

**People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
University of Tlemcen**



**Faculty of Letters and Languages
Department of English
Section of English**

Women in Edgar Allan Poe's Fiction

Dissertation submitted to the department of English as partial fulfillment of the requirements for Master's degree in Literature and Civilization.

Submitted by

Ms. Linda Haloui

Supervised by

Prof. Frid daoudi

Board of Examiners

President: Prof. Faiza Haddam

Supervisor: Prof. Frid Daoudi

Examiner: Prof. Mohamed khaladi

2023 - 2024

Dedications

Every challenging work needs self-efforts as well as guidance of elders especially those who were very close to our hearts

My humble effort is dedicated to:

The sake of Allah, my creator and my master

My great teacher and messenger, Mohammed (May Allah bless and grant him).

I would first dedicate this work for my dearest parents whose affections, love, encouragements and prays made me able to get such success and honor, I owe you gratitude and respect for being always there for me and for affronting all my needs. Then I would thank my sisters and my brothers for all their supports and love.

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements

First, to The Almighty Allah who guided me all the way.

I would never complete MY work without the help of some people to whom I AM indebted, and it is a pleasure to thank them in this way.

Any accomplishment requires the effort of many people and this work is, in no case different from it. The person who has always been the greatest source of encouragement and inspiration is MY supervisor Dr. Frid Daoudi, whose patience, motivation; invaluable suggestions, and support were instrumental in accomplishing this task. I would like to express a deep sense of gratitude to for enlightening MY path with his vast knowledge on the topic, and for sharing his precious time.

Abstract

ABSTRACT

Edgar Allan Poe's fictional stories and macabre left an immortal mark on Literature. He is one of the most famous writer of his time. He is most recognized as the father of detective stories. Nevertheless, his poetry and short stories are one of the best work that give him much of his fame and inspire many generations, especially the one that tell about love, women and macabre. The following research is a study how are women portray in two of Poe's short stories. This dissertation attempts to analyze two female characters in "Morella" and "Ligeia" and it focuses on the dying woman in each story, for the purpose of showing that Poe did not write about the passing women in his short stories because he is a misogynist or affected by his life and personal trauma, but he tried to represent the woman as powerful and strong being and to show that her triumphs over death represent victory over men's power. Moreover, this research contains two chapters the first will explain the meaning of Gothic Literature and it origins and aspects, then Poe's tragic life and his lost for the women he loved and how women are represented in both his fiction and the era he lives in. Besides, in the second chapter it deals with the characterization in depth of the two main females' protagonist, and what their death in the stories represent. At the conclusion, the paper points that their deaths and the rebirths symbolize the domination they have over the narrator's mind.

Key terms: Edgar Allan Poe, women, macabre, Morella and Ligeia, misogynist, personal trauma, death, rebirth, domination, narrator's mind

Résumé

Les histoires fictives et macabres d'Edgar Allan Poe ont laissé une marque immortelle sur la littérature. Il est l'un des écrivains les plus célèbres de son époque. Il est surtout reconnu comme le père des romans policiers. Néanmoins, sa poésie et ses nouvelles sont l'une des meilleures œuvres qui lui ont valu une grande partie de sa renommée et inspirent de nombreuses générations, en particulier celle qui raconte l'amour, les femmes et le macabre. La recherche suivante étudie la façon dont les femmes sont représentées dans deux des nouvelles de Poe. Cette thèse tente d'analyser deux personnages féminins de « Morella » et « Ligeia » et se concentre sur la femme mourante dans chaque histoire, dans le but de montrer que Poe n'a pas écrit sur les femmes qui passent dans ses nouvelles parce qu'il est misogyne. ou affecté par sa vie et ses traumatismes personnels, mais il a essayé de représenter la femme comme un être puissant et fort et de montrer que ses triomphes sur la mort représentent la victoire sur le pouvoir des hommes. De plus, cette recherche contient deux chapitres : le premier expliquera le sens de la littérature gothique, ses origines et ses aspects, puis la vie tragique de Poe et sa perte pour les femmes qu'il aimait et comment les femmes sont représentées à la fois dans sa fiction et dans l'époque dans laquelle il vit. En outre, dans le deuxième chapitre, il traite de la caractérisation en profondeur des protagonistes des deux principales femmes et de ce que représente leur mort dans les histoires. En conclusion, l'article souligne que leurs morts et leurs renaissances symbolisent la domination qu'ils exercent sur l'esprit du narrateur.

ملخص

تركت قصص إدغار آلان بو الخيالية والمروعة بصمة خالدة على الأدب. وهو من أشهر الكتاب في عصره. ومن المعروف أنه والد القصص البوليسية. ومع ذلك فإن شعره وقصصه القصيرة من أفضل الأعمال التي أكسبته الكثير من شهرته وألهمت أجيالاً كثيرة، خاصة تلك التي تحكي عن الحب والنساء والمروعات. البحث التالي عبارة عن دراسة لكيفية تصوير النساء في اثنتين من قصص بو القصيرة. تحاول هذه الأطروحة تحليل شخصيتين نسائيتين في "موريللا" و"ليغيا" وتركز على المرأة المحتضرة في كل قصة، بغرض إظهار أن بو لم يكتب عن النساء العابرات في قصصه القصيرة لأنه كاره للنساء. أو تأثر بحياته وصدامته الشخصية، لكنه حاول تصوير المرأة على أنها كائن قوي وقوي وإظهار أن انتصاراتها على الموت تمثل انتصاراً على قوة الرجال. علاوة على ذلك، يحتوي هذا البحث على فصلين، الأول يشرح معنى الأدب القوطي وأصوله وجوانبه، ثم حياة بو المأساوية وخسارته للنساء الذين أحبهم، وكيفية تمثيل المرأة في رواياته والعصر الذي يعيش فيه. إلى جانب ذلك، يتناول الفصل الثاني بعمق توصيف البطنتين الرئيسيتين، وما يمثلته موتهما في القصص. في الختام، تشير الورقة إلى أن موتهم وولاداتهم الجديدة ترمز إلى سيطرتهم على عقل الراوي.

Table of Content

Table of Content:

Dedications.....	II
Acknowledgement.....	III
Abstract.....	IV
Résumé.....	08
ملخص.....	09
Table of Contents.....	11
General Introduction.....	15

Chapter one: an overview of Gothic Literature, Poe's tragic life and loss, and the representation of women in his fiction and the 19th century society.

1.1 Introduction.....	18
1.2 What is Gothic Literature?	18
1.3 Origin of Gothic in Literature.....	19

1.4 Aspects of Gothic Literature.....	20
1.4.1 Enigmatic events and Suspense.....	20
1.4.2 Existence of uncanny features.....	20
1.4.3 The gothic Architectures.....	21
1.4.4 Prophecies and inherited curses	21
1.4.5 The frightening tone and gruesome weather.....	21
1.4.6 Deadly and dreary atmosphere.....	22
1.4.7 Mental perturbation and psychological trauma.....	22
1.4.8 Female in distress.....	22
1.5 Poe’s tragic life and lost.....	23
1.6 The representation of women in Poe’s Gothic fiction and the nineteenth century society.....	25
1.7 Conclusion.....	27

**Chapter Two: The analyses of Edgar Allan Poe’s selected stories
“Morella” and “Ligeia”.**

2.1 Introduction	32
2.2 The analyses of “Morella” and “Ligeia”.....	32
2.2.1 Morella	32
2.2.2 Morella characterization.....	33
2.2.3 What Morella’s death represents.....	33
2.2.4 Ligeia	35

2.2.5 Ligia's characterization.....	36
2.2.6 What Ligia's death represents.....	36
2.7 Similarities between the two stories.....	37
2.8 Conclusion.....	40
General conclusion.....	42
Bibliography.....	45

General Introduction

Edgar Allan Poe is a nineteenth-century American writer who is notable for his bizarre, twisted, stunning tales and detective stories. His literary works still excite, thrill and divide readers across cultures and lifespans. Even though* one might say that his works were stunning when he kept in touch with them, which added to their incredible effect, the truth of the matter is that his works are still relevant, maybe because of his selection of subjects makes them invulnerable to the passage of time; love, death, and their tight connection are certainly such points. Nevertheless, the fact that Poe's most important and popular stories are about the beautiful dead woman, numerous discussions highlight the connection between his life and his literary works and the fact that the inspiration to write about dying women comes from his traumas; the death of his mother, foster mother, his young wife and other women. However, despite the fact that Poe had a crucial life and lost many women whom he loved, Poe cannot be judged only based on superficial readings, and considering that his works are not classified into one singular category.

The thesis of this research is that Edgar's point of view was not misogynist nor was he influenced by his life experiences but rather he tried to portray woman as powerful, and strong person who manifestation of power can achieves even by death . This thesis will be backed up by the analysis of two of Edgar's short stories the main heroines of "Morella" and "Ligeia". The first chapter will deal with an overview of what is Gothic Literature, and what are its origins and aspects. In addition to this, Poe's tragic life and his loss. Moreover, an illustration to the representation of women in both Poe's fiction and the nineteenth century society .

The second part will manage the portrayal and the examination of the women from Poe's short stories ""Morella" and "Ligeia" ,after telling the stories behind their death and rebirth, to show influential women who survive anything, and refuse to stay repressed. Their victory over death represents the domination of their will in man intellectual. Both of them

prove dominion over the narrators' mental stability, and interest. Furthermore, the paper shows that we cannot pass judgment on a writer based on stereotypical misconceptions about him, especially after considering he wrote in various styles, and types, and about various people and themes.

Chapter one

An overview of Gothic Literature, Poe's tragic life and loss, and the representation of women in his Gothic fiction and the 19th century society.

Outline of Chapter One

1.1 Introduction

1.2 What is Gothic Literature?

1.3 Origin of Gothic in Literature

1.4 Aspects of Gothic Literature

1.4.1 Enigmatic events and Suspense

1.4.2 Existence of uncanny features

1.4.3 The gothic Architectures

1.4.4 Prophecies and inherited curses

1.4.5 The frightening tone and gruesome weather

1.4.6 Deadly and dreary atmosphere

1.4.7 Mental perturbation and psychological trauma

1.4.8 Female in distress

1.5 Poe's tragic life and lost

1.6 The representation of women in Poe's Gothic fiction and the nineteenth century society.

1.7 Conclusion

1.1 Introduction

There is one known very famous and impressive writing style called Gothic Literature. It is considered a very persistent and productive genre that last for more than 250 years. It involves elements that are merged with macabre, and women in trouble, curses, vision, uncanny events and sometimes romance. Moreover, the history of this era was said to have emerged in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, with the first publication of Horace Walpole's *The Castle of Otranto* in 1764. During the enlightenment period in Europe, a time when reason and rationality were championed above all else. Walpole pretended that it was a translated version of a book from hundreds of years ago, about a real life Italian lord who encounters numerous supernatural events in a seemingly realistic world. Although people soon discovered that it was work of fiction, the book captured the imagination and nightmares of many people who were clearly not yet convinced by all the recent answers that science had to offer. Walpole's work spawned a number of notable successes. Nonetheless, there is no doubt that this genre that he started allows other writers to explore ideas and events that truly haunts us. Besides, many writers start using this style in their works, such as Anne Radcliffe, Mary Shelley, Bram Stoker, and Robert Louis Stevenson. All contributed to the Gothic genre and work towards developing the conventions, as we know them today. Furthermore, one of these writers is the famous artist Edgar Allan Poe, author of many short stories, and poems such as "The Fall of the House of Usher", "The Raven", and other works. Poe was the master of his time; he stood out thanks to the careful selection of his themes of writing. However, Poe's most common theme in his oeuvres is the death of beautiful young women. One of his biggest inspirations and the subject of numerous works that still thrills and enthrall readers around the world.

1.2 What is Gothic Literature?

Gothic Literature or Gothicism is one of the branches of the Gothic movement, which contained art, architecture, and music. Also known as Gothic horror, Gothic fiction is a literary genre characterized by elements of mystery, horror, and the supernatural. Inspired by the aesthetic and architecture of the Middle Ages, Gothic literature gets its name from the Gothic castles, churches, ruins, and abandoned estates it uses as a setting for the haunting storyline. Writers

combine dark imagery with suspenseful narrative to reflect the decayed and battered state of the architecture, fusing terror with pleasure. Nevertheless, the Gothic style became literary fiction, as we know it today due to Horace Walpole who wrote a book during the eighteenth century; called “The Castle of Otranto” which is regarded as being the first Gothic novel, published in 1764. It is a story that was first published as a translation, but in the second edition, Walpole claimed ownership of this work and called it a “Gothic Story”. Moreover, Walpole introduced a whole range of new styles and characterization in terms of undead and supernatural into the English Literary world. However, there are some criteria to identify a Gothic piece of work from another literary work. Likewise, writers of this genre, generally formulate their writings using terror, riddle, tension, suspense, and sometimes romance. These elements are combined with monstrous action, historical characters, and dreary settings and macabre. While the popularity of the Gothic novel soared during the late eighteenth century, it peaked during the Victorian era. Today, Gothic fiction continues to inspire the themes and styles of thriller and horror novels.

1.3 Origin of Gothic Literature

The term ‘Gothic originated in the medieval architecture produced by the Goths, a North Germanic tribe of the middle ages. The Gothic architecture was gloomy, dreary, and dark appearance. Over and above, this medieval architecture became the inspiration for a new literary genre in Europe called Gothicism or Gothic Literature. However, Gothic in literature made its first appearance in the middle of the eighteenth century with the first publication of a novel writing by Horace Walpole in 1764, called “The Castle of Otranto” that he applied the word ‘Gothic’ in subtitle as he wrote, ‘Gothic Story’; Walpole used the word to give the meaning of something ‘barbarous’. Therefore, Walpole used gloomy and dark settings, supernatural events in his book, which was not like the work that people used to read. It was a new and fascinated writing style at that time, Gothic Literature spread in Europe, America, and other countries.

Furthermore, in the nineteenth century, the artist Edgar Allan Poe became well known after skillfully holding the genre and writing detective, romantic, and horror stories by exploring the evils of man and the darkness beyond human mind, mental disorders, and trauma in many oeuvres like “The Fall of The House of Usher”, ‘The Tell-Tale Heart’, ‘The Raven’, “ The Black Cat “ Ligeia”, “ Morella”, and many others. By writing these masterpieces, he created

to the world new type of writings and influence and affect other genres too. Poe stood out thanks to his careful attention to form and style; after all, he is master of macabre and the father of detective stories.

1.4 Aspects of Gothic Literature

There are certain aspects of the Gothic genre, which are incorporated and dealt with in Gothic novels, stories, and poems. Moreover, to call a story ‘Gothic’ it has to consist the right setting, characters, plot, and supernatural, together they create fundamentally, the major works that challenge the ideologies of the time, by writing about the unknown, using some elements to provoke an atmosphere of suspense, mystery, and macabre to thrill readers. Authors typically include similar traits into their works, including enigmatic events and suspense, existence of uncanny creatures, Gothic architectures, prophecies and inherited curses, the frightening tone and gruesome weather, deadly and dreary atmosphere, mental perturbation and psychological trauma and female in distress. All of these elements will be illustrated therewith as followed.

1.4.1 Enigmatic Events and Suspense

The strongest kind of fear is the fear of the unknown. To make a good horror story, writers of this genre tend to use that fear not by revealing horror, but by leaving the audience hanging in a state of suspense. The familiar examples of suspense are, what is hiding in the haunted castle, or which of the dinner guest is the killer, or what is the main character’s dark secrets. The key to suspense is that it sets several questions that the audience hope to get an answer to, and keeping them guessing. Moreover, writers use suspense by limiting the point of view, through the narrators as not giving them much information about the events as much as the audience.

1.4.2 The Existence of Uncanny Features

The existence of uncanny features is another element of Gothicism. The imaginary creatures are used by author to show that human mind can think beyond the unknown and imagine things that does not exist in the real world like zombies, ghosts, and monsters. For instance, a statue coming to life or a walking dead body, a flying object, or vampires. These

supernatural elements also exist to create an atmosphere of fear and excite readers' emotions, even though these creatures do not exist in real world, however, it hunt them in their dreams.

1.4.3 The Gothic Architectures

Old and creepy architecture existence in many Gothic works like dreary castles, haunted houses, ruined monasteries, and isolated old buildings.it is another key element of Gothic fiction. Additionally, these buildings contain hidden cellars and secret passages. Author usually uses these elements to show suspense and to create an atmosphere of fear by describing the buildings or the sets of the story in a gloomy and dark way. All these essential elements give the story a dark and enigmatic touch. Authors mostly choose to use this aspect as a set of the events because of it bad reputation that include statue, ghosts, giant, and vampires.

1.4.4 Prophecies and Inherited Curses

To provoke suspense, thrill readers to the next events, and serve the purpose of prediction technique in Gothic fiction, another key element is uses, which is prophecies and inherited curses. It very important to add this element in literary Gothic work, to give readers a hint of what is going to happen next in the story. For instance, the hero or the heroine suffering from prophecy or struggling with an old hereditary curse, it gives the hero or heroine something to rescue even though it will not be easy, however, by the name of love, the impossible become possible. Moreover, the characters will live in tension, terror, and suspense of the unknown and suffer from this prophecies and curses.

1.4.5 The Frightening Tone and the Gruesome Weather

Another key element of Gothic fiction is the frightening tone and the gruesome weather. In any fictional gothic work, the existence of bad weather , the creepy sounds of thunder, the heavy rain , the wild wind and lightening is unquestionable, because it adds to the story more excitement and suspense. For instance, the heinous laugh and scream of the unknown, the squeaking sound of doors and windows, and the sound of footsteps and crumbling floor make the tone of the story even more frightening. Nevertheless, it cannot be denied that using this element specifically, is hard to see or fell it in a writing work rather than a film for example that it can be heard and seen. However, in a literary work it depends on the imagination of the readers when reading a Gothic work or even another piece of work.

1.4.6 Deadly and Dreary Atmosphere

The atmosphere of decay, thrill, and death has a role in Gothic fiction. The use of these elements is essential in any Gothic work. Authors generally create an atmosphere full of grief, tension, and terror that make the characters struggle with the unknown. For instance, the characters are constantly facing and struggling to rescue themselves from the hand of the uncanny being. Such as zombies, ghosts, or undead beings. Facing these paranormal creatures is often connected with creepy atmosphere and it can be felt when not knowing what going to happened next it even give Goosebumps and invoke suspense and thrill the readers.

1.4.7 Mental perturbation and Psychological Trauma

The existence of mental perturbation and psychological trauma in the Gothic text is another key element. It is a way to draw the story plot and one of the main trick to catch the readers mind, and build an integral piece of work full of suspense and thrill. For instance, the character has conflicted figures with a dark past with sinful secrets. Besides, having uncanny visions or nightmares, which predict upcoming tragedies. Moreover, the character's mental disorder, frequently, emerges from the guilt of his/her evil crimes or past sins. Additionally, the character's psychological trauma as it portrayed in most of Gothic writings is with no doubt a conflict or a struggle between the character and his/herself that in way or another effects the story sequence and eventually leads to a split of his/her personality and becomes a threat to people around him/her.

1.4.8 Female in distress

The existence of a female character in trouble is very common in Gothic fiction. However, every author portrays women in different ways. One of these ways is women in trouble. It means the using of female character in an uncomfortable role along with anguish and dreary events. Throughout the story path, the female character expresses emotions of fear through shouting, terrifying, and crying. Presenting women in this particular way can often have a deep effect on a text. For instance, being pursued by monstrous creatures or lock up on an isolated island or cursed by an evil witch. Most of the females characters end up dead or live as lost spirits or becomes the devil itself and seeks for revenge. Just like the case of Edgar Allan Poe's short stories. His women have as mall chance to survive in his imaginary world, however,

Poe give these women another chance to born again from aches, and control men's mind and intellectual.

1.5 Poe's tragic life and loss

From the very beginning, Edgar Allan Poe's life was dramatic and confused. He was born in Boston in January 1809 the second child of actors David and Elizabeth Poe. His beautiful and talented mother was a star of various companies for a young age, while his father began his adult life as a law student, but gave up his studies to go on stage. Whether his talent merited the move it hard to say, but his family certainly was very poor. The two got married however; this marriage did not last long because Edgar's father disappeared not giving any explanation, some rumors said that he ran off with a woman and others said that he died. While poor Elizabeth was left in Boston with two children and expecting a third. Apart from the difficulties of her pregnancy, she was already suffering from Tuberculosis but she had to go on, working to support her children. She then died with the end of the year of 1811. Fortunately, her friends were concerned about the plight of her children. Each of the three kids lived with different family, little Edgar went with the Allan's. It was a lucky chance for him for the family was well off and well able to take a good care of him. Francis Allan his foster mother was married for eight years and childless, it is not hard to believe that she was delighted to adopt a little boy who just lost his mother and was in need for love and empathy. She was a fantastic and a wonderful woman. However, as for her husband John Allan, a prosperous merchant he was mostly against the idea of adopting at first place. In spite of this, it was a stroke of luck for Edgar to have all attention and love.

Edgar's foster father had plans to expand his business abroad exactly in London, taking his family along with him, he sailed for England in 1815 when Poe was six years old. Nevertheless, Allan's family business affair did not prosper for the reason it was a harsh phase at that time in England. Despite that, Allan sent his foster son to the best school he could find; Edgar did well in school what made his foster father very pleased and ready to spend the considerable sums for his school and education. For Edgar it was the best time of his life, he grew up in every respect. At the age of fifteen, Edgar developed a passion for one of his school friend's mother named Jane Stannard who encouraged him on writing and inspired one of his best-known poems "To Helen". Unfortunately, Jane died in 1824, and left Edgar devastated and grieved.

Poe was much loved by his foster mother Francis, but his relation with John Allan was not an easy one. Allan never considered Edgar as his son or inherit, because he had other children from other women in secret, and when Edgar figured it out he could not tell his mother, he was afraid it would broke her heart, he had to remain silent so the woman who loved him as her own child would not get hurt. John Allan did not just cheated on his wife he also stopped sending money for Edgar who could not do anything rather than gambling, but it was not the right decision, it made him ran up more debts and before long he was head over heels in difficulties, and it was from this time he had a reputation for being a drunkard, something that dogged him for the rest of his life. After he suffered of the lack of money because of his foster father he decided to settle by his own in an old small house and then he was engaged to a fifteen year old girl who lived just near his new house called Elmira Shelton .However, when Elmira's parents were told that Poe would not inherit Allan's wealth they arranged for her to marry another man a few months later. In desperation Poe got somehow to Boston and joined the army, but it did not stopped him from writing well and with passion, he was in fact the true professional when it came to the work he cared about. Poe's army career was a success because he was accepted at West Point military academy as an officer cadet, and with some help from his foster father, Poe did well at first at study and parade. Yet, his past was still hanging over him, his foster mother and his strongest ally Francis Allan had died. Poe could not stay sober, a few drinks and broking rules and it was done, he was dismissed from Point West Academy in 1831. Poe's life took a new twist he went to his relatives in Baltimore; he lived with his aunt Maria Clem and her daughter Virginia in a small house and established his reputation as a writer and editor. By 1832, he had managed to get a few stories published in local newspapers and it began to be accepted that he had a career as w writer and would eventually make it. He won small prizes for poetry and stories run by local magazines, it was not much, but it was an encouragement and a push to give more. Poe had lived with his aunt and her daughter for a couple of years, by the time he left; he already set his heart on marrying his twelve years old cousin. Eventually, the two had married in 1836, when Virginia was only thirteen years old, but she proved to be the mate Poe needed and he loved her to the end of her short life. It did not take long for Poe to occupy a real position of respect among the literary people and impressed some of the best editors and novelist who get Poe's works published in England. Yet, it was not easy to make a lot of money, but he enjoyed the most stable period of his life along with his young wife. Sadly, this stability did not last. Virginia fell ill with consumption and almost died. This set him back to drinking again, and by 1842, he had lost his job, offending people, being his usual oversensitive self. After that, he decided to move to New York and found a job as a

subeditor, and once again, he had a regular income, and good reputation among publishers and editors who were ready to buy what he wrote. Around this time, Poe wrote some of his best criticism and stories. It was a sensation and he became a celebrity.

As usual, Poe's happiness never lasted long, his wife Virginia Died in 1847; he was left again alone and broken. Consequently, he began drinking more and more. After a period, he decided to move to Richmond, where he met again of all people His childhood and beloved sweetheart Elmira Shelton, a rich widow who certainly wanted to marry her. Nevertheless, before it went any further, he abruptly left town. He was next found lying in the street in Baltimore suffering from an illness never quite defined which within a few days had killed him. Mysteriously, he was not wearing his own clothes. His end has some of the mysterious qualities of his own stories, which are the best guild of his character.

In Edgar Allan Poe, America had its first truly great imagination writer in his own genre of horror and suspense. He remains unmatched and in his professionalism and high artistic goals against all odds. He set standards and stood out thanks to his careful selection to form and style. By mastering these elements, Poe commands readers' attention across lifespans and culture.

1.6 The representation of women in Poe's fiction and the 19th century society.

Edgar Allan Poe's work been the topic of many critics and scholars. Some he is a genius and a man beyond his time, and to some he is misogynist and pervert. To solve this disagreement and for a better understanding of this study, it is very necessary to speak about women represented in Poe's fiction and in the nineteenth century society, which was the period where Edgar Allan Poe lived and wrote about women in his works. In order to show that he did not write about dying women in his stories because he was influenced by his own life experiences and childhood trauma, but because he wanted to free women from men's control and domination, and show what they are capable of, even after their death, at least through his writings. Nevertheless, most of Poe's work are dedicated to women such as "The Black Cat", "Bernice", "Morella", "Ligeia" and not forgetting his notable poems such as "To Halen" and "Annabel Lee". Poe's women have a small chance to survive in most of his work or seem to die at some point, which will be seen in the second chapter through the analyses of two of

selected stories untitled, “Morella” and “Ligeia”; in which both of the female’s characters suffer from strange illnesses then dies in uncanny way. In addition to this both of them rebirth after their death. Hence, the two characters represent the women who was dominated and controlled by men in that era. However, Poe cannot be judged based on these works only. His works cannot be classified into one singular category. Hence, it need more than superficial readings to understand what he had in mind.

Furthermore, in any gothic work, the existence of female and male figure is fundamental. However, both of them have a specific purpose and role that differ from one work to another. However, presenting women in a particular light can often have a profound effect upon a text. Moreover, there are two main female roles within Gothic literature; ‘the helpless victim’ and ‘the predator’. The first is fragile and vulnerable, she gives the heroes something to rescue, and is often the prize for their brave endeavors. The latter is dangerous yet powerfully attractive; she helps portray the pain or pleasure paradox that has come to be synonymous with Gothic literature. However, during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, a woman was controlled by society and ruled under man’s patriarchal power. Woman in Gothic fiction was a reaction to patriarchal society; she has broken all laws and the chains of the patriarchal society. Therefore, many writers especially women, who were the beginners to explore this genre, and suffered from the patriarchal traditions at that time, also tend to create an independent identity by rejecting those norms through writing in gothic fiction, and showing how their dignity and values remain and often win. Even though they could not expose their real identity in public because it is against tradition, they tend to break the man and woman stereotype. Besides, the existence of a male figure is also essential in Gothic work, but really differs from the role of female figure. Much of males characters centers around the archetype of landed gentry: lords and kings of their state, and representative of male society’s rule over women. Male characters had power and often demand female characters into unthinkable acts and assaults on their virtue, including abuse acts, and forced marriage, these demands lead the female into emotional depressions and even death. Because men had control over society, they tend to be presented as brooding, violent, and domineering figures, giving the total reign of their society standing and taking full control of women’s lives and decisions. This is why Edgar Allan Poe could or could not wrote about women in this way by giving them a chance to rebirth after their death (at least in the two selected stories) to free women from the patriarchal society that chained and suffocated them during the nineteenth century since men and women had unequal roles in society. Men’s role focused on the public sphere, while women’s role was on the domestic sphere. Since men were superior to women at that time, they had all the rights, to

vote, full control over their marriage, choose any job they want it, and get higher educations. While in the other hand, women had to obey their husbands, raise the children, and do household duties like cleaning and cooking. During that time, it was expected of a man to be successful, if he was not educated well or had not a job; he was less than a man. Otherwise, for a woman, it was expected from her to ensure tranquility, and organization at the house. Women had few rights and were expected to be subservient to men. Not only were women denied the vote, they were denied the right to own property. Cultural expectations required that women refrain from expressing themselves openly in the presence of men.

Edgar Allan Poe dedicated most of his work for love, death, and women. He is best known for his tales horror and the macabre, as well as inventing the detective fiction genre. Therefore, through exploring these cocktail and reading his legacy with different perspectives, and analyzing his work it will be clear that Poe focused on creating beauty instead of expressing his self in his stories, and he did not hate or contempt women in his oeuvres, despite the fact of killing them in most of his work, Poe give his female character a chance to rise from the death and dominate the men's intellectual and mind.

1.8 Conclusion

Gothic literature is a notable genre, which involves horror, mystery, romance, suspense, and supernatural events. It is considered a very persistent and productive genre that last for more than 250 years, it is a style of writing, which first used by the English author Horace Walpole. However, Horace did not monopolize this writing style; many writers used it in their writings and influenced the world. One of these writers is the writer and poet Edgar Allan Poe, who wrote many poems, and short stories that include Gothic, terror, romance, and macabre. Even after his loss for many women in his tragic life like his mother, foster mother, his childhood sweetheart, who left him to marry another wealthy man, and his young wife, whom he lost for tuberculosis. Poe wrote some of the finest of macabre in his time and he dedicated most of his work to women. Especially, beautiful and young dying women. Hence, the next chapter will deal with an in-depth analysis of two of Edgar Allan Poe's short stories

entitled “Morella” and “Ligeia” in which he represents his female characters as powerful and strong women who control and dominate men’s intellectual and mind by the power of their will, even after their death.

Chapter Two

*The Analyses of Edgar Allan Poe's Selected Stories
"Morella" and "Ligeia".*

Outline of Chapter Two

2.1 Introduction

2.2 The analyses of “Morella” and “Ligeia”

2.2.1 Morella

2.2.2 Morella characterization

2.2.3 What Morella’s death represents

2.2.4 Ligeia

2.2.5 Ligia’s characterization

2.2.6 What Ligia’s death represents

2.7 Similarities between the two stories

2.8 Conclusion

2.1 Introduction

The artist Edgar Allan Poe is a remarkable writer whose frightening tales, poems, and short stories have thrilled and enthralled a huge number of readers all over the world. Poe's macabre has left a timeless mark on Gothic literature. However, there is one common topic in most of Poe's works, which is the idea of the death of beautiful young women. Poe portrays women in dark light and had killed numerous women in his stories and poems. Therefore, each heroines in his writings have a small chance of survival in his imaginary world.

This chapter will deal with the characterization and in-depth analysis of two short stories written by Edgar Allan Poe entitled 'Morella' and 'Ligeia'. In order to show that Poe was not a misogynist and did not victimize his fictional women, or was influenced by his childhood trauma and the loss of many women, he loved including his mother, his foster mother, and his wife whom he lost in very young age. However, presenting these women, especially, in these two stories as powerful women who overcome death and dominate men's minds and sanity.

2.2 The analyses of 'Morella' and 'Ligeia'

“Morella” (1835) and “Ligeia” (1838) are short stories in the Gothic genre, written by the nineteenth century writer Edgar Allan Poe. Untitled with the main female protagonist in the story Morella and Ligeia who end up dead in a mysterious way in each story, but could rebirth after controlling and manipulating the narrator mind and intellectual. This part will deal with in depth analyze of the two stories and their main characters in order to show that Edgar Allan Poe wrote these stories to give women power and demonstration over men’s intellectual.

2.2.1 “Morella”

The narrator marries a beautiful woman called Morella. He admires her because she was very intelligent. Yet, this love did not last. The narrator starts hating his wife, and cannot stand looking at her or even hearing her voice “I could no longer bear the touch of her wan fingers, nor the low tone of her musical language, nor the lustre of her melancholy eyes.” (Poe, Morella 12). After noticing the unfair treatment of her husband and that the man who once admired her changed, Morella falls ill. The narrator craves her death and he is even unhappy with her refusal to die. While lying on her bed, Morella calls for her husband, and when he approaches her she says, “I’m dying, yet shall I live” (Poe Morella 312). She also tells him that even though he did not admire her while she is alive; he will admire her after her death. Through the child that will live after her soul departs. Morella was right before her death she gives birth to a child that resembles her in an uncanny way. However, the narrator still loves the little girl but experiences anxiety and tension because of it.

Furthermore, the narrator never told the girl about her mother or even gave her a name nor baptized her. After she becomes ten years old, he decides to baptize her hoping it gets Morella’s spirit out of her body. On the ceremony day, when the priest asks for the name of the child, an uncanny thing takes over him, and the minute he lost control of himself, he utters ‘Morella’. The girl suddenly falls back on the ancestral vault and screams: “I am here” (Poe 313). After the girl’s death, he puts her in the same tomb as he did Morella, he finds out that the tomb is empty and she is no longer there. “And with my own hands I bore her to the tomb, and I laughed with a long and bitter laugh as I found no traces of the first in the channel where I laid the second” (Poe 313).

2.2.2 Morella Characterization

Morella is defined by her character and not by her appearance. She is described as talented “Her talents were of no common order” (Poe 310). In addition, intelligent “Her powers of mind were gigantic” (Poe 310). Moreover, Morella is a vivid character her energetic spirit makes the narrator hates her strong spirit out of jealousy “The most beautiful become the most hideous” (Poe 310). Even in her bed, dying Morella was the only one who spoke while the narrator was uttering her name only.

2.2.3 What Morella’s Death Represents

Morella is the female protagonist in this story, who marries a man that did not treasure her, or even love her because she was superior and smarter than he was. Even in her weakness on the deathbed, he did not care for her strange sickness; he even hates her existence and craves her quick death. However, she takes revenge even after her death and plays on his nerve by giving birth to a child that her spirit lives in. Morella warns her husband that he will regret not loving her while, she is alive and that he will admire her when she died. That is exactly what happened; the narrator loves his daughter, unlike her dying mother. Nevertheless, he could not mention her mother or even name her or baptized her, because he was afraid of her spirit. After years, the father decides to baptize his daughter hoping that Morella’s spirit will leave her body and gets rid of it. Yet, the thing he hopes never happened because on the ceremony day when the priest asks for the name of the child, a strange thing takes over him and the time he lost control, he utters “Morella”, the child then falls and screams : “I am here”. The man did not believe that he lost his own child, whom he admired and care the most, and when he try to put her in same tomb as he did Morella, he finds out that the tomb is empty and she is missing, this thing creeps him out and makes him think of her more than before.

Morella is a powerful character who dominates the narrator’s masculinity. By outperforming him in leadership and progress. Even after her death, she dominates over him by living in the body of their own child. She was a smart woman yet she died and could not raise her own child. Leaving that domestic role to be taken by the narrator and break the stereotype of the society and to control men to do things that confined and

restricted only on women .Morella’s death symbolizes her domination over her husband even after her death she could keep a trace of her which was her daughter, and before her death, she told him that he will admire her after her death even though he could not admire her when she was alive. Morella could control and dominate the narrator’s mind even after her death, and he could not get over her.

During the life of Edgar Allan Poe, women did not have the right to be educated nor to vote or even to own properties after they married because by the law, the married couple became one entity represented by husband, placing him in control of all money, and properties. In addition, giving up of their money and goods, they became property to their husbands. Marriage become contracts in that era, men were more stability, financially and power while women tried to endure the pain and hardships. Furthermore, Women were supposed to be domestic and to raise of children, clean the house, and to put food on the table. their rights were limited, even though they were extremely intelligent, they had no right to share their thoughts or even divorce because it was considered taboo in that cruel society.

The idea of this analysis is that the female character in this story symbolize the Victorian women, who suffered of injustice and unfair judgment, as a woman, she should stay home and take care of her husband and children never complaining. Poe is one of the writers whom wrote about women and the sad reality they had under the control of society. Morella is sample of these women, who suffered from the hate of her husband even in her deathbed and in her worst condition, she did not receives any love nor kindness from the only one she trusts and loves, after her death her love become hate and she seeks revenge through the person he loves the most, his daughter who he admired but in the same time could not get over his dying wife.

2.2.4 “Ligeia”

The story starts with the narrator speaking about his wife Ligeia. Moreover, telling the readers, what he does know about her, and how he cannot remember when they have met, or even what her last name was.” I cannot, for my soul, remember how, when, or even precisely

where, I first became acquainted with the lady Ligeia” (Poe 301). However, the narrator mentions her strange beauty and focuses mostly on her black eyes and her raven hair. Yet he dedicates almost an entire page to her physical appearance, additionally, he describes her as passionate, intelligent, and inspirational. Her soul starts to crumble, as she grows sick. After her death, the narrator leaves for England, where he married another woman named Lady Rowena, who he does not love. Lady Rowena is total contrast to Ligeia, she is fair skinned, blond and blue eyed. They married very quickly so he can move on and forget his beloved wife. Then they move into a bridal chamber. Ligeia did not leave the narrator’s mind and influences his thinking; he even begins to consume drugs in order to soothe his unsettled brain. Suddenly, Lady Rowena also gets sick. One night, the narrator brings her a glass of red wine, hoping it will revive her. Throughout that night. He begins hallucinating, and feels an invisible figure pass by him, hearing footsteps, seeing a shadow on the carpet and seeing red liquid drops fall into Rowena’s glass. After a while Rowena drunk the wine and suddenly grows worse and dies. After Rowena’s death, the narrator starts hallucinating again, but this time seeing color coming back into his dead wife body, and hearing a cry coming from her bed. In the next morning, the narrator witnessed his wife body. Still wrapped in her burial shroud, looking very much alive. As she rises from the bed and begins moving towards him, the bandage falls from her head and then reveals dark hair, the narrator then recognizes the eyes of the woman he never forget Ligeia.

2.2.5 Ligeia characterization

The narrator in the story describes Ligeia physical appearance as “Tall, somewhat slender, and, in her latter days, even emaciated”. (Poe, Ligeia 301). Every time she comes and leaves, she surprises the narrator, as she walks like shadow. Her beauty was “Strange” (Poe 301) and her “Features were not of that regular world which we have been falsely taught to worship” (Poe 301) She has a skin that was “Rivalling the purest ivory (Poe 302) He also astonished her lip, chin, and her glossy hair. However, the narrator was mostly astonished by his wife’s eyes “The most brilliant of black” (Poe 302) And “strangeness” and also “Far larger than the ordinary eyes of our own race” (Poe 303). The reason that the narrator was so obsessed with his wife’s eyes is that they expressed what exist inside of her. In which she was “Calm” and “Ever-placid (Poe 304). The narrator was fascinated with her intelligent and the huge knowledge that “Has never known in a woman” (Poe 303). And very aware of her absolute

supremacy. Even though he was a man of science, and very successful in the areas of moral and mathematical science” (Poe 304)

2.2.6 What Ligeia’s Death Represents

The main protagonist falls deeply in love with Ligeia, who is an unconventionally attractive beauty. The narrator is not able to recall how he becomes acquainted with her and her personal background is shrouded in mystery. Although the obsession of the narrator with the looks of Ligeia, he also admired other Ligeia’s virtues like her passion and intelligence. He even considers her as his equal, considering she was his partner in his studies, and even his superior, and the only one allowed to freely enter his study room and would never be disturbed when she placed her hand upon his shoulder. Despite their happy marriage, unfortunately their marriage does not last long by virtue of the fact that Ligeia soon becomes ill and passes away. After her death, he loses his heart and mind, but he decides to leave his town and lives in England. Then he is acquainted with a local woman called Lady Rowena who is totally contrast to his late wife, she is fair skinned, blue eyed and blond. However, Ligeia still lingers in his mind; he even starts consume drugs to forget his pain. In addition to this, the narrator starts hallucinating, and hearing footsteps and seeing shadows. At the end of the story Ligeia comes back to live through the body of Lady Rowena; after she gets sick and dies.

The fact that Ligeia had complete domination over the narrator’s mind. Even at her deathbed, she ordered him to read her a poem, which he obeyed. Her eventual victory was her rebirth from the death using another woman’s dead body after she rushed Rowena’s death to get what she wants. Ligeia is the kind of a woman to overcome anything by the power of her strong will, and regardless of society’s standards, she was capable of anything and went beyond the ordinary. In a way, her refusal to be forgotten, or to share her husband whom she loves and did not hesitate to get him back and her rebirth in another woman’s body symbolizes the domination of women over men intellectual and the strong will of women to face fate and defeat the cruel roles of the society. In addition to this, their relationship challenges the traditional gender hierarchy of men over women, as he treats her as his equal and loves her existence next to him while working. His extreme love for his wife drove him to consume drugs and make him unconscious to what he is doing. Ligeia really controls the narrator’s mind and heart even after her death he keeps thinking of her and missing her in front of him. Although he marries another woman but she could not replace his beloved wife.

Edgar Allan Poe is master of Gothic and macabre; he is one of the iconic in Literature. He is best known for his short stories and poems and had captivated readers for over century. However, one of noticeable topic in his writing is about women. He is a writer who suffered from the loss of many women in his life including his mother, his foostermother, and his cousin and wife. He lived a cruel life by his own, regarding his own life and his loss it is obvious where he got his inspiration in writing about women in most of his work. However, it cannot be judged on a writer only by one or two works. Ligeia is a sample of women from his vast works in which his life experiences may reflected on. It is a story in which have a horror elements and gothic aspects including, the nefarious characters including Ligeia and Lady Rowena, women in distress as the two females characters suffered from strange illnesses, the existence of uncanny features such as the spirits and the transformation of the dead body, Enigmatic events and suspense, the gothic architectures including the old settings, also the sound of wind, thunder and the pouring rains. Furthermore, the deadly and dreary atmosphere as in the moment Lady Rowena was in her deathbed while drinking wine, or the raise of Ligeia from the bed where Lady Rowena just dies.

2.7 Similarities between the two stories

After analyzing the two stories, it is clear that Poe represents strong, independent women who dominate men intellectual. Morella controls the narrator mind, after she dies by giving birth to a child, whom looks just like her. The narrator admires his child, but could not stop thinking of his wife. He lives in fear the entire time and when wanted to get rid of the spirit of Morella he failed and lost his little child. Moreover, Ligeia also controls the narrator mind after she dies through the body of the narrator's second wife Lady Rowena, by rushing her death and finally takeover her death body and comeback to her husband, whom she loves and cares the most. Additionally, both of the females characters are stronger than the males characters because at the end of the two stories they won on the narrator's intellectuals and minds. Moreover, the two stories have similarities. Firstly, the narrators of both stories are males, and the protagonist are females, and the stories are title with the protagonists' names. The author Edgar Allan Poe deliberates using the females protagonists as title for both stories to pull readers' attention. In addition, by naming the two stories after women, Poe is recognizing just

how essential women are to storytelling, especially in reflecting the time's society, including, Victorian society.

Secondly, the two protagonists died of strange illness and in some way comes back to life at the end of each story, using another person body. Morella suffers from an unknown illness. Nevertheless, her husband still did not treats her well he craves her soon death and could not stand her existence." I could no longer bear the touch of her wan fingers, nor the low tone of her musical language, nor the luster of her melancholy eyes". (Poe Morella 312). After her death, Morella uses the body of her own child to raise from the grave, the minute in which the narrator utters her name to the pries "And in the silence of the night, I whispered within the ears of the holy man the syllables ---- Morella?" (Poe 313). She takes the body of the child, the little girl scream very loud "I am here" (Poe 313). The girl did not open her eyes once again; the narrator decides to bury her in the same tomb where he buried her mother. However, the body of Morella was missing "But she died; and with my own hands I bore her to the tomb; and I laughed with a long and bitter laugh as I found no traces of the first in the channel where I laid the second.—Morella" (Poe 313).

In the story of Ligeia, she comes back to life through her husband's second wife body. The narrator and his wife loved each other so much. Unlike in the case of Morella. He admires every details especially her eyes "...And then I peered into the large eyes of Ligeia" (Poe Ligeia 302)". "They were even fuller than the fullest of the gazelle eyes of the tribe of the valley of Nourjahad" (Poe 302). Yet their love could not last when Ligeia gets sick and when she dies he could not stand staying in the same town so he moves to England where he meets Lady Rowena and get marries. However, the narrator never loves his new wife; in fact, he could not forget his late wife Ligeia. The narrators starts consuming drugs and suddenly starts hallucinating and seeing shadows and hearing footsteps. In the second month of marriage, Lady Rowena gets sick and dies. And while her body still in the room, the narrator was surprise that the body stands and the cover drops and reveals his late wife Ligeia "of my lost love—of the lady—of the LADY LIGEIA."(Poe 309).

Thirdly, in both stories the narrators are inferior to their wife's intellect. Additionally, Morella and Ligeia were extremely intelligent, shared the same interests, and had mental power that dominated the narrators' minds, In Morella when she dies the narrator becomes obsess with his child and tries to keep her safe from the unknown. He did not even names her "...And as yet my daughter remained nameless upon the Earth. "My child and my love" (Poe Ligeia 313). In

addition, never mention her mother's name "Morella's name died with her at her death". (Poe Ligeia 313).

As for Ligeia, the narrator is in love with his wife and suffers when she dies "She died;—and I, crushed into the very dust with sorrow" (Poe Ligeia 305). And could not endure loneliness "could no longer endure the lonely desolation of my dwelling in the dim and decaying city..." (Poe 305). Yet, he could not get over her "And again I sunk into visions of Ligeia—and again..." (Poe Ligeia 308).

This is why the narrator marries another woman called Lady Rowena in order to forget about his late wife. However, it seems that his wife could not forget him either and hunts the body of Lady Rowena and controls it. As he know her because of her eye and glossy hair, he was always in love with. I shrieked aloud, "can I never—can I never be mistaken—these are the full, and the black, and the wild eyes—of my lost love—of the lady—of the LADY "LIGEIA"." (Poe Ligeia 309).

2.8 Conclusion

Edgar Allan Poe influence on the short stories is remarkable and unmatched in English Literature. He stood out due his attention to form and style, and capture readers for many generations. One of the most interesting topic from his legacy is the death of young and beautiful woman. This topic been such disagreement among critics and scholars. However, after analyzing two of his short stories: "Morella", and "Ligeia" and studying the two female figures and their approaches, speaking about their relationship with narrator, their roles in the stories, physical and internal characterizations. It is clear now that Poe had portrayed woman, especially, in these two stories, as powerful, intelligent, and strong women, whose manifestation of power can achieves even after their death.

General

Conclusion

The aim of this research is to exhibit that rather than studying a literary text through the author's personal life and experiences, it is very important to study the literary text itself. Especially for a great writer and poet like Edgar Allan Poe, master of macabre and father of detective stories. Poe wrote one of the best works in different styles and forms. However, the most poetical topic he ever wrote is about the death of beautiful, young women. Poe's women have a small chance to survive in his imaginary world as much as he lost his real women in the actual world. Hence, this topic has been such disagreement between critics and scholars, and every person has its own opinion whether Poe is genius and a man of his time or he is just a pervert and a misogynist. Therefore, for a better understanding of this thesis it was necessary to take a

brief look at Poe's tragic life and the loss of his women, in addition to this, taking a glance on how women were represented in Poe's Gothic fiction and the nineteenth century society, in the first chapter.

Wherefore, based on the analyses of the characters of Morella, and Ligeia in two of Edgar Allan Poe's short stories, entitled "Morella", and "Ligeia", the paper concludes that the protagonists in both stories represent powerful, and strong women, who overcome anything by the power of their will. Moreover, dominate the narrator's intellectual even after their death. Despite the fact that Poe had a crucial life and lost many women whom he loved including his mother, his foster mother, and his young wife. Poe cannot be judged based on superficial readings. In other meaning, the crucial themes of his stories are not a mirrored version of his life. Especially, after considering he wrote in different themes, styles, and genres. Moreover, putting them all in the same class is ignominious to Edgar Allan Poe as a writer.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Poe, Edgar Allan. *EDGAR ALLAN POE: COMPLETE TALES AND POEMS*. Maplewood Books.2013. accessed 22 September 2021.

- Poe, Edgar Allan. *Ligeia*. An Exploration of Short stories by Edgar Allan Poe. Web. Accessed 1 October 2021. <https://poestories.com/read/Ligeia>.
- Nabi, Asmat. *Gender Represented In the Gothic Novel*." IOSR Journal Of Humanities And Social Science (IOSR-JHSS), vol. 22, no. 11, 2017, pp. 73-77. Web. accessed 18 September 2021.
<https://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:ooLdIkIrVLUJ:https://www.iosrjournals.org/iosrjhss/papers/Vol.%252022%2520Issue11/Version-3/J2211037377.pdf+%&cd=1&hl=fr&ct=clnk&gl=dz>.
- Ružica, Vrbat. *Death of Women in Edgar Allan Poe's Selected Stories*. Undergraduate thesis. J.J. Strossmayer University of Osijek Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, 2017: pp. 01-21. Web. accessed 30 September 2021.
<https://urn.nsk.hr/urn:nbn:hr:142:744380>
- Leonardi, Angela. *The Function of Gender in Female and Male Gothic*. *Grin*, 2016. Web. Accessed 10 June 2021. <https://www.grin.com/document/351794>
- Elif notes, *Gothicism in Literature*. 2021. Web. Accessed 22 November 2021.
<https://elifnotes.com/gothicism-in-literature/>
- Clark, Jill Anderson. *The Dying Woman Tales of Edgar Allan Poe: Parables of the Interdependence of Body and Soul*. *Academia*. May 2014.
https://www.academia.edu/37562431/The_Dying_Woman_Tales_of_Edgar_Allan_Poe_Parables_of_the_Interdependence_of_Body_and_Soul
- Baccam, Emily. *Portrayals of Women in the Work of Edgar Allan Poe*. *Emilymwhitley*. 02 August 2017. Web. Accessed 20 June 2021.
<https://emilymwhitley.wordpress.com/2017/08/02/portrayals-of-women-in-the-works-of-edgar-allan-poe/>
- N/A. *The Women in Poe's Life*. *The Poe Museum*. 25 March 2021. Web. Accessed 22 May 2021. <https://poemuseum.org/the-women-in-poes-life/>
Edgar Allan Poe-Morella. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L6_qEakceM4