

the tell tale heart by edgar allan poe pdf

the tell tale heart by edgar allan poe pdf is a widely sought-after literary work that continues to captivate readers and scholars alike. This classic short story by Edgar Allan Poe, known for its psychological depth and gothic atmosphere, explores themes of guilt, madness, and the unreliable narrator. Many readers look for the tell tale heart by edgar allan poe pdf to access the text conveniently for study or leisure reading. This article provides an in-depth overview of the story, its significance, and the availability of the tell tale heart by edgar allan poe pdf. Additionally, it discusses the story's themes, analysis, and the best sources to find a legitimate pdf version. Readers will gain a comprehensive understanding of this masterpiece and how to access it in digital format. The following sections outline the key aspects covered in this article.

- Overview of The Tell-Tale Heart
- Availability and Access to the Tell Tale Heart by Edgar Allan Poe PDF
- Literary Analysis and Themes
- Historical Context and Author Background
- Benefits of Reading the Tell Tale Heart by Edgar Allan Poe PDF

Overview of The Tell-Tale Heart

The tell tale heart by edgar allan poe pdf represents one of the most iconic pieces of American Gothic literature. Originally published in 1843, the story is a psychological thriller narrated by an unnamed protagonist who insists on their sanity while describing the murder of an old man. The narrative focuses on the intense mental state of the narrator, particularly the obsession with the old man's "vulture eye," which drives the plot toward a chilling climax. This short story exemplifies Poe's mastery in creating suspense and exploring the darker aspects of the human mind.

Plot Summary

The tell tale heart by edgar allan poe pdf recounts a tale of paranoia and murder. The narrator carefully plans and executes the killing of an old man, motivated solely by the discomfort caused by the man's eye. Despite the meticulous nature of the crime, the narrator's guilt manifests through

auditory hallucinations of the old man's heart beating beneath the floorboards. This overwhelming guilt ultimately leads to the narrator's confession to the authorities.

Main Characters

The story revolves around a few key characters:

- **The Narrator:** The unreliable and mentally unstable protagonist whose perspective drives the story.
- **The Old Man:** Victim of the narrator's obsession, characterized primarily by his "vulture eye."
- **The Police:** They investigate the crime and witness the narrator's breakdown.

Availability and Access to the Tell Tale Heart by Edgar Allan Poe PDF

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- **Text accuracy:** The pdf should contain the original, unaltered text.
- **Formatting:** Clear typography and proper paragraph structure enhance readability.
- **Additional materials:** Some PDFs include annotations, analyses, or historical notes that enrich understanding.

Literary Analysis and Themes

The tell tale heart by edgar allan poe pdf is not only a compelling narrative but also a rich text for literary analysis. Poe's use of symbolism, narrative technique, and psychological insight creates a layered story that invites multiple interpretations. The story's themes resonate deeply with concepts of guilt, madness, and the nature of reality.

Theme of Guilt and Madness

The primary theme explored in the tell tale heart by edgar allan poe pdf is the psychological torment of guilt. The narrator's descent into madness is portrayed through the symbolic heartbeat that grows louder and more unbearable. This auditory hallucination represents the inescapable nature of guilt and how it can consume the human mind.

Unreliable Narrator

Poe's use of an unreliable narrator in the tell tale heart by edgar allan poe pdf challenges readers to question the truthfulness of the account. The narrator's insistence on sanity contrasted with erratic behavior creates a tension that is central to the story's psychological impact. This narrative style has influenced countless works of fiction and remains a hallmark of Poe's storytelling approach.

Symbolism and Imagery

The story employs vivid imagery and symbolism to enhance its themes:

- **The Vulture Eye:** Symbolizes the object of obsession and irrational fear.
- **The Heartbeat:** Represents guilt and the psychological burden carried by the narrator.
- **Darkness and Light:** Contrast between concealment and revelation throughout the story.

Historical Context and Author Background

Understanding the historical context and Edgar Allan Poe's background enriches the reading of the tell tale heart by edgar allan poe pdf. Poe was a pioneer of the Gothic genre in American literature, and his works often delve into the macabre and the psychological.

Edgar Allan Poe's Literary Contributions

Poe's influence on American literature is significant, with the tell tale heart by edgar allan poe pdf being one of his most studied works. He is credited with developing elements of detective fiction, horror, and psychological thriller genres. His concise and impactful storytelling style is evident in this short story.

19th Century Literary Environment

The tell tale heart by edgar allan poe pdf was published during a period of burgeoning American literature when writers began exploring more complex psychological themes. Poe's work stood out for its innovative use of first-person narration and its focus on the inner workings of the mind.

Benefits of Reading the Tell Tale Heart by Edgar Allan Poe PDF

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- Interactive table of contents
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Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I find a free PDF of 'The Tell-Tale Heart' by Edgar Allan Poe?

You can find free PDFs of 'The Tell-Tale Heart' on websites like Project Gutenberg, Google Books, and other public domain resources since the story is in the public domain.

Is the PDF version of 'The Tell-Tale Heart' by Edgar Allan Poe available with annotations?

Yes, some versions of the PDF include annotations and analysis to help readers better understand the themes and literary devices used by Edgar Allan Poe.

What is the best format to read 'The Tell-Tale Heart' by Edgar Allan Poe on a mobile device?

PDF is widely supported on mobile devices, but formats like ePub or Kindle may offer better readability and adjustable text sizes. However, PDF versions are easily accessible and commonly used.

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Most PDFs of 'The Tell-Tale Heart' contain just the text, but some editions include classic or modern illustrations to enhance the reading experience.

Can I legally download 'The Tell-Tale Heart' by Edgar Allan Poe as a PDF?

Yes, since 'The Tell-Tale Heart' was published in the 19th century, it is in the public domain, making it legal to download and share the story in PDF format.

Are there any annotated study guides available in PDF format for 'The Tell-Tale Heart'?

Yes, many educators and literary websites offer annotated study guides in PDF format that include summaries, analyses, and discussion questions for 'The Tell-Tale Heart.'

Additional Resources

1. *The Fall of the House of Usher* by Edgar Allan Poe

This classic Poe tale delves into themes of madness, family decay, and supernatural horror. The story follows the narrator's visit to his friend Roderick Usher's crumbling mansion, where eerie events unfold. Its dark atmosphere and psychological tension make it a perfect companion to "The Tell-Tale Heart."

2. *The Black Cat* by Edgar Allan Poe

In this chilling narrative, Poe explores guilt and madness through the protagonist's relationship with his black cat. The story unravels a descent into cruelty and insanity, echoing the psychological horror found in "The Tell-Tale Heart." It's a gripping examination of the human psyche's darker side.

3. *Morella* by Edgar Allan Poe

"Morella" is a haunting tale of love, death, and eerie resurrection. The story's gothic elements and exploration of identity and the supernatural complement the macabre themes in "The Tell-Tale Heart." Poe's lyrical prose creates an unsettling atmosphere throughout.

4. *The Cask of Amontillado* by Edgar Allan Poe

This story revolves around revenge and deception, featuring a sinister plot set in the catacombs beneath a carnival. Like "The Tell-Tale Heart," it showcases Poe's mastery of suspense and the darker aspects of human nature. The chilling climax leaves a lasting impact.

5. *William Wilson* by Edgar Allan Poe

A psychological thriller about a man haunted by his doppelgänger, this story examines themes of identity, guilt, and self-destruction. Its intense narrative and exploration of inner turmoil align closely with the mood found in "The Tell-Tale Heart." Poe's intricate storytelling captivates readers.

6. *The Masque of the Red Death* by Edgar Allan Poe

Set during a deadly plague, this allegorical tale explores themes of mortality and inevitability. The vivid imagery and symbolic elements enrich Poe's exploration of human fear and denial. It complements the psychological and gothic tone of "The Tell-Tale Heart."

7. *Hop-Frog* by Edgar Allan Poe

This dark tale of revenge features a court jester who ingeniously turns the

tables on his cruel king and ministers. The story's blend of horror and poetic justice resonates with the themes of retribution and madness found in "The Tell-Tale Heart." Poe's storytelling is both suspenseful and ironic.

8. *Ligeia* by Edgar Allan Poe

"Ligeia" is a story of love, death, and the supernatural, focusing on the narrator's obsession with his enigmatic wife. The narrative's haunting mood and exploration of memory and resurrection align well with the eerie tone of "The Tell-Tale Heart." Poe's rich language enhances the story's mysterious aura.

9. *The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym of Nantucket* by Edgar Allan Poe

Poe's only complete novel combines adventure, horror, and psychological suspense in a sea voyage fraught with peril. While different in scope, its exploration of fear and the unknown parallels the intense emotions in "The Tell-Tale Heart." The novel's dark and mysterious episodes make it a compelling read for Poe enthusiasts.

[The Tell Tale Heart By Edgar Allan Poe Pdf](#)

The Tell-Tale Heart by Edgar Allan Poe: PDF Edition

By Dr. Evelyn Reed, PhD in English Literature

Outline:

Introduction: Exploring Poe's Masterpiece and its Enduring Appeal

Chapter 1: Narrative Structure and Unreliable Narration: Delving into the First-Person Perspective and its Psychological Impact

Chapter 2: Symbolism and Imagery: Analyzing the Power of Poe's Vivid Descriptions and Symbolic Motifs

Chapter 3: Themes of Guilt, Madness, and the Supernatural: Unpacking the Story's Psychological and Philosophical Depth

Chapter 4: Critical Interpretations and Legacy: Examining Different Perspectives on the Story and its Influence on Literature

Chapter 5: The Tell-Tale Heart in Modern Adaptation: Exploring its impact on film, theatre, and other media.

Conclusion: The Lasting Power of Poe's Psychological Thriller

The Tell-Tale Heart by Edgar Allan Poe: A Deep Dive into Psychological Horror

Edgar Allan Poe's "The Tell-Tale Heart" remains a cornerstone of gothic horror and psychological literature, captivating readers for nearly two centuries with its chilling narrative and exploration of the human psyche. This short story, readily available in PDF format, offers a compelling study of guilt, madness, and the fragility of the human mind. Its enduring relevance stems from its timeless exploration of themes that continue to resonate with contemporary audiences. This article will dissect the story, layer by layer, examining its intricate narrative structure, potent symbolism, and lasting influence on literature and popular culture.

1. Introduction: Exploring Poe's Masterpiece and its Enduring Appeal

"The Tell-Tale Heart," published in 1843, is a masterclass in suspense and psychological terror. Poe's masterful use of first-person narration creates a deeply unsettling experience, drawing the reader into the disturbed mind of the unnamed narrator. The story's brevity is deceptive; its impact lingers long after the final sentence. Its enduring appeal lies in its ability to tap into primal fears – the fear of madness, the fear of guilt, and the fear of the unknown lurking within ourselves. The story's accessibility makes it a perennial choice for literature classes, while its dark themes continue to inspire adaptations across various media. This exploration will delve into the elements that contribute to the story's lasting power and its significance in the literary canon.

2. Chapter 1: Narrative Structure and Unreliable Narration: The Psychological Power of First-Person

The story's effectiveness is inextricably linked to its first-person narration. The narrator, clearly mentally unstable, presents a subjective account of events, consistently attempting to convince the reader of his sanity while simultaneously revealing his profound madness. This unreliable narration is a crucial element of Poe's technique. The reader is forced to question the narrator's perceptions and interpretations, creating a constant sense of unease and ambiguity. The narrator's meticulous planning of the murder, his insistence on his own rationality, and his detailed descriptions of his actions all contribute to the overall sense of creeping dread. His rationalizations, however meticulous, only serve to highlight his derangement, making him a compelling and terrifying character. The reader is not merely observing the events; they are trapped inside the narrator's increasingly fractured mind, experiencing the story through his distorted lens. This technique enhances the psychological horror, making the experience visceral and deeply unsettling.

3. Chapter 2: Symbolism and Imagery: A Deep Dive into Poe's Visual Language

Poe's genius lies not only in his narrative structure but also in his masterful use of symbolism and imagery. The old man's "vulture eye" is perhaps the most potent symbol, representing the narrator's obsession and the source of his madness. This single, recurring image fuels the narrative, driving the plot and amplifying the psychological tension. The description of the sound of the old man's beating heart, amplified in the narrator's increasingly paranoid state, is a powerful example of auditory imagery. This sound, initially only perceived by the narrator, becomes an objective reality, a testament to his guilt and the corrosive power of his own conscience. Poe's use of vivid sensory details—the chilling darkness, the suffocating humidity, the sharp sounds—contributes to the overall atmosphere of dread and claustrophobia. This carefully crafted imagery immerses the reader in the narrator's warped reality, making the story's psychological impact even more profound.

4. Chapter 3: Themes of Guilt, Madness, and the Supernatural: Exploring the Story's Psychological Depth

"The Tell-Tale Heart" explores several intertwined themes that contribute to its enduring relevance. Guilt is a central theme, manifested in the narrator's increasing paranoia and his eventual confession. His meticulously planned murder fails to alleviate his guilt; instead, it intensifies it to a point of unbearable torment. The exploration of madness is equally profound. The narrator's obsession with the old man's eye and his rationalizations of his actions demonstrate a clear descent into insanity. The line between sanity and madness becomes increasingly blurred, leaving the reader questioning the nature of reality itself. Furthermore, the story touches upon supernatural elements. The intensified sound of the beating heart, heard only by the narrator, could be interpreted as a manifestation of his guilt or a supernatural manifestation of his crime. This ambiguity adds another layer to the story's psychological complexity, enhancing its unsettling atmosphere.

5. Chapter 4: Critical Interpretations and Legacy: A Multifaceted Masterpiece

"The Tell-Tale Heart" has been subjected to numerous critical interpretations over the years, reflecting its multifaceted nature. Some critics focus on the story's psychological aspects, analyzing the narrator's mental state and the motivations behind his actions. Others emphasize the story's social commentary, exploring themes of oppression and the dark side of human nature. Still others examine the story's literary techniques, praising Poe's masterful use of language, imagery, and narrative structure. The story's influence on subsequent literature is undeniable, inspiring countless authors to explore similar themes of madness, guilt, and the unreliable narrator. Its impact extends beyond literature, influencing filmmakers, playwrights, and artists who have adapted the story into various forms of media. These adaptations demonstrate the enduring power of Poe's narrative and its continuing relevance to contemporary audiences.

6. Chapter 5: The Tell-Tale Heart in Modern Adaptation: From Page to Screen and Beyond

The enduring appeal of "The Tell-Tale Heart" is evident in its numerous adaptations across various media. The story's core themes – the descent into madness, the overwhelming power of guilt, and the unsettling exploration of the human psyche – have resonated with filmmakers, playwrights, and artists for generations. From film adaptations that focus on the visual aspects of the story's suspense to theatrical productions that explore the psychological nuances of the narrator, these adaptations demonstrate the story's versatility and its capacity to be reinterpreted for contemporary audiences. The story's adaptability highlights the power of Poe's writing, proving that even a short story can have a lasting and far-reaching impact on popular culture. Analyzing these adaptations reveals new interpretations of the story, further enriching its lasting significance.

7. Conclusion: The Lasting Power of Poe's Psychological Thriller

"The Tell-Tale Heart" remains a powerful and unsettling exploration of the human psyche. Its impact stems from Poe's masterful use of narrative techniques, vivid imagery, and potent symbolism. The story's exploration of guilt, madness, and the supernatural continues to resonate with readers and viewers alike, making it a timeless classic of psychological horror. Its enduring popularity is a testament to the power of storytelling, highlighting the capacity of literature to tap into our deepest fears and explore the darkest corners of the human experience. The enduring legacy of this short story underscores its lasting importance within the literary landscape and popular culture.

FAQs:

1. Is "The Tell-Tale Heart" a true story? No, it's a work of fiction.
2. What is the main theme of "The Tell-Tale Heart"? The main themes are guilt, madness, and the unreliable narrator.
3. Who is the narrator in "The Tell-Tale Heart"? An unnamed, unreliable narrator who murders an old man.
4. What is the significance of the "vulture eye"? It's a potent symbol representing the narrator's obsession.
5. How does Poe create suspense in "The Tell-Tale Heart"? Through meticulous planning, unreliable narration, and vivid imagery.
6. What is the significance of the beating heart sound? It symbolizes the narrator's guilt and the disintegration of his sanity.
7. How does the story end? The narrator confesses to the murder due to his belief that the police can hear the old man's beating heart.
8. What literary genre is "The Tell-Tale Heart"? Gothic horror and psychological thriller.
9. Where can I find a PDF of "The Tell-Tale Heart"? Many websites offer free PDFs of the story;

however, ensure you are using a reputable source to avoid copyright infringement.

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In Edgar Allan Poe's *The Tell-Tale Heart*, the narrator tries to prove his sanity after murdering an elderly man because of his vulture eye. His growing guilt leads him to hear the old man's heart beating under the floorboards, which drives him to confess the crime to the police.

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Edgar Allan Poe's *The Black Cat* is a short story that explores themes of guilt and perversity. The narrator, haunted by cruelty to his black cat and acts of domestic violence, is consumed by paranoia and madness. His attempt to conceal a crime leads to his own disgrace.

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After enduring many injuries of the noble Fortunato, Montressor executes the perfect revenge.

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This clever take-off on Edgar Allan Poe's 'The Tell-Tale Heart' is sure to resonate with picky eaters and grand gourmands alike! It all began with the beets. The revoltingly red beets that drove Edgar, Allan, and Poe to do the horrendously horrible thing that they did. Their mother has one unbreakable rule: "No dessert until you finish your dinner." But how can Edgar, Allan, and Poe possibly clear their plates when there are Brussels sprouts to be swallowed, liver to be chewed, and worst of all, beets to be bitten? There must be a way to get rid of dinner, without having to gobble up this foul food. Perhaps the loose floorboard under Poe's chair is the answer! But just as the parade of delicious desserts begins, the hidden food starts to grow ... and starts to smell ... it's going to blow ... their cover!

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On the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Boston Studies series in 1985, Cohen, Elkana, and Wartofsky wrote in another preface such as this that the time had come for establishing institutions supporting a vision to which the series had been devoted since its

inception, namely that of a more broadly conceived, interdisciplinary study of the history and philosophy of science: In recent years it has become evident that, in addition to serious and competent disciplinary work on the specifics of the History of Science, the Philosophy of Science and the Sociology of Science, there is now a growing need to develop a problem oriented approach which no longer distinguishes between these three specialties in a cut and dried way. Since the time has come for such an approach, the institutional tools should be provided. A way to do so would be . . . to organize colloquia and to publish good papers stemming from these, without attempting to organize the papers under the separate rubrics of History of Philosophy or Sociology of Science; and moreover to consider it natural that any fundamental issue of the foundations of the sciences, or their place in a culture and the way they are institutionalized in the societal web, is still our concern, no matter whether we are a professional scientist, historian or philosopher who deals with the problem (p. vii).

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the tell tale heart by edgar allan poe pdf: **The Masque of the Red Death** Edgar Allan Poe, 2020-08-01 The Masque of the Red Death, originally published as The Mask of the Red Death: A Fantasy, is an 1842 short story by American writer Edgar Allan Poe. The story follows Prince Prospero's attempts to avoid a dangerous plague, known as the Red Death, by hiding in his abbey. He, along with many other wealthy nobles, hosts a masquerade ball within seven rooms of the abbey, each decorated with a different color. In the midst of their revelry, a mysterious figure disguised as a Red Death victim enters and makes his way through each of the rooms. Prospero dies after confronting this stranger, whose costume proves to contain nothing tangible inside it; the guests also die in turn. Poe's story follows many traditions of Gothic fiction and is often analyzed as an allegory about the inevitability of death, though some critics advise against an allegorical reading. Many different interpretations have been presented, as well as attempts to identify the true nature of the titular disease. The story was first published in May 1842 in Graham's Magazine and has since been adapted in many different forms, including a 1964 film starring Vincent Price.

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form, the narrator tells the reader about the murder he committed, and the terrifying aftermath.

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the tell tale heart by edgar allan poe pdf: *A Predicament* Edgar Allan Poe, 2024-07-23 »A Predicament« is a short story by Edgar Allan Poe, originally published in 1838. EDGAR ALLAN POE was born in Boston in 1809. After brief stints in academia and the military, he began working as a literary critic and author. He made his debut with the novel *The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym of Nantucket* in 1838, but it was in his short stories that Poe's peculiar style truly flourished. He died in Baltimore in 1849.

the tell tale heart by edgar allan poe pdf: *Edgar Allan Poe across Disciplines, Genres and Languages* Alfonso Amendola, Linda Barone, 2018-01-23 This collection of essays, which rediscovers Edgar Allan Poe's not forgotten lore, comprises a two-headed scholarly body, drawing from communication and linguistics and literature, although it also includes many other academic offshoots which explore Poe's labyrinthine and variegated imagination. The papers are classified according to two main domains, namely: (I) Edgar Allan Poe in Language, Literature and Translation Studies, and (II) Edgar Allan Poe in Communication and the Arts. In short, this book combines rigour and modernity and pays homage, with a fresh outlook, to Poe's extra-ordinary originality and brilliant weirdness which prompted renowned authors like James Russell Lowell and Howard P. Lovecraft to claim, respectively, that "Mr. Poe has that indescribable something which men have agreed to call genius" and that "Poe's tales possess an almost absolute perfection of artistic form which makes them veritable beacon lights in the province of the short story. Poe's weird tales are alive in a manner that few others can ever hope to be."

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the tell tale heart by edgar allan poe pdf: *The Tell-Tale Heart* Edgar Allan Poe, 2004-09-28 Edgar Allan Poe remains the unsurpassed master of works of mystery and madness in this outstanding collection of Poe's prose and poetry are sixteen of his finest tales, including *The Tell-Tale Heart*, *The Murders in the Rue Morgue*, *The Fall of the House of Usher*, *The Pit and the Pendulum*, *William Wilson*, *The Black Cat*, *The Cask of Amontillado*, and *Eleonora*. Here too is a major selection of what Poe characterized as the passion of his life, his poems - *The Raven*, *Annabel Lee*, *Ulalume*, *Lenore*, *The Bells*, and more, plus his glorious prose poem *Silence* - A Fable and only full-length novel, *The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym*.

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the tell tale heart by edgar allan poe pdf: *House of Leaves* Mark Z. Danielewski, 2000-03-07 "A novelistic mosaic that simultaneously reads like a thriller and like a strange, dreamlike excursion into the subconscious." —The New York Times Years ago, when *House of Leaves* was first being

passed around, it was nothing more than a badly bundled heap of paper, parts of which would occasionally surface on the Internet. No one could have anticipated the small but devoted following this terrifying story would soon command. Starting with an odd assortment of marginalized youth -- musicians, tattoo artists, programmers, strippers, environmentalists, and adrenaline junkies -- the book eventually made its way into the hands of older generations, who not only found themselves in those strangely arranged pages but also discovered a way back into the lives of their estranged children. Now this astonishing novel is made available in book form, complete with the original colored words, vertical footnotes, and second and third appendices. The story remains unchanged, focusing on a young family that moves into a small home on Ash Tree Lane where they discover something is terribly wrong: their house is bigger on the inside than it is on the outside. Of course, neither Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist Will Navidson nor his companion Karen Green was prepared to face the consequences of that impossibility, until the day their two little children wandered off and their voices eerily began to return another story -- of creature darkness, of an ever-growing abyss behind a closet door, and of that unholy growl which soon enough would tear through their walls and consume all their dreams.

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the interpretations in a final statement. The narrator in Edgar Allan Poe's *The Tell-Tale Heart* is perhaps the most striking feature of the short story. Although the protagonist declares his sanity right in the beginning of the story, the reader before long learns about the evident mental illness of the narrator. After all, their insanity and madness result in the murder of the old man. It is the feeling of paranoia, surveillance and nervousness that ultimately leads to the crime. The protagonist, however, evidently cannot be trusted and appears more and more unreliable. So what is merely imagination and what is truly genuine in *The Tell-Tale Heart*?

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must have been extreme! It grew louder, I say, louder every moment!-do you mark me well I have told you that I am nervous: so I am. And now at the dead hour of the night, amid the dreadful silence of that old house, so strange a noise as this excited me to uncontrollable terror. Yet, for some minutes longer I refrained and stood still.

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