

# LAS CAVERNAS DE LA IMAGINACIÓN



## Lo Grotesco y Arabesco

*Tales of the Grotesque and Arabesque*, que incluía una selección de historias cortas, fue publicado en 1840. Los cuentos de lo Grotesco tratan los problemas de la sociedad americana de su tiempo. Sus problemas reales son convertidos en caricaturas o sátiras por el autor. Este grupo de cuentos puede mostrar desde lo que Poe considera cómico hasta lo que es macabro. Ejemplos de estos temas son "Hop-Frog", "El sistema del doctor Tarr y del profesor Fether", "El rey peste", "Nunca apuestes tu cabeza al Diablo" y "El Diablo en el campanario". Los cuentos Arabescos tratan el tema de lo gótico y el terror psicológico desde el interior de la mente de los personajes. Esto lo podemos ver en "El corazón delator", "El pozo y el péndulo", "La caída de la casa de Usher", "La máscara de la muerte roja", "El gato negro" y "El retrato oval".

## Raciocinio

Poe dio origen al relato de detectives a través de sus cuentos analíticos o de raciocinio y de misterio. "Los crímenes de la calle Morgue", "El misterio de Marie Rogêt", "La carta robada" y "El escarabajo de oro" influyeron de lleno en autores posteriores como Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, cuyo Sherlock Holmes está inspirado directamente en el Auguste Dupin de Poe. Su mayor éxito literario en prosa, sin duda, le llegó de uno de estos relatos: "El escarabajo de oro". Aparte de "El Cuervo", fue la obra que conoció mayor difusión a lo largo de su vida.

## Ciencia Ficción

Edgar Allan Poe creó una interesante selección de relatos de misterio y ciencia ficción en la primera mitad del siglo XIX. En ellos integra un enorme mundo de fantasía y humor reflejado en "Mellonta Tauta" o "La incomparable aventura de un tal Hans Pfaall". Estas historias inexplicables y desconcertantes actúan como antecedente de algunas de las corrientes más importantes del siglo XX, desde el Simbolismo al Surrealismo.



# THE CAVERNS OF THE IMAGINATION

## The Grotesque & Arabesque

*Tales of the Grotesque and Arabesque*, including a selection of short stories, was published in 1840. The tales of the "Grotesque" are about the problems of the American society of his lifetime. Their real problems are turned into a caricature or satire by the author. This group of tales show the comic and the macabre as well. Examples are "Hop-Frog," "The System of Doctor Tarr and Professor Fether," "King Pest," "Never Bet the Devil Your Head," and "The Devil in the Belfry". The tales of the "Arabesque" are about Gothic and psychological terror, born in the inside of the mind of the characters. We can see this in "The Tell-Tale Heart," "The Pit and the Pendulum," "The Fall of the House of Usher," "The Masque of the Red Death," "The Black Cat," and "The Oval Portrait".

## Ratiocination

Poe was the creator of the detective fiction by means of some mystery and "reason" stories. "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," "The Mystery of Marie Rogêt," "The Purloined Letter," and "The Gold-Bug" were of a great influence in later authors, like Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, whose Sherlock Holmes was directly inspired by Poe's Auguste Dupin. Poe received his main prose success from one of these stories: "The Gold-Bug." Together with his long poem "The Raven," "The Gold-Bug" was the text which had a wider spread during the author's lifetime.

## Science Fiction

Edgar Allan Poe created an interesting collection of mystery and science fiction texts during the first half of the 19th century. A world of fantasy and humor is portrayed in tales such as "Mellonta Tauta," or "The Unparalleled Adventure of One Hans Pfaall." These astonishing and surprising stories are often pointed as the origin of many of literary and artistic movements developed during the next century, from Symbolism to Surrealism.

