



The Tell-Tale Heart

Edgar Allan Poe , Bill D. Fountain (illustrator)

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

The Tell-Tale Heart

Edgar Allan Poe , Bill D. Fountain (illustrator)

The Tell-Tale Heart Edgar Allan Poe , Bill D. Fountain (illustrator)

A murderer is convinced that the loud beating of his victim's heart will give him away to the police.

The Tell-Tale Heart Details

Date : Published October 1st 1980 by Creative Education (first published 1843)

ISBN : 9780871917720

Author : Edgar Allan Poe , Bill D. Fountain (illustrator)

Format : Hardcover 31 pages

Genre : Classics, Short Stories, Horror, Fiction, Gothic, Academic, School

 [Download The Tell-Tale Heart ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Tell-Tale Heart ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Tell-Tale Heart Edgar Allan Poe , Bill D. Fountain (illustrator)

From Reader Review The Tell-Tale Heart for online ebook

Bookdragon Sean says

This is quite possibly my favourite short story of all time as it makes me laugh so much. The narrator tries so hard to convince you of his sanity, but in doing so reveals more about his insanity than his dark deed does itself. It's kind of ironic really. I mean he mistakes the pounding of his own heart with that of the old man's and uses it as a prompt to murder him because, after-all, the neighbours might hear the beating of his heart though the walls. And lo and behold his evil eye that is so much like a vulture's, that he must be killed.

It just sounds like an excuse to me. By separating the eye from the old man, who he claims to love, he has a justifiable motif, in his mind, for killing the innocent old man. It makes the murdering easier and frees him from the burden of guilt. Well, at least he thought it would, but of course the beating of his heart gives him away and shows us the depths of his madness in Poe's remarkable style.

This edition is an excellent introduction to the author. It starts with his most famous short story, which is followed by The Fall of the House of Usher and The Cask of Amontillado. All three stories are great examples of his writing, so if you've never read any of Poe's work this is edition is a good place to start.

Penguin Little Black Classic- 31

The Little Black Classic Collection by penguin looks like it contains lots of hidden gems. I couldn't help it; they looked so good that I went and bought them all. I shall post a short review after reading each one. No doubt it will take me several months to get through all of them! Hopefully I will find some classic authors, from across the ages, that I may not have come across had I not bought this collection.

Karlyflower *The Vampire Ninja, Luminescent Monster & Wendigo Nerd Goddess of Canada (according to The Hulk)* says

p, is for Poe

4 Stars

Now this is the point. You fancy me mad. Madmen know nothing. But you should have seen me. You should have seen how wisely I proceeded –with what caution –with what foresight –with what dissimulation I went to work!

I have read *A Tell-Tale Heart* half a dozen times in my life and at every re-reading I am struck anew with Poe's genius, he is one of the few writers I have ever come across who can entirely foreshadow a novel (or in this case short story) and yet still evoke emotion from me as a reader.

This is a short story of a man, believing himself to be entirely sane, who excuses atrocious behavior in the name of ridding the world of "Evil". It is a story of a mind falling apart when guilt is foisted upon it. A story of humanity at its raw, throbbing core.

A must-read classic in my opinion.

Tadiana ☆Night Owl? says

"... it was not the old man who vexed me, but his Evil Eye."

The nervous narrator decides murder is the only way to rid himself of this horrible eye -- but he didn't plan for the old man's heart.

This is one of Edgar Allen Poe's most famous short stories, from 1843. The unreliable narrator tells about how he was undone by an old man's clouded, "vulture-like" eye and beating heart ... or was he?

The unnamed narrator is talking to another person, presumably a psychiatrist or policeman, trying his best to convince the listener ... not that he didn't commit the crime, but that he is not insane. And the more he explains how his sanity is proved by how very carefully he acted, how deliberately and coolly, the creepier it gets. This is a great, brief portrait of obsession and paranoia.

Available free online many places, including [here](#).

Mohsin Maqbool says

READING an Edgar Allan Poe story is like you were watching a macabre dance of death in a gothic theatre in the dead of night. Mr. Poe is a master of suspense – chilling suspense. He builds it up slowly – so slowly – that you start feeling scared and getting goosebumps all over your body. You can hear your heartbeat just like the narrator does in “The Tell-Tale Heart”. However, it is not his heartbeat that he is hearing but that of a sleeping old man into whose bedroom he creeps into. A situation like this can make anybody urinate in his pyjamas out of fear.

But what if the heartbeat keeps growing louder by the second? Louder and louder and LOUDER! You feel like tearing at your ears so that you can't hear it anymore. The agony is absolutely unbearable.

Where would Gothic horror be without Edgar Allan Poe? Anywhere but Poe territory!

Read the following extract from the tale to get an idea of what Mr. Poe can do to the reader:

“No doubt I now grew very pale; –but I talked more fluently, and with a heightened voice. Yet the sound increased –and what could I do? It was a low, dull, quick sound –much such a sound as a watch makes when enveloped in cotton. I gasped for breath – and yet the officers heard it not. I talked more quickly –more vehemently; but the noise steadily increased. I arose and argued about trifles, in a high key and with violent gesticulations; but the noise steadily increased. Why would they not be gone? I paced the floor to and fro with heavy strides, as if excited to fury by the observations of the men – but the noise steadily increased. Oh God! What could I do? I foamed –I raved –I swore! I swung the chair upon which I had been sitting, and grated it upon the boards, but the noise arose over all and continually increased. It grew louder –louder –louder!”

I spy an evil eye.

In “The Tell-Tale Heart”, the narrator describes about an old man whom he likes a lot but still wants to murder him. But why murder somebody whom you like? Because the old man has a "vulture eye" that sends shivers down his spine. It could also be an allusion to an evil eye. So, naturally, anybody with an evil eye has to be destroyed.

Spotlighting the evil eye through the ray of a lantern.

“It is impossible to say how first the idea entered my brain; but once conceived, it haunted me day and night. Object there was none. Passion there was none. I loved the old man. He had never wronged me. He had never given me insult. For his gold I had no desire. I think it was his eye! Yes, it was this! He had the eye of a vulture –a pale blue eye, with a film over it. Whenever it fell upon me, my blood ran cold; and so by degrees – very gradually –I made up my mind to take the life of the old man, and thus rid myself of the eye forever.”

The album cover of Alan Parson's Project's "Tales of Mystery and Imagination".

Will the narrator succeed in his nefarious plans? Or will he botch them up? Read the story to find out. Play The Alan Parson’s Project’s “The Tell-Tale Heart” from their debut album “Tales of Mystery and Imagination” (1976) while you are doing so to enhance the excitement.

Link to The Alan Parson's Project's "The Tell-Tale Heart":

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O5NN8...>

There are some of the best film versions of Poe's dark tale, including an animated one which has been beautifully narrated by James Mason, in the following link. I hope you enjoy them like I did.

<http://flashbak.com/the-best-versions...>

Glenn Russell says

Published in 1850, Edgar Allan Poe's *The Tell-Tale Heart* is one of the best known and most memorable short stories ever written. Since there are dozens of commentaries and reviews here and elsewhere on the internet, in the spirit of freshness, I will take a particular focus: obsession with an eye or eyes and compare Poe's tale with a few others.

In *The Painter of Eyes* by Jean Richepin, we encounter an obscure artist who sells his soul to the Devil in order to paint at least one masterpiece. There is a bit of writing attached to the corner of his great painting that reads: "The Devil has informed me as to the secret of painting eyes. That secret consists of decanting the life from the models one wishes to represent and fixing that life on the canvas. In doing that, one slowly kills the people whose portrait one paints. It is sufficient for me to know that I have made this masterpiece. I commend my soul to the prayers, in case the Evil One does not leave me the time." The writing ends abruptly since death strikes the artist in mid-sentence - his masterpiece is a self-portrait.

In *The Gaze* another story by Jean Richepin, the narrator peers through the window of a cell at a madman holding his arms spread, head uplifted, transfixed by a point on a wall near the ceiling. The doctor-alienist relates to the narrator how this inmate is obsessed with the gaze of eyes from an artist's portrait. "For there was something in that gaze, believe me, that could trouble not only the already-enfeebled brain of a man afflicted with general paralysis, but even a sound and solid mind." Turns out, the narrator discovers the doctor is also driven mad by these eyes. So much so, the doctor took a scissors to the painting. We read: "In front of me, a fragment of a painting, cut out of a canvas with scissors, showed me a pair of eyes: the eyes of the portrait that the alienist said that he had lacerated, the eyes darting that famous gaze – in which, indeed, the very soul of gold was alive."

The Enigmatic Eye by Moacyr Scliar is a most imaginative tale of a wealthy old man who becomes infatuated with a portrait of an aristocratic gentleman in the town's museum. And what makes this portrait so infatuating? Why, of course – the gaze of the right eye, which is truly enigmatic. The old man has his close friend steal the portrait from the museum so he can put it in his attic and sit in front of the painting, pondering the enigmatic gaze round the clock. The servants think the old man mad but he could care less – he has exactly what he wants – the portrait with its enigmatic eye right in his very own attic. Unfortunately, something unexpected happens. Due to the attic's heat and light, the painting begins to fade and then, over time, vanishes. The old man concludes there is only one thing for him to do – he buys some brushes and oils and begins re-painting the portrait, starting with the enigmatic eye.

Turning now to Poe's tale, the narrator insists he should not be taken for a madman; rather, he is dreadfully nervous causing his senses, especially his sense of hearing, to be heightened and sharpened. He goes on to convey how once the idea of killing the old man of the house entered his brain, he was haunted by the idea day and night. And why would he want to kill this old man, a man who never wronged him? We read, "I think it was his eye! Yes, it was this! He had the eye of a vulture – a pale blue eye, with a film over it." What is it about a human eye, painted or real, when seen by someone who is mentally unstable? Perhaps part of the answer is given by contemporary Argentine author, Ernesto Sabato, when he says that hell is being the object of the gaze of another.

Every one of Poe's sentence is sheer perfection, building tension and suspense. For example, we read how the narrator, lantern in hand, secretly peers in at the sleeping old man at midnight. But then, one night, a noise wakes the old man and he sits bolt upright in bed. And what does the narrator do? We read, "I resolved to open a little – a very, very little crevice in the lantern. So I opened it – you cannot imagine how stealthily, stealthily – until, at length a single dim ray, like the thread of the spider, shot from out the crevice and fell full upon the vulture eye. It was open – wide, wide open – and I grew furious as I gazed upon it. I saw it with perfect distinctness – all a dull blue, with a hideous veil over it that chilled the very marrow of my bones; but

I could see nothing else of the old man's face or person: for I had directed the ray as if by instinct, precisely upon the damned spot."

Anybody familiar with the story knows the narrator's actions and emotions escalate from this point. What I find particularly fascinating is how the narrator's obsession and fixation with the eye, once there is no more eye to fixate upon, quickly shifts into a heightened sense of feeling and, of course, heightened hearing. What a tale; what an author – a masterpiece of suspense and horror.

*The quotes from the two tales by Jean Richepin are taken from *The Crazy Corner* a collection of stories translated by Brian Stableford and published by *Black Coat Press*.

James says

Who wouldn't find this insanity pure bliss? OK, possible exaggeration, but honestly... the rhythm and the beat of the words just make their own music in your mind and your breath as you read through them. A master... I wish I could have met him. Guessing what the noise is and what's going on around you... makes you want to watch the whole scene looking in from the window.

About Me

For those new to me or my reviews... here's the scoop: I read A LOT. I write A LOT. And now I blog A LOT. First the book review goes on Goodreads, and then I send it on over to my WordPress blog at <https://thisismytruthnow.com>, where you'll also find TV & Film reviews, the revealing and introspective 365 Daily Challenge and lots of blogging about places I've visited all over the world. And you can find all my social media profiles to get the details on the who/what/when/where and my pictures. Leave a comment and let me know what you think. Vote in the poll and ratings. Thanks for stopping by. *Note*: All written content is my original creation and copyrighted to me, but the graphics and images were linked from other sites and belong to them. Many thanks to their original creators.

Ahmad Sharabiani says

The Tell-Tale Heart, Edgar Allan Poe

"The Tell-Tale Heart" by writer Edgar Allan Poe, first published in 1843. It is relayed by an unnamed narrator who endeavors to convince the reader of his sanity while simultaneously describing a murder he committed. The victim was an old man with a filmy "vulture-eye", as the narrator calls it. The narrator emphasizes the careful calculation of the murder, and he hides the body by dismembering it in the bathtub, and hiding it under the floorboards. Ultimately, the narrator's feelings of guilt, or a mental disturbance, result in him hearing a thumping sound, which he interprets as the dead man's beating heart.

?????: ?? ?????? ?? ?????? ?? ????? ? ????????? ????? ??????: ????? ?? ?? ????? ?????? ?????: ??
????? ?? 2007 ?????? ?? ??? ?? ?????? ?? 2011 ??????

?????: ?? ?????? ??????: ????? ?? ?? ?????: ??? ?? ?????? ?????? ???: ?????? ??? ?????? 1388? ?? 84
?? ?????: 9786005337716? ?????: ?????? ?????? ?? ?????????? ?????????? ?? 19 ?

?????: ?? ?????? ??????: ????? ?? ?? ?????: ????? ??? ??? ??.???

?????: ?? ????? ? ?????????? ????? ?????: ????? ?????? ?????? ?????? 1389 ?? 288 ?

?? ???: ???????? ?? ?? ?????? ?? ?? ?????? ?????? ?????? ? ?????? ?????? ? ?????? ??????. ??? ?? ?? ?????? ??????
? ?????? ?? ?????? ?? ?????? ?????? ????. ?? ?????????? ?? ?????????? ?? ??????. ??? ?????????? ?????? ?? ?? ?? ?? ?????? ?????
?????. ?????? ????. ?????? ??? ?? ?? ?????????????? ?????? ?? ?? ?????? ?????? ? ?????? ?????? ??????. ?. ????????

Darwin8u says

"A wrong is unredressed when retribution overtakes its redresser. It is equally unredressed when the avenger fails to make himself felt as such to him who has done the wrong"

- Edgar Allan Poe, "The Cask of Amontillado"

Vol 31 of my Penguin Little Black Classics Box Set. This volume contains the following short-stories:

1. The Tell-Tale Heart - ★★★★★
2. The Fall of the House of Usher - ★★★★★
3. The Cask of Amontillado - ★★★★★

The book is titled with the first story, but more than half this volume is actually 'The Fall of the Hosue of Usher'. All the stories are gothic, macabre, and full of madness. They ARE stories by Poe by God. I read 'the Tell-Tale Heart' decades ago when I was a kid and it still doesn't disappoint. I was new to the other two stories (knew them by reputation, but not experience) and adored them too.

The editors did a good job. These stories, while obviously different, still shared a certain thread: buried bodies, creepy homes, decay, death. I think my favorite might have been the Cask of Amontillado, but I'm still not sure. They were all over-the-top. Poe is a master-builder of creepy tales and creepy homes.

Jason Koivu says

A short story classic!

Poe had excellent timing in the pace for *The Tell-Tale Heart*, setting it to the quickening beat of a increasingly nervous heart. (Don't you dare comment below about how "the heart" mentioned in the story is the victim's, not the narrator's!)

Countless future writers, especially tv writers needing to tie things up within a half hour, would use this story as a framework for how to wring a confession out of a perpetrator.

Unfortunately, this story might not capture the terrified hearts of readers as it once did, because today this sort of homicide is fairly common place. We've been there, done that and seen it a hundred times on the morning news. It's almost as if *The Tell-Tale Heart* has become a valuable suggested template on what to do if you're annoyed by your roommate.

Bionic Jean says

[the boarding or walling up of living or dead creatures. The narrator's guilt manifests itself by his being haunted by supernatural beating sounds emanating from the heart. It is unbearable to him, so as in

Michael says

What a quick little stab of the macabre this tale is! It's a classic example of the unreliable narrator, who tries desperately to convince the reader of his sanity even as he stalks, kills, dismembers, and buries an old man for no other reason than that the man's eye "resembled that of a vulture." Of course the harder he tries to convince the reader of his sanity, the more insane you realize he is: "You should have seen how wisely I proceeded--with what caution--what what foresight--with what dissimulation I went to work!"

This tale is also interesting in its use of the Ancient Greek technique of beginning "in medias res"--or in the middle of things. There's no preamble, no setting of the scene. Here's how the story begins: "True!--nervous--very, very dreadfully nervous I had been and am; but why will you say that I am mad?" You immediately get the sense that the narrator is reacting to something or someone, perhaps an unnamed interlocutor who's just told him he's mad. Or perhaps he's simply arguing or contending with himself? With a narrator like this, you never know, which is why I love unreliable narrators. There's no stability, no objectivity--everything is a shifting sand of the mind.

Mohammed Arabey says

?? ???? ??????? ??????..????

??? ?? ?? ????? ?? ???????

???? ?? ??????

???? ?????? ??????? ?????? ??? ??? ??? ?? ?????? ?????? ?? ?? ??? ????? ??????? ??????? ?????????
?????????

???? ?????? ????????? ????? ?????? ?? ?? ????? ?? ??????..??? ?????? ??? "???" ??? ?????

?? ?? ??? ?????? ????????? ??? ?????? ??????? ???

?? ?? ?????? ??????? ????? "????? ??? ??????" ?????????? ?? ?????? ?????? ?? ???????

-?? ?? ?????? ?????? ??? ?????? ?????? ?????.. ??????? ?????????? ??? ?? ?????? ??????????? ??????? ???????
??????-

?????? ????????? ?? ?????? ??????????? ?????????? ?????? ??????? ??? ??????..???????? ?????? ??? ?????? ?????????
?????? ??? ??????

????? ?????? ?????? ?????? ??????????

???????? ?????? ?????? ??????

???? ???? ???? ?????? ? ??? ??????? ???? ? ???? ???? ? ??? ??????? ????
?? ???? ?? ????? ?? ????? ???? ???? ?

?? ? ? ???? ???? ? ? ???? ? ???? ???? ???? ? ? ???? ???? ... ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?
???? ???? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

???? ???? ?

???? ???? ???? ? ? ? ?

???? ????
?? 22 ???? 2017

Annet says

Creepy and fascinating...wonderfully evil and beautifully written... Edgar Allen Poe, the master of dark stories. First published in 1843, that's a long long time ago....
Three stories in this Penguin classics booklet, the famous Tell-Tale Heart (brilliantly weird and insane), The Fall of the House of Usher (what's going on exactly.... very poeticly written, intriguing, dark and mysterious atmosphere) and The Cask of Amontillado (wonderfully evil story). Loved it, beautiful language and Poe really is a great mind for evil stories.

During the whole of a dull, dark, and soundless day in the autumn of the year, when the clouds hung oppressively low in the heavens, I had been passing alone, on horseback, through a singularly dreary tract of country, and at length found myself, as the shades of the evening drew on, within view of the melancholy House of Usher...

Jeff says

I read this in English class about two days ago, and at that moment, I realized what true writing talent was.

It's a beautiful story.
Haunted story.

I've never read that much of Edgar Allen Poe's work, but snaps for him, cause at the end, my whole class went speechless.

This is a story where at the beginning, you really know what the hell is bloody going on , but by the end, everything ties together.
Everything.

A truly captivating story starring a madman.
:)

Sarah Churchill says

Well... shit.

Loved it. Short and sweet but not lacking in suspense and downright creepiness. I'll hold my hands up and admit that this English Lit lover first heard of this story through The Simpsons. Sacrilege I know, but I guess it never made it on to the syllabus at my school. So I sort of knew how it would turn out, but still there's so much to consider here, I can see why it's a popular choice for study.

Nayra.Hassan says

?? ??? ??????? ??? ?????.. ??? ??? ????

?{? ??? ???? ???? ???? ? ???? ...?? ?? ?? ???? ???? ???? ?? ???. ?? ??? ?????? ?????? ???? ????
?? ???? ????? ???? ???? ?????? }?
??? ????? ?????? ?????? ?????? ??? ?? ???? ?????? ..
?? ????? ?????? ?????? ??????? ..????? ??????????? ?? ???? ??????

????? ??? ?/??????? / ????? ??? / ??????
????? ??????? ??????? ?? ???? ? ? ?????? ???? ???? ? ? ????.....? ?????? ? ???? ...?? ??
?? ? ???? ? ???? : ?????? ? ??????? ..?????? ?????????? ????????? .????? ??????
???????

? ??? ?????? ?????? ? ? ?????? ?????? ?????? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? /?????? ? ? ???? ???? ????/
?????????????? ..?? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? /???? ???? ???? ???? ???? ???? ???? ?

Flor says

Excelente.!! ??????????

Uno de los cuentos más conocidos de Poe. Me gustó mucho. Increíble como el autor, en tan pocas páginas, genera ese clima siniestro.

*"Oí de pronto un leve quejido, y supe que era el quejido que nace del terror. No expresaba dolor o pena...
joh, no! Era el ahogado sonido que brota del fondo del alma..."*

Reconozco que me fue difícil leerlo sin que me viniera a la mente este capítulo de los simpsons jaja ?

Michael says

The Tell-Tale Heart is a story about an unnamed person who insists on their sanity after murdering an old man with an evil eye. The murder was cold, calculated and well executed, the body disposed; but the guilt slowly eats away at the person.

The story uses an unreliable narrator very effectively; driving the story without giving too much away, to keep it tense. The narrator is genderless though most people assume he's a man, it could just as easily been a woman. The way the story is written, you can see the narrator slowly self-destructing; starting by insisting that they are innocent and sane.

I noticed Edgar Allan Poe seems to italicise words throughout the story – though some versions of the story put the words in uppercase. I gather it is done to add emphasis on the words but there is another reason why Poe used to do this. Poe used to italicise words that were foreign or words he thought he had made up or found another way to use the word.

The Tell-Tale Heart is a classic chiller and well executed to keep the reader feeling on edge. I'm glad I read it and it has given me some ideas on my current WIP.

Christine says

I couldn't recall if I had read this one in high school or not so downloaded it over lunch today. A real quickie, but highly entertaining. That guy was sick!!!

Carol says

Oh this is a really creepy good one!.....(listened to the audio this time)

An unnamed narrator is the nightly intruder that watches the old man sleep. He must put an end to the **evil** eye that **haunts** his days and visits his dreams. He must be so quiet as he sneaks into the black as pitch chamber.....night after night.....and then, a shriek! The deed is finally done, but.....the **nightmare** only begins.

THE TELL-TALE HEART is **dark** and **spooky** with a GREAT ending! One of my **POE** favorites!
