

Discussion Questions for the stories and poems of Edgar Allan Poe

1. What did you think of Poe?
2. In many of Poe's stories, the violence is more suggestive than revolting. Is this psychological approach more or less effective?
3. Poe had a lot of ending twists were you surprised by any of them?
4. Does all of this madness say something about Poe's view of the world?
5. Do you feel that Poe relates to his deranged narrators?
6. Did Poe intend for this tales of death, mourning, and horror to be taken completely seriously?
7. Poe's ideas are directly credited in hundreds of film and television productions. Why has he had such an effect on popular entertainment?
8. Poe often writes about the death of a beautiful woman. His own wife was ill for most of their marriage and died at a young age. How might this affect the emotional intensity of his writing?
9. Dreams are a common theme in Poe's works. How does this tie into his psychological themes?
10. Has anyone had any experiences that relate to places or experiences in the book?
11. Do you have unanswered questions? If the author were here, what would you ask him?