

Edgar Allan Poe

Let's continue with our special week of horror. Today we're gonna be talking about Edgar Allan Poe, a writer, poet critic and editor from _____. Known for his horror short stories and his gothic novels with a gloomy and very innovative style at the time, he marked the first steps of today's horror and _____ novels.

He was born in January, 19th, 1809 in _____, Massachusetts. When Edgar was only _____ years old his dad abandoned his family. A bit later, his mom died leaving Poe with his brother and sister orphan. The three of them were separated and Poe was adopted by the Allan family. John Allan was a successful tradesman, so Edgar didn't have any money issues while he was a kid and he went to good schools. His stepmother, who couldn't have kids, always loved him and pampered him. However, the relationship with his stepfather was never really _____.

Since he was a kid, Edgar always enjoyed spending time reading _____ magazines he found in his dad's warehouses and, when he was only _____, he was already writing his own poems. Back then, Poe was a good kid, but not very sociable. At that time already, his macabre way of writing was already appearing. Poe enrolled at the University of _____ when he was 17 and problems started then. His stepfather limited his money. Edgar was a big fan of betting and alcohol he went into debt and had to leave college. Without money or a job, he decided to enlist in _____ in the US Army. That same year he published his first book "Tamerlane and other poems" credited only to a Bostonian, since his stepfather didn't want him to write and that didn't want to be discovered.

This short collection of poems still dealt with all the typical things in that period of time and it was full of verses Edgar had written when he was a kid. Edgar's stepmom fell ill, but by the time he was able to go back home, Mrs. Allan was already _____. It was very painful for the poet. He moved with his grandma and his aunt. It was then that he published his second book "Al Aaraaf" which contained the longest poem he ever wrote. According to Poe himself, he wrote it when he was 15.

This collection of poems called the critics attention, but not in a good way. The poems were too complicated. John Allan decided to make up with his son and got him a place to continue his studies in the Military Academy at West Point. In _____, the writer stood out in the classes he took, but his stepfather married again without telling him and Edgar started fighting him constantly, until John simply cut off all contact with him. It was then that the poet was expelled from West Point due to his bad behavior. Poe didn't have any friends, didn't have a job and was facing serious financial problems. He swallowed his pride and sent a letter begging his father for help, but he never got any.

In _____, Edgar's stepfather died and didn't include him in his will. The writer kept fighting to survive and, in _____, he got a job as an editor for the art and literature magazine Southern Literary Messenger in Richmond. There, Poe built a reputation as a fierce critic, writing cruel comments about his contemporaries. His heartless critics earned him the reputation of being a tomahawk man. When he was 27, the poet married his cousin _____, who was only 13 years old. At some point in 1840, Edgar joined George R. Graham as a Graham's magazine _____. During the years Poe worked for the magazine, he published his first detective novel "The murders in the Rue Morgue". This has been recognized as the first murder and detective story with a macabre tone in both the crimes in the story and the characters themselves.

In _____, Edgar published his first great horror story, "The Raven". The poem's considered to be one of the most famous in US literature. It's one of the best and most horrifying in his career. In _____, when he was only 24 years old, same age of her biological mom and his older brother when they died, his wife, Virginia, died of _____. Poe was devastated with pain after her death and he was never in good health again. Allan Poe spent his last days in _____. He was found in the streets and was taken to a hospital. During those days, he was never clear-headed enough to explain what had happened to him.

In the end, he died on a Sunday _____ 1849. Since then, there has been a great mysticism around his death. In the beginning, people thought it had been caused by a brain congestion or his _____, but no cause is actually accurate since his death certificate never appeared. His death still remains a great mystery. Edgar Allan Poe is considered as one of the best writers of short horror stories, master of mystery and terror. He's still nowadays such a reference.