

Tales of a Grandmother

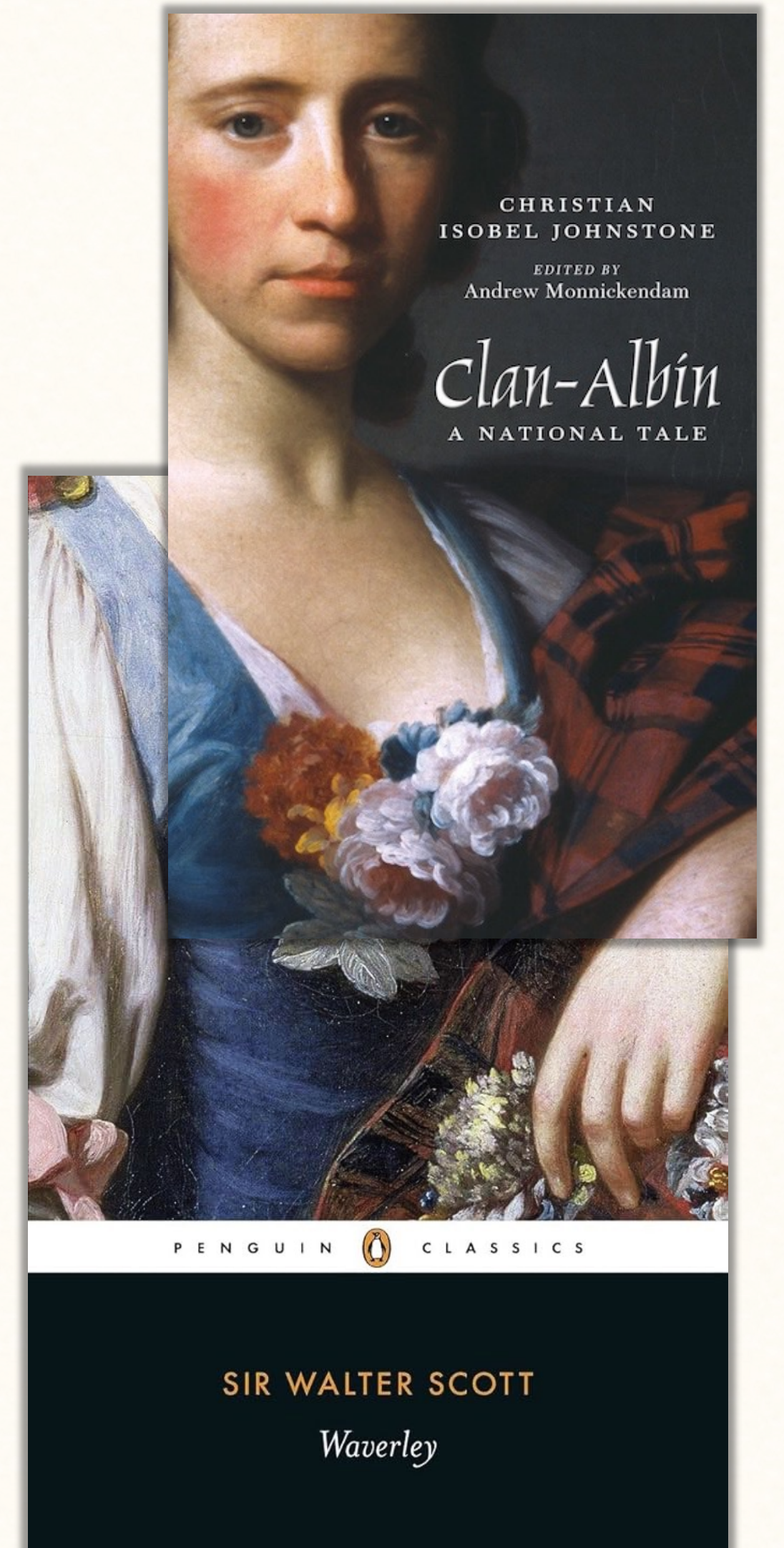
Female Identity and Transgenerational Storytelling in the Age of Scott

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Scottish National Tales

In the early 19th century, *Scottish national tales* emerged as an exclusively women-authored literary genre in tandem with a surge of nationalism throughout Europe in the wake of the Napoleonic wars. In order to discuss Scotland's futurities in its Union with England, writers of Scottish national tales employ allegorical negotiations to propose cosmopolitan over nationalist identities (Wohlgemut 647). Disappearing in the shadow of Sir Walter Scott's landmark novel *Waverley* (1814), which is widely regarded as the first *historical novel*, the significance of Scottish national tales for the portrayal of Scottish national identity in the 19th century has been severely neglected in academic scholarship – especially with regard to the cultivation of Scotland's collective memory.

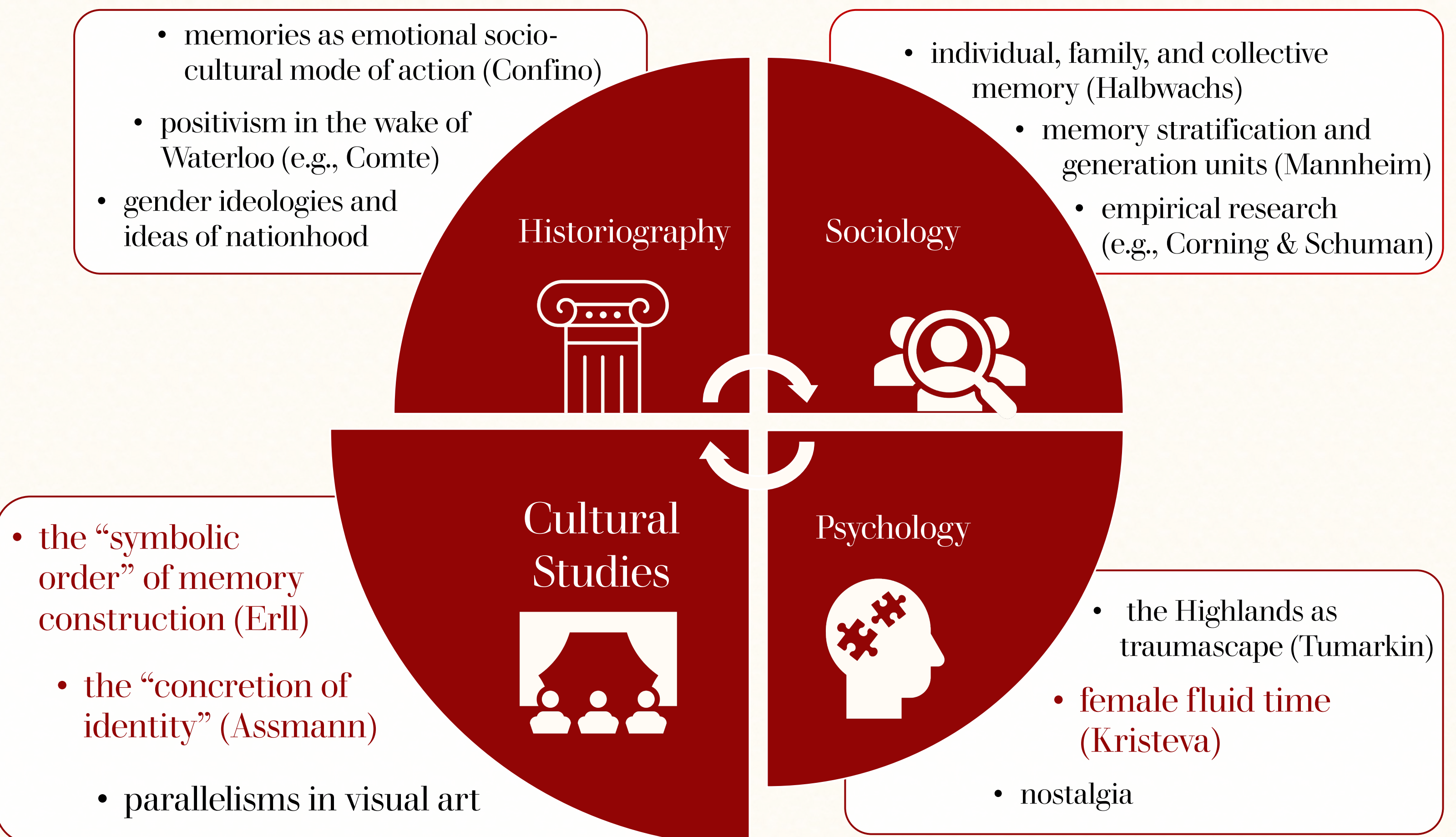
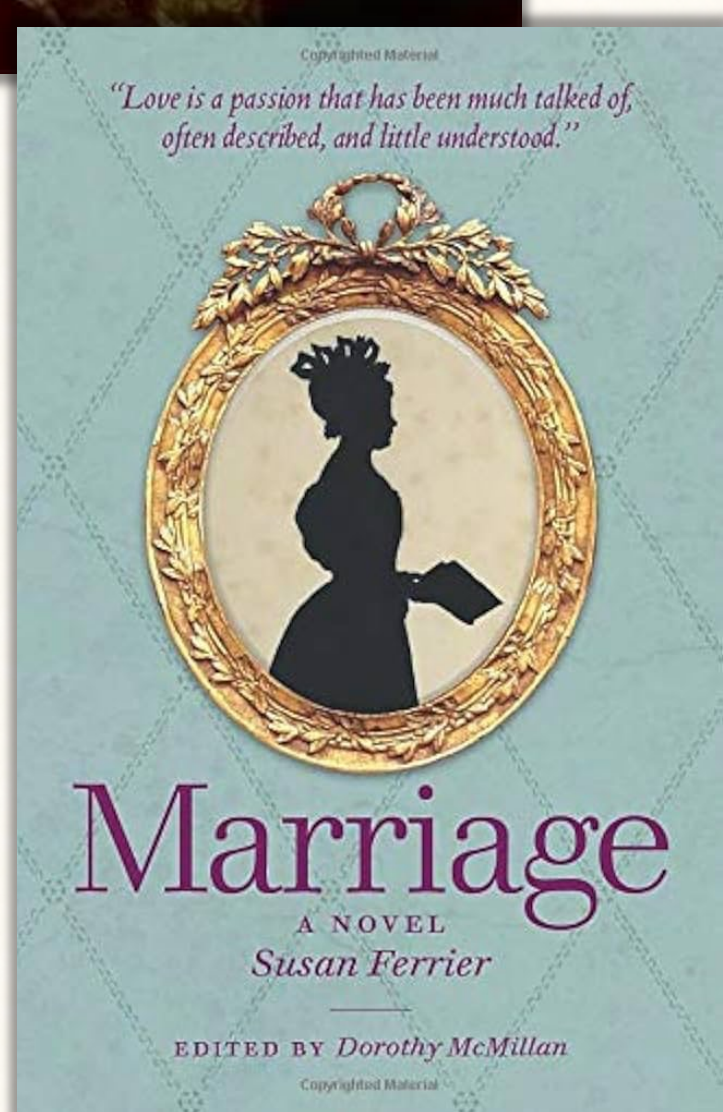
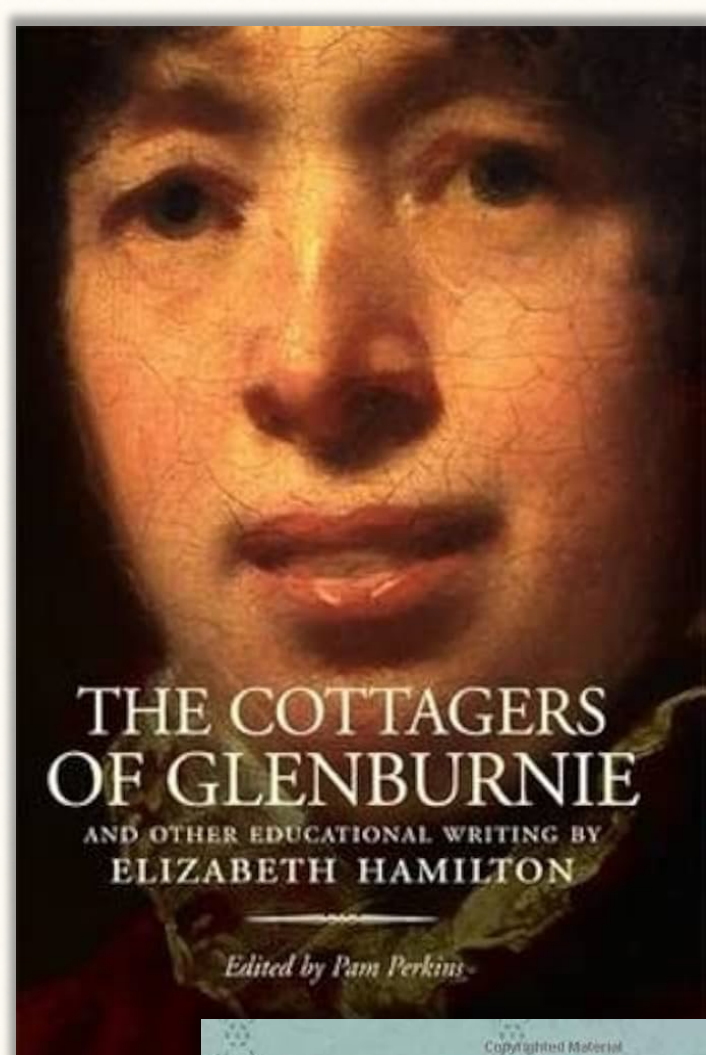


Research Aims

This project aims to investigate the following research questions:

- ❖ Which memory fragments (baselines) are central to the family narratives of Scottish national tales as opposed to Scott's novels and how are these fragments passed down from one generation to the next – within and outside of the story world?
- ❖ In how far does gender affect the way these fragments are passed down?
- ❖ How did the Scottish national tale contribute to the cultivation of Scotland's collective memory in comparison to the historical novel?

Collective Memory and Transgenerational Commemoration



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