



# **The Works of Edgar Allan Poe in Five Volumes: Volume One (The Complete Works of Edgar Allan Poe) (Volume 1)**

*Edgar Allan Poe*

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*Edgar Allan Poe*

## The Works of Edgar Allan Poe in Five Volumes: Volume One (The Complete Works of Edgar Allan Poe) (Volume 1) Edgar Allan Poe

"I became insane, with long intervals of horrible sanity."

--- Edgar Allan Poe

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Edgar Allan Poe: An Appreciation

Edgar Allan Poe by James Russell Lowell

To Helen

Death of Edgar A. Poe by N. P. Willis

The Unparalleled Adventures of One Hans Pfaal

Notes to Hans Pfaal

The Gold-Bug

The Homo-Cameleopard

The Murders in the Rue Morgue

The Mystery of Marie Roget

The Balloon-Hoax

MS. Found in a Bottle

The Oval Portrait

The works of American author Edgar Allan Poe (January 19, 1809 - October 7, 1849) include many poems, short stories, and one novel. His fiction spans multiple genres, including horror fiction, adventure, science fiction, and detective fiction, a genre he is credited with inventing. These works are generally considered part of the Dark romanticism movement, a literary reaction to Transcendentalism. Poe's writing reflects his literary theories: he disagreed with didacticism and allegory. Meaning in literature, he said in his criticism, should be an undercurrent just beneath the surface; works whose meanings are too obvious cease to be art. Poe pursued originality in his works, and disliked proverbs. He often included elements of popular pseudosciences such as phrenology and physiognomy. His most recurring themes deal with questions of death, including its physical signs, the effects of decomposition, concerns of premature burial, the reanimation of the dead, and mourning. Though known as a masterly practitioner of Gothic fiction, Poe did not invent the genre; he was following a long-standing popular tradition.

Poe's literary career began in 1827 with the release of 50 copies of *Tamerlane and Other Poems* credited only to "a Bostonian", a collection of early poems which received virtually no attention. In December 1829, Poe released *Al Aaraaf, Tamerlane, and Minor Poems* in Baltimore before delving into short stories for the first time with "Metzengerstein" in 1832. His most successful and most widely read prose during his lifetime was "The Gold-Bug" which earned him a \$100 prize, the most money he received for a single work. One of his most important works, "The Murders in the Rue Morgue", was published in 1841 and is today considered the first modern detective story. Poe called it a "tale of ratiocination". Poe became a household name with the publication of "The Raven" in 1845, though it was not a financial success. The publishing industry at the time was a difficult career choice and much of Poe's work was written using themes specifically catered for

mass market tastes.

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