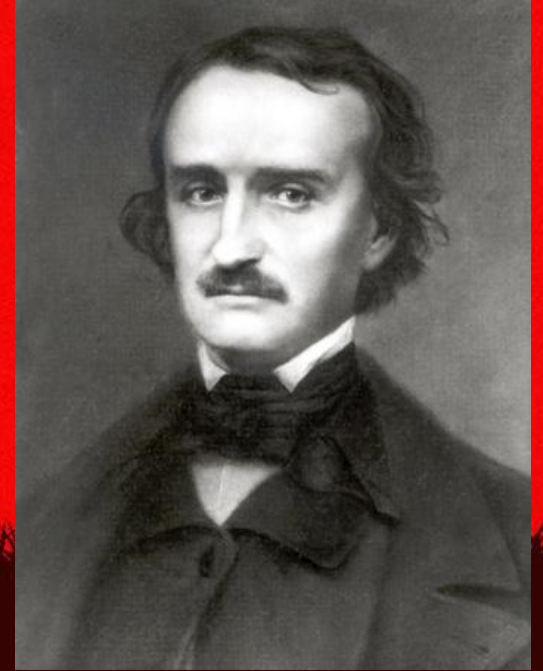


INTRODUCING...

Edgar Allan Poe



- Born in Boston, Massachusetts in 1809, one of three children
- By his 3rd birthday, his father had abandoned the family, and his mother had died of tuberculosis!
- John and Francis Allan, took Poe to their home in Richmond, Virginia and became his foster parents.

DEPRESSED IS AN UNDERSTATEMENT

- 1826, he started at the University of Virginia, where his reckless habits led to heavy debt, forcing him to leave school.
- In 1828, he was flat broke and enlisted into the army. John Allan got him an appointment at West Point, but he found the school confining and did anything he could to be expelled!

DISOBEDIENT & REBELLIOUS

- After West Point, he moved to Baltimore to live with his aunt and her daughter Virginia. There he began writing short stories.
- In 1834, he moved to Richmond to work for the *Southern Literary Messenger*. His reviews in it increased in the magazine's circulation.
- In 1836, Poe married his cousin and they moved to New York City.

THE NOMADIC LIFE

- In 1839 he was the editor of *Burton's Gentlemen's Magazine* but was fired in 1840.
- His first collection of short stories was published, *Tales of the Grotesque and Arabesque*.
- He then started working as an editor for *Graham's Magazine*, where he published the first detective story "The Murders in the Rue Morgue".

PHILADELPHIA = SUCCESSFUL POE

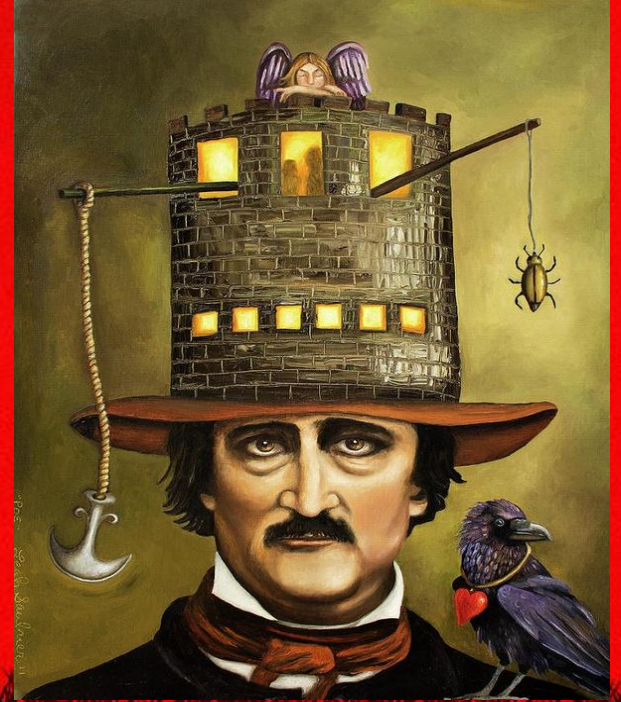
- Virginia, who had been battling illness since 1842, died.
- In the years following Virginia's death, Poe struggled with despair as well as his own failing health.
- He became obsessed with morbid thoughts, especially ones about death and murder.
- He moved back to Baltimore in 1849, where his health declined quickly.

WITH SUCCESS COMES TRAGEDY

- He collapsed on a Baltimore street where he was taken to a hospital. He died a few days later.
- There are many rumors associated with Poe's death:
 - Drugs
 - Alcoholism
 - Being Poisoned
 - Rabies

RUMOR HAS IT

- Today, Poe is recognized as a master of poetry, a superb writer of short stories, and a profound explorer of the torments of the human soul.
- He wrote only one novel, around 50 poems, and 70 short stories.



THE MAN, THE MYTH, THE LEGEND