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## **Monstrous Nature and Eco-Horror as Fertilizer for Speciesism: How Cultural Representations of Nature Contribute to Biodiversity Loss**

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This paper draws from a chapter in my forthcoming book with Nigel South—*Monstrous Nature and the End of the World: Apocalyptic Depictions, Eco-horror and Green Cultural Criminology* (Temple University Press). The paper attempts to connect Gothic imaginings of the power and vengeance of nature, wronged by humans, from the late-eighteenth to the twenty-first century. Building on South (2017), it situates “monstrosity” in a spectrum—one that recognizes that some depictions of environmental harms and problems offer images or tales of “reassurance,” others of “return to safety” or “temporary reprieve,” and still others (which, I contend, tend to dominate) of “monstrosity.” The paper puts forth the argument that such cultural representations of nature as “monstrous” contribute to differential treatment of nonhuman species, speciesism and biodiversity loss.