

Listening Guide-Episode 2  
Edgar Allan Poe and “The Raven”

1. Halloween for all the spooky movies is supposed to be a time of fun and playing around and giving \_\_\_\_\_ to children and making \_\_\_\_\_ with people you live around.
2. Poe’s career lasted over \_\_\_\_\_ years.
3. His greatest success really came in \_\_\_\_\_, that is going to be only four years before he dies, with the publication of his most famous poem “The Raven.”
4. It has this incredibly fun refrain; it’s full of rhyme; it’s got alliteration; there’s a \_\_\_\_\_. It can be emotional when you recite it out loud.
5. Because they were so poor, they were all living in this not-very-nice unheated room in New York, if you can imagine. Virginia had been sick with \_\_\_\_\_.
6. All of his stories are in the \_\_\_\_\_. He’s not talking about himself; they are not autobiographical.
7. Poe left Richmond, Virginia where Sarah lived in July after agreeing to marry him. He was on his way back to \_\_\_\_\_ where he was supposed to edit a volume of poetry.
8. No one had seen him since the morning of September 27th, and Dr. Snodgrass found Poe semi-conscious and dressed in \_\_\_\_\_ people said weren’t his own.
9. On the \_\_\_\_\_ of October 7<sup>th</sup>, Poe breathed a prayer, and he said, “Lord, Help my poor soul.”
10. He is credited, after all, with being one of the original creators of the \_\_\_\_\_ story.
11. His fame and \_\_\_\_\_ would finally change after his death.
12. There was a man, sometime during the last 1930s or 40s started this personal tradition of going to Poe’s original \_\_\_\_\_ every January 19<sup>th</sup>.
13. Over the years several people tried to identify him by tracing clues from the \_\_\_\_\_ and talking to people at the Poe Museum.
14. The toasting continued maybe by a relative or a close friend through 2009, the bicentennial of Poe’s \_\_\_\_\_; then it suddenly stopped.

15. After 80 years, the Poe toaster \_\_\_\_\_ has finally stopped and another mystery in a long legacy of a mysterious man.
16. It is a whole 108 \_\_\_\_\_ long.
17. He explains in his “Philosophy of \_\_\_\_\_” why it is so awesome.
18. He says the reason that’s true is that a poem can really only pull off successfully one single \_\_\_\_\_, and that’s the point of it.
19. For him, beauty isn’t the same thing as being pretty; for Poe, something is \_\_\_\_\_ IF it moves you emotionally.
20. Another thing that Poe wants us to be sure to notice is the \_\_\_\_\_. You can’t miss the refrain.
21. “When it most closely allies itself the beauty, the \_\_\_\_\_, then, of a beautiful woman is unquestionably the most poetical topic in the world.”
22. This poem is a \_\_\_\_\_ poem which means it’s also a story.
23. He claims he wrote the climax of the poem \_\_\_\_\_ and worked his way around it.
24. In this poem specifically there are 18 \_\_\_\_\_; and they are all \_\_\_\_\_ lines long, and the last line of each stanza is that refrain.
25. “Once upon a midnight dreary while I pondered \_\_\_\_\_ and weary...”
26. We see the \_\_\_\_\_; it’s December; it’s midnight; he’s in this room.
27. “But the fact is I was \_\_\_\_\_, and so gently you came rapping...”
28. He thinks there’s somebody at the door, so he talks to the \_\_\_\_\_; he opens the door. \_\_\_\_\_ is there.
29. Pluto is the god of the \_\_\_\_\_.
30. The \_\_\_\_\_ says, “Nevermore.”
31. The narrator begins to think maybe his previous owner taught him this \_\_\_\_\_ word.
32. Seraphims are \_\_\_\_\_.
33. Nepenthe, that’s a Greek allusion, but that’s a \_\_\_\_\_ that makes you forget.
34. “A Balm in Gilead” is from the \_\_\_\_\_; it’s a soothing ointment that kind of cures you.
35. We have to wonder, “Is he crazy? Is he mad? Is there really a \_\_\_\_\_? Is he from the Devil?”