces a great feathered serpent, and Jolie and Adian trying to trust each other as they dance.

Despite the characters supernatural appearances or finery of their clothing the story's themes will resonate with contemporary audiences. The seminal themes

of understanding, forgiveness and rebirth are elements that are a part of life and help us develop as a person. Today's entertainment industry understands this and reintroduces fairytales as cultural phenomenon like Snow White and the Huntsman or Princess and the Frog.

What I hope to communicate in this story is that everyone can learn to forgive, understand and renew themselves. Sometimes it may take more than ourselves to understand this truth but once we arrive there we may become a better person.